

BUILDERS
OF THE
DOMINION

MEN OF THE EAST

EMILY R. WEAVER

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BUILDERS OF THE DOMINION

MEN OF THE EAST

BY

EMILY P. WEAVER

AUTHOR OF

"A CANADIAN HISTORY FOR BOYS AND GIRLS"

TORONTO

THE COPP, CLARK COMPANY, LIMITED

1904

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PREFACE.

In this little book I have sketched for school children, as nearly as possible in chronological order, the lives of a number of men who have had a share in making the Dominion of Canada what it is to-day. All these men have some connection with the Maritime Provinces, either of birth or of special service to that section of the Dominion. But as all Canadians have one country, service to any part is service to the whole; and many of the heroes of my little stories "buildd better than *they* knew," and helped to lay firmly the broad foundations of the Dominion.

We may go even a step further, and say, with Sir John Thompson, "He who serves Canada serves the Empire, and he who serves the Empire serves Canada as well." Of this fact many of these men, including the Loyalists and their sons, were fully conscious. Haliburton, Wilmot and Howe constantly insisted that, in spite of differing climates and dividing oceans, all Britons were brothers. Others helped to show the same truth by action. Samuel Cunard, with his swift steamships, contributed something towards the practical realization of this idea, while the many gallant soldiers and sailors from the different provinces of the Dominion who have fought for England by land and sea have in a different way borne witness to the fact that the Empire was and is firmly united.

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INTRODUCTION.

I have sometimes seen a necklace or chain of beads strung so closely together that one could not see the thread beneath ; but there always is a thread. Now, in some ways this little book is like such a string of beads, for it is made up of a number of short stories (each of which may be read separately), and it has a thread which holds them all together.

This thread is the history of our country, and I hope when you have looked at my beads (or read my stories) that you will know not only a little about the great men, whose names are written on the first page of this book, but also something of how the Maritime Provinces, and even the Dominion of Canada, came to be what they are.

The first three stories tell something of the lives of several bold mariners and discoverers, and you will find that in early days both France and England were trying, by sending out explorers and colonists, to win North America for their own. The next half-dozen stories are all about soldiers, and—if we look for the string that runs through these beads of our chain—we find that the fighting men held at this time such an important place in our history because France and England were each trying to get the better, by force, of the other. Another thing we shall notice is that the nearness of Acadia, or Nova Scotia, to the strong colonies of New England, and its distance from the other French colony of Canada, gave the British an advantage in the struggle, which was at last brought to a close by Wolfe's great victories.

After Wolfe, the three following stories are of men who, though not great generals, played their parts in times of disturbance and war. This new war was not with the French. They had by this time given up hope of winning North America. It was between men of the British race. On the one side fought colonists who were determined to have as free a government as the Englishmen at home; on the other were British soldiers and colonists, who, at any cost, wished to prevent the snapping of the ties binding the colonies to the mother country. As we all know, the Loyalists were defeated, and were driven from their old homes to Nova Scotia and Canada. This is a very important part of our thread, for the Dominion of Canada probably would not have existed but for the Loyalists.

Still another war—that with the United States in 1812—followed. There were battles by land and water, Nova Scotia being most keenly interested in the sea fights; and so we have the story of a man who was at once a Nova Scotian and a British naval officer.

Our connecting thread now leads through times of peace without and hard struggle within our country. The lions to be faced by the great men of this period were bad government and the selfishness of those in power, and boldly they met and overthrew them.

Meanwhile our history was gradually being entwined more closely with the histories of other British lands. The provinces "down by the sea," which had long seemed to lie apart from the rest of the world, were now being drawn by different means into closer union both with the mother land and the sister colonies. At last the several different strands of British-American history were twisted at Confederation into one strong cord, and our two last stories tell of men who notably served the whole Dominion.

BUILDERS OF THE DOMINION.

MEN OF THE EAST.

THE CABOTS

AND THEIR VOYAGES.

1. FOUR hundred and twenty-five years ago it was generally supposed that our earth was flat: only a few wise men believed it to be round. Amongst these was Christopher Columbus, who set out to sail westward across the Atlantic Ocean in the hope of arriving at Japan or China, which had hitherto been reached by travelling east from Europe. When Columbus came to the West Indian Islands he thought he had succeeded in his aim. But he had done something more wonderful. He had discovered America or the New World.

2. The story of his marvellous voyage caused great excitement, and other seamen planned to follow in his track. First of these were John Cabot and his son Sebastian. Before Columbus himself saw the mainland of America, the Cabots had landed (it is believed) on Cape Breton Island, in Nova Scotia. Some people think that this was in 1494, but the general opinion is that the Cabots had not visited America before their famous voyage of 1497.

3. No full account of the lives and adventures of these two bold explorers has come down to us, for all

the maps and papers left by Sebastian Cabot were lost soon after his death, and the attempt to tell their story has been compared to trying to follow a man in a thick fog. Now and then we catch glimpses of them, then they disappear from view.

4. John Cabot was a citizen of Venice, who settled at the English seaport of Bristol. In his earlier days he had visited Mecca, in Arabia, and had seen the arrival of spice-laden caravans from still further east. We hear, too, of voyages which he made from Bristol, out into the unknown Atlantic in a search for the fabled islands of Brazil and the Seven Cities. The latter was supposed to have been peopled by seven bishops and their followers, driven by the Moors from Spain, and the King of Portugal had offered various privileges to any one who could discover it.

5. An old chronicle of Bristol says that John Cabot had "made himself very expert and cunning in knowledge of the circuit of the world." But he was a poor man, and it cost much money to fit out and man even a small ship. In the hope, which proved vain, of obtaining help he had visited Spain and Portugal. At last Henry VII of England gave him and his three sons leave to go in his name to discover and take possession of "new lands of infidels and pagans, which before that time had been unknown to all Christians." The king promised that the Cabots should be lords of these new lands, and should have the sole right of trading with their people, but they were to give him the fifth part of any profit they might make, though he bargained that they were to go at their own expense.

6. He seems to have repented of this, however, for we learn that he gave Cabot, for the voyage, a small ship called the *Matthew*, manned by eighteen men. Some people say that this little ship went alone; others that three or four small trading vessels sailed with it. However that was, Cabot left Bristol in May, crossed the ocean, and landed in what he took to be "the Empire of Grand Khan." This did not prevent his claiming the land for England. He set up a cross on the shore, and planted by its side the banner of England and the flag of his own city of Venice.

7. The explorers saw no people, though they sailed for leagues along the coasts; but they did not doubt that the land was inhabited, for they saw trees which had been cut down, and found a needle for making fish-nets, and snares for taking game.

8. Cabot would have sailed further, but was forced to turn back by lack of food, and early in August the *Matthew* was again safe in Bristol Harbor.

9. Cabot was delighted with his own success, and the people of England made much of him. They called him "the High Admiral," and followed him about "like idiots," says a Spaniard; while he dressed himself in silk, and promised to his friends lands and bishoprics and other honors. As for the miserly king, he sent a present of £10 "to him that found the new Isle."

10. The discoverers reported that the new seas they had sailed in were full of fish, and many people saw in this a way to wealth; but John Cabot was still thinking of the far-distant lands, where the spices grew, where gems were found, and where, it was said,

the very roofs of the temples and palaces were made of gold

11. The King of England, who loved gold above all things, now gave Cabot leave to take six ships and as many men as he wished; and in the early summer of 1498 he again set sail westward. But he was never to see the lands of which he had dreamed so long. At this point he suddenly disappears from history, and we can only guess that he found a grave in the mighty ocean. When we next hear of his little fleet, his second son, Sebastian, is in command.

12. Sebastian, knowing neither that America was so large nor that another great ocean lay between him and Japan, was bent on carrying out his father's plan. In his search for a passage westward, he sailed so far north that in July, he "found immense masses of ice floating in the sea, and the day was almost continual." Then he turned south, to fail again as we know he was bound to fail. Once more shortness of food obliged the explorers to turn back, and in bitter disappointment, Sebastian sailed for home.

13. He carried with him, it is said, three men, who wore "Beastes' skins," ate raw flesh, and spoke a language "no man could understand." Two years later, so the story goes, two of these men "were seen in the king's court at Westminster . . . clothed like Englishmen," and not to be known from Englishmen.

14. The adventurers returned from this voyage empty-handed, but again they told the people at home of the wondrous wealth of fish in the new seas. They declared that on the coast of Labrador, they had at times found

it hard to force their vessels through the shoals of big fish, and they described how bears "harmless to men," sat on the shore, watching till the fish swam into shallow water. Then the bears would splash into the sea, pounce on the fish with their claws, and drag them to the sands.

15. After this voyage, we know little of Sebastian's doings till nearly fourteen years had passed, when he went to Spain. There he held a high position for many years. In 1526, he took command of a fleet, intended to sail by Magellan's Strait to the Molucca Islands.

16. But on this voyage, misfortune pursued Cabot from the first. Some of his captains rebelled against him, his own vessel was wrecked, many valuable stores were lost, and his men suffered so terribly from disease, starvation, and the enmity of the Indians that of the 200 men who set out only twenty returned to Spain.

17. Cabot was arrested, tried, and banished from Spain, but was soon restored to his rank of Chief Pilot. He returned to England, however, early in the reign of Edward VI. The boy-king greatly honored him, and gave him a pension.

18. Sebastian was now old, and could no longer make hard and dangerous voyages, but he urged that a new attempt should be made to reach China by sailing north-east instead of north-west.

19. The plan was tried. It, too, failed, and many brave men lost their lives in the dreadful storms and cold of the north, but one ship made its way to Archangel, on the White Sea, and this led to the opening of trade between England and Russia. The Company of Merchant Adventurers was formed, with Sebastian Cabot as

governor, and, when a second expedition set sail in 1553, the captains carried with them the wise instructions of the old explorer.

20. Three years later, when a captain, named Burrough, was setting out to seek the longed-for passage to China, Cabot went down to Gravesend to see him off, and, "for very joy" joined the young people in the dance. But he knew the perils that lay before the adventurers, and, giving liberal alms to the poor, he begged them to pray for the good fortune of the little vessel.

21. A year later the old man lay on his deathbed, and one of his friends says that, "with a thin voice," he declared that God had revealed to him a new method by which an explorer could find out exactly how far east or west he had travelled, but, he added, that he could not tell it to any mortal.

22. This is the last we hear of Sebastian Cabot, for, much as he did for England, no one knows where he was buried.

SIR HUMPHREY GILBERT

AND THE "SQUIRREL."

1. FOR years after the death of Sebastian Cabot no Englishman settled in North America, but the sovereigns of England continued to call the country theirs, and in 1578 Queen Elizabeth gave to Sir Humphrey Gilbert, a knight of Devonshire, what was called a "patent" for planting colonies in any heathen country not actually possessed by a Christian prince or people. She promised that Sir Humphrey should own the land for six hundred miles in every direction from any spot where he made a settlement, on condition that he should give her a fifth of all the gold and silver he might find.

2. Sir Humphrey was said to be "famous for his knowledge by land and sea," but from the first he was very unfortunate. He spent much money in getting together ships and stores for beginning his colony, but the men who undertook to go with him quarrelled amongst themselves, and soon after setting out he was obliged to return home, having lost "a tall ship" and many men.

3. In June, 1583, he again set sail with five vessels, named the *Delight*, the *Raleigh*, the *Golden Hind*, the *Swallow*, and the *Squirrel*,—the last being a little ten-ton boat not fit for such a voyage. The "General," as Sir Humphrey was often called, went on the *Delight*, and this vessel acted as the leader, or admiral, of the fleet, signalling with flags and sails by day and with lights by night what the other ships were to do. The company consisted of two hundred and sixty men,

amongst whom were ship-builders, carpenters, refiners of minerals, musicians, and even morris-dancers and men with hobby-horses to amuse the savages. To please them the English also carried a quantity of beads, ribbons, and trinkets, for they meant to win the Indians by "all fair means possible."

4. The adventurers had not been many days at sea when their misfortunes began. An infectious disease broke out amongst the crew of the *Raleigh*, which had been fitted out by Sir Humphrey's famous half-brother, Sir Walter Raleigh, and this ship was forced to turn back.

5. Fogs separated the rest of the fleet, and the *Swallow*, once a "pirate," and still having many of her former crew on board, was no sooner out of the general's sight than she fell back into her old wicked ways and robbed a fishing boat. On reaching the coast of America, the four vessels met again and sailed in company for the harbor of St. John, in Newfoundland. As they entered the harbor, the *Delight* by great carelessness was run upon a rock, but, with the help of boats belonging to some English merchant ships, was hauled off uninjured.

6. Sir Humphrey Gilbert then had his tent set upon the side of a hill in sight of the thirty or forty vessels of different nations that lay at anchor, and two days later, on August 5th, 1583, he caused his commission to be read and translated by an interpreter into various languages, so that all present might understand it. Next, according to an old English custom signifying that he was taking possession of the island and all it contained, Sir Humphrey had a sod and a hazel wand

solemnly presented to him; and last of all he made his men set up a pillar of wood, bearing a leaden plate upon which the arms of England had been engraved. This was a token to all comers that England claimed Newfoundland for her own; but even the foreigners made no objections to all these proceedings. Possibly they were tired of living without any settled laws, when they came to Newfoundland to fish, as many did every year; and Sir Humphrey soon showed that he really meant to govern the country. He began by ordering that all the people must worship God according to the forms of the Church of England, and that they must all pay due respect to Queen Elizabeth; he then gave grants of land to those who asked for them.

7. By this time his stock of provisions was getting low; but when he asked for supplies, the people on the vessels, especially the Portuguese, brought them willingly. Yet, though his authority was so fully acknowledged, Sir Humphrey had many difficulties to struggle against. Some of his men fell sick; some deserted, and behaved badly in other ways, and at last his company became so small that he put the rascally crew of the *Swallow* on board the *Delight*, and left the pirate ship to carry home the sick.

8. The explorers had found on the island ore which the "mineral-man" told them would yield a large quantity of silver, and this Sir Humphrey, with high hopes of future fortune, placed on the *Delight*. He left St. John's towards the end of August, and, wishing to explore the coasts, he himself embarked in the little *Squirrel*, which could venture where a larger ship might not.

9. There was some difference of opinion as to the best course to follow, and in the end a mistake was made, so that the three vessels sailed directly into the midst of the treacherous shoals near Sable Island.

10. About that time the captain of the *Golden Hind*, who has written the story of this voyage, noticed that many porpoises were playing about the ship. This he took for a sign of storm. The crew of the *Squirrel* were also haunted with superstitious fancies, thinking that they heard strange voices, and the men on the *Delight* alone felt no fear. "As the swan sings before her death," they passed the evening in jollity and merriment, and the people on the other vessels heard them sounding trumpets and beating drums. A few hours later their ship ran on a hidden ledge, and was beaten to pieces by the terrible breakers. Of the crew all were lost except one small boat's load, who, after terrible suffering, at last reached Newfoundland. For many hours those on the other vessels lingered amongst the dangerous sandbars, hoping that they might pick up some of their ill-fated comrades. But they waited in vain, and many of them believed that the disaster had come as a punishment on the piratical crew of the *Swallow*.

11. Sir Humphrey now resolved to return home as quickly as possible, promising himself that the queen would give him good help when she heard of the silver ore, and hoping to come back in the spring to dig riches from the mines of Newfoundland.

12. When the weather was fine, he sometimes went on board the *Golden Hind* to talk to the captain, Hayes.

This man tried to persuade the general to stay on the larger ship, for he thought it was taking needless risk for him to cross the ocean in such a tiny vessel as the *Squirrel*. A story had got about, however, that Sir Humphrey was afraid of the sea; and, determined to show that this was untrue, he turned a deaf ear to all warnings.

13. He was naturally of a quick impatient temper, and, in his earlier days, as a soldier in Ireland, had shown himself very stern and cruel; but Hayes says the trials he had undergone had improved some of the defects that had formerly made his many virtues "less delightful," and he adds that like every other man "of noble mind," Sir Humphrey had earnest desires after goodness and God.

14. Soon after the general's last visit to his friend on the *Golden Hind*, a storm came up, and the waves began to break "short and high, pyramid-wise." Sometimes the two vessels were so near together that the crews could hear each others' voices, and as Sir Humphrey sat with a book in his hand on the deck of the tossing *Squirrel*, he cried out to the men on the *Hind*, "We are as near heaven by sea as by land."

15. These brave words seemed like his last message to his friends, for as night fell the winds and waves grew wilder, and suddenly the anxious watchers on the larger ship lost sight of the lights on the little *Squirrel*. Still they did not give up hope. All the way home they kept an eager look-out, but the little boat was never seen again by mortal eyes, and not one man on board escaped to tell the tale of that wild night on the Atlantic.

POUTRINCOURT

AND PORT ROYAL.

1. THE misfortunes suffered by the early discoverers did not prevent other men trying to follow in their steps. Englishmen and Frenchmen alike tried to make good their claims to the possession of North America, and we are now coming to a time when the people of both races began to make permanent settlements. The man whose name is at the top of this page was not a very notable explorer, but I have chosen to tell his story because he had much to do with the first settlement in our own Province of Nova Scotia.

2. Jean de Biencourt, Baron de Poutrincourt, was a French nobleman who had fought in a civil war between the Roman Catholics and Protestants. He was a Catholic, and he fought so bravely that the king, Henry IV (then a Protestant), tried to induce him to change sides by offering him a dukedom. Poutrincourt refused, but afterwards the king became a Roman Catholic, and then Poutrincourt served him faithfully.

3. Poutrincourt lost much of his property during the war, and when it ended he went to live quietly on his estate at Saint Just, in the eastern part of France. He was fond of gardening and farming and was trying hard to improve his lands, when an old friend—a Huguenot nobleman, called the Sieur de Monts,—visited him and suggested that he should altogether change his plans.

4. It appeared that the king had given De Monts a great slice of North America on condition that he should

take out people to settle in the country. De Monts did not know much about this place, of which if the king's grant could do anything for him, he was to be the sole lord and master, but he was hopeful of being able to make of it a "New France" in the wilderness, with people, and houses, and towns, and churches, and laws like those at home. He wanted his old friend to help him in his task, and Poutrincourt, thinking that Acadia might be a better land to live in than France, promised to go with him to see the country.

5. When, a few weeks later, they set sail for America they had on board their little vessel a very mixed company of Roman Catholics and Huguenots; industrious workmen and criminals from the jails; rough, uncouth sailors and brave gentlemen, one of whom was Samuel de Champlain, the founder of Quebec.

6. They crossed the Atlantic safely, sailed round the southern coast of Nova Scotia, up the Bay of Fundy, and passing by chance through a small inlet found themselves in the beautiful bay now known as Annapolis Basin. Poutrincourt thought that his eyes had never rested on a lovelier scene than those blue hills and waters, and he begged De Monts to give him a grant of the place so that he could make there a home for himself and his children. De Monts consented, and Poutrincourt named the noble bay Port Royal.

7. The voyagers did not stay long within that sheltered haven, for there was much to do before the short, cold days came on. Round the shores of the Bay of Fundy they sailed, stopping now and then to seek for copper mines, to gather shining blue amethysts, and to explore

the mouth of a great river, which, as they entered it on Saint John Baptist's Day, they named the St. John.

8. Still they sailed on, further south, till, within the estuary of another river, they came to a little rocky isle, which De Monts thought would be easy to defend and hard for an enemy to find, and there he decided to make his settlement. In haste the Frenchman built forts and houses, hoping to have all comfortable for the winter. But their island, which they named St. Croix or Holy Cross, lacked good water, and that winter was so unusually cold that they suffered terribly. Before it ended half their number lay in the little cemetery at the edge of the rushing waters, and in the spring they took down as much of their buildings as they could carry away and sailed back to sheltered Port Royal.

9. Poutrincourt, having gone home to make arrangements for settling in Acadia, escaped the misery of that winter, though he had troubles enough of his own. Three times on his voyage to France he nearly suffered shipwreck. Once his vessel sprang a leak, once it almost ran upon a rock, and the third time it was so nearly upset by a squall that the sail was "swimming" on the sea. Waves, looking like flames of fire, washed over the terrified sailors, and no one could find a knife to cut away the cumbering sail, but at last the wind tore it to pieces and the ship righted itself.

10. When Poutrincourt reached France he found that certain enemies of his were doing their utmost to make trouble for him, and he was unable to go back to Acadia for about eighteen months. In the meantime De Monts had returned home to look after the interests of his colony, but Poutrincourt took with him his son, Biencourt, and

a clever man named Lescarbot, besides a number of workmen.

11. Ten weeks the voyagers passed on the sea, delayed sometimes by rough weather and sometimes by calms. But however ill the wind served them some of the company were always merry and full of fun. When their sails flapped idly in the almost still air, they danced and sang on deck, climbed the masts, and swam in the water. Meanwhile their friends at Port Royal were looking anxiously seaward for some ship from home, for cupboard and storehouse were empty, and hunger threatened to drive them from their post. At last all but two bold men, who offered to take charge of the buildings, set off to seek for aid. Thus when Poutrincourt's ship sailed up Port Royal Harbor the new-comers did not see a sign of life, till suddenly an Indian canoe shot out to meet them, and one of the cannon of the fort thundered a noisy greeting.

12. Before many days had gone by, however, all was liveliness and activity. The other Frenchmen soon returned and the new-comers flung themselves into work and play with untiring energy. Poutrincourt, with his young son and Champlain, went exploring and, falling in with some unfriendly Indians near Cape Cod, lost several men.

13. Lescarbot, meanwhile, was preparing a merry welcome for them, and when they returned to Port Royal, sad and down-hearted, they found the wooden gateway of the fort decked with evergreens, and were met by a procession of men, dressed up to represent Neptune and his Tritons, who welcomed them with complimentary verses.

14. During these days there was no lack of provisions, for Poutrincourt's ship had been bountifully laden with all kinds of supplies, and fish and game were plentiful. To induce the gentlemen of the party, who sat at Poutrincourt's table, to do each his part, Champlain formed what he called the "Order of Good Times." Of this each man was in turn Grand Master for one day, when he wore the collar of the order and acted as host to the rest. Every day their Indian neighbors crowded into the hall to see them dine, each receiving a bit of bread or biscuit, while their chief, Membertou, sat at the table as an honored guest. This man, who was still a great warrior, was thought to be over a hundred years old, for he remembered seeing Cartier seventy years before, when he himself was a full-grown man.

15. The leaders of the colony set a good example by working with their own hands, and everything seemed flourishing when news came from France that the king had taken from De Monts his privileges in the fur-trade, and that therefore he would not be able to continue to support his colonists. This meant ruin to their plans, and all the Frenchmen had to go home, leaving Port Royal to the care of their Indian friends.

16. But Poutrincourt was still determined to make a home in Acadia, and nearly three years later he returned to Port Royal, where, to his pleasure and surprise, he found the buildings and even the furniture just as they had been left. The Indians were delighted to see their old friends again, and to please the French (who had been blamed for not trying before to Christianize the heathen) Membertou and all his family consented to be baptized in the river at Port Royal. The service over,

all the cannon in the fort were fired in triumph. After this many other Indians asked for baptism, and Membertou proposed to make war on all who would not become Christians.

17. About this time a court lady in France bought from De Monts all Acadia except the lands he had given to Poutrincourt, and as she was a great friend of the Jesuits they practically became the rulers of the country. Several Jesuit missionaries came out to teach the Indians, staying for some time at Port Royal and then founding a new settlement of their own.

18. Now, though both Poutrincourt and his son belonged to the Church of Rome, neither of them liked this turn of affairs at all, for they wanted to manage their settlement in the way they thought best, while the Jesuits also wished to control everything in Acadia. Thus difficulties and disputes arose.

19. To make matters worse Poutrincourt was very poor, and it was hard for him to keep his colony supplied with necessaries. Once, when he had gone to France to obtain provisions he was thrown into prison for debt, and was thus kept helpless for months while his people at Port Royal were almost starving. At last he was released and managed to send some help to his son.

20. But after all his trouble these supplies did not do his people much good, for soon after their arrival a party of Englishmen from Virginia sailed into the harbor of Port Royal, rifled the fort, which had been left for a few hours unguarded while its owners were busy in their harvest fields, and set all the buildings

on fire. Taking the French utterly by surprise the marauders also destroyed the crops in the fields, and Biencourt and his band were thus left without a roof to shelter them or a morsel to eat except what they could get in the woods and from their Indian friends. The excuse made by the Virginians for this cruel raid was that Acadia was part of the country given to Sir Walter Raleigh by Queen Elizabeth.

21. In the following spring Poutrincourt made another visit to Acadia only to find Port Royal in ashes, and, despairing at last of founding a settlement in Acadia, he sailed back to France and again took a command in the royal army. Once more, as in his earlier days, he had to fight against his own countrymen, for a rebellion had broken out in France, but in the moment of victory, after capturing the town of Méry for the king, Poutrincourt was slain by a treacherous shot. He was buried on his estate at St. Just, and on his tombstone was placed an inscription telling how he had tried to found the colony of New France and to make the heathen Indians Christian.

22. Meanwhile his son Biencourt still lived in Acadia, and after a time partly rebuilt Port Royal.

CHARLES DE LA TOUR

GOVERNOR AND FUR-TRADER.

1. BIENCOURT had a friend, of about his own age, who was faithful to him as long as he lived. This young man, whose name was Charles, was the son of a noble Frenchman, the Sieur de la Tour. Like Poutrincourt, La Tour had injured his fortunes in the Civil War. Indeed, he had become so poor that it is said he had been obliged to work in Paris as a stonemason, but when his son was fourteen he and the lad had come to Acadia to try to mend their fortunes.

2. Charles appeared to like the wild, adventurous life in the woods; and he learned to manage the Indians and the bushrangers so well that Biencourt made him his lieutenant and, when dying, left him his rights to Port Royal and appointed him leader of his men. Soon afterwards Charles built a new stronghold near Cape Sable, and there he lived quietly, fishing and trading with the Indians, until war broke out between England and France. As we have seen, both countries claimed Acadia, but Charles believed that he could hold it against the English if the King of France would appoint him commandant, and would send arms for his men. His father, Claude de la Tour, who had recently been driven by the English from a fort on the Penobscot River, took this message to the king. He listened graciously and sent several ships laden with stores to the help of his subjects in Quebec and Acadia, but, before the vessels reached their journey's end they were captured by an English fleet under Sir David Kirke.

The elder La Tour was now sent as a prisoner to England, but there he soon made friends, and, on agreeing to become a subject of the English king, he was not only set at liberty, but was given a huge grant of land in Nova Scotia, with the titles of baronet for himself and his son. Now, Nova Scotia was the English name for Acadia, and in return for these favors Claude de la Tour promised to persuade his son to give up to the English his fort at Cape Sable. But Charles did not look at things in the same light as his father. At that time he did not want an English title nor a grant from the English king, and he would not hear of giving up his fort. At last his father tried to take it by force, but Charles beat off his men with heavy loss and Claude had to give up the attempt. He was now in a sorry plight. Through his own treachery he had put himself in a position where he was equally afraid of the French and the English, but in the end he managed to make friends with his son.

3. Several years after this, about the year 1635, Charles de la Tour left Cape Sable and went to live at a new fort which he had had built at the mouth of the St. John. It was a great, square, wooden building with four towers, and was surrounded by a high fence or palisade. To defend it La Tour kept in his pay a number of men who traded, hunted or fought for him as he needed.

4. But it was not only these fierce bushrangers, who lived in that Acadian castle. Years before this, La Tour had married a brave Huguenot lady named Frances Marie Jacqueline. There is a story that she had been sent out from France to marry him, without his ever

having seen her; but whether that is true or not, she made him a good and noble wife. She never changed her faith; but, by this time, La Tour had become a Roman Catholic, and always kept one or two priests to minister to his men, and to teach the Indians.

5. Often the fathers went with him long journeys into the wilds, and every summer a host of savages came down the St. John to barter their furs at Fort La Tour for blankets, knives and guns. Each year a ship brought from France goods for the Indian trade, and supplies for the great household of La Tour. For several years he lived like a king in his sea-washed castle, and was fast growing rich, for in all Acadia it was the best spot for carrying on the fur-trade. But this led to his ruin.

6. His good fortune provoked the envy of a rival trader, D'Aulnay Charnisay, a nobleman and a royal governor like La Tour himself. This man accused La Tour of treason, and having influence at court, persuaded the king to order him to go to France to be tried. If he refused to obey, D'Aulnay was commanded to take him thither by force; but this was easier said than done. When La Tour declined to come out of his fort, D'Aulnay posted off to France again to get more soldiers, and then began something like a civil war, in which very exciting events happened.

7. Once D'Aulnay made sure that he would be able to capture both the fort and its lord without any difficulty; but one dark night La Tour and his wife slipped out of the stronghold, and boarded a vessel, which carried them to Boston. The best of it was that D'Aulnay never knew they had gone till they came back with some ships they

had hired. Then it was his turn to try to escape; and in all haste he fled to Port Royal, which at that time belonged to him.

8. On another occasion when Lady La Tour had been to seek help for her husband in France and England, D'Aulnay stopped the vessel which was carrying her home, and made his men search it. She hid under some of the goods in the hold, and that time escaped him; but a few years later she fell into his hands.

9. This is how it happened. La Tour had gone to Boston, leaving his wife in charge of his castle, when she found that some of the men were plotting against her. She promptly turned them out of the fort, and in revenge they carried to D'Aulnay the news that the garrison was weak and short of powder. This brought her enemy down upon her, but she damaged his ships so much that he was forced to draw them off. A little later he attacked her again, this time from the land side. For three days and nights he gave the defenders of the fort no rest, but could not force an entrance. At last he found means to bribe one of the sentries, and on Easter day, when most of the garrison were at their prayers, this traitor allowed D'Aulnay to bring his men to the foot of the walls. Then they were discovered, and once again the brave lady and her men drove them back. They all knew, however, that they could not long hold out, and when D'Aulnay promised to spare their lives and allow them to go free, Lady La Tour consented to surrender. But she had put her trust in a liar. When D'Aulnay had his brave enemies in his power, he hanged every man except one, whose life he spared on condition of his acting as executioner

to the rest ; and he made Lady La Tour stand by, while this cruel deed was done, with a rope round her own neck. Then he dragged her off to prison, but in three weeks death gave her freedom.

10. After this her husband led a wandering life, until he heard that his old foe was drowned in the river at Port Royal. Upon this La Tour hastened to France, and pleaded his own cause so well that he was again made Governor of Acadia, and was given the sole right to the fur-trade. He returned to his old post on the St. John, but did not take the trouble to make his fort as strong as before.

11. He had not been there long, when D'Aulnay's widow threatened to dispossess him. However she and La Tour soon agreed to settle the dispute by a marriage between them.

12. This wedding effectually ended the old quarrel, but soon another claimant to Acadia appeared on the scene. This was a man named Le Borgne, from whom D'Aulnay had borrowed vast sums of money which he had wasted in trying to ruin La Tour. Under the circumstances La Tour was not likely to acknowledge Le Borgne's right to the country ; but the latter had come with armed men to make good his claim by force, and after driving some of the Acadian settlers from their lands he was preparing to attack Fort La Tour when there was another strange turn of events.

13. An English fleet sailed up the Bay of Fundy, obliged La Tour to surrender, seized Le Borgne's ship and captured every post in Acadia. The suddenness of this attack was most startling, for the French and English

were then at peace. The fact was that during a war with Holland the English fleet and New England troops had been gathered together to attack the Dutch colony at Manhattan (now New York), but before the blow could be struck word had come that peace was declared. This was a bitter disappointment, till it occurred to some one that the warlike preparations need not be wasted: the old claim of England on Acadia might serve as an excuse to swoop down on the French settlements! No sooner said than done, to the utter discomfiture, as we have seen, of Le Borgne.

14. La Tour, who really was a very clever man, contrived, however, to turn affairs to his own account. Remembering the grants given by King Charles I to himself and his father years before, he promptly crossed the ocean to England and appealed to the Protector Cromwell to put him in possession of his rights. Cromwell did not deny the justice of his claim, and gave him, in partnership with two English gentlemen, a grant in Acadia larger than all England and Scotland put together. La Tour soon sold his share of this land to his partners and for the last ten years of his life he lived in peace at Fort La Tour. Strange to say he met at last with the same fate as his old enemy, D'Aulnay, for in 1666, he was accidentally drowned in the St. John River.

PAUL MASCARENE

AND ANNAPOLIS.

1. PAUL MASCARENE was born in the south of France in the year 1684. His parents were Huguenots, and, though at the time of his birth they were allowed to worship God in the way they thought right, this law was changed a few months later and the Huguenots were threatened with imprisonment and even death unless they would become Roman Catholics. To avoid persecution many of the Protestants fled from France. Amongst these were Paul's father and mother, but they were obliged to leave their little boy behind. However, his grandmother took care of him, and when he was twelve years old he was sent to Geneva, in Switzerland, to be educated. He never returned to live in France but went to England, where, as soon as he came of age, he took steps to be naturalized, that is, to become a British subject.

2. A little later he entered the army and at the age of twenty-six became a captain and was sent to serve in America, where he spent the remaining fifty years of his life.

3. At this time the New England colonists were full of schemes for humbling their French neighbors. Many of these came to nothing, but when Mascarene landed at Boston he found the people busily preparing for an attempt on Port Royal. This was expected to be an easy prey, for, though the only fortified place in Acadia, it had been shamefully neglected. Its sandy ramparts were crumbling away and the three hundred men who

formed its garrison were ragged, half-starved and discontented. They had, however, a good commander, whose name was Subercase.

4. When the British fleet of thirty-six vessels sailed into the basin Subercase ordered the beacon at the fort to be lighted as a signal to the Acadians to come to his aid. But he dared not send his men to oppose the landing of the English lest they should go over to the enemy in a body. All he could do was to fire on the invaders from the shelter of the fort, and no sooner did the English cannon begin to answer his than his people entreated him to try to make terms with the British general, Nicholson. He felt obliged to consent, and Nicholson agreed that he and his men should be allowed to march out of the fort with the honors of war—drums beating and flags flying.

5. The English were delighted with this easy success, and when they entered the gates of Port Royal they fired off all the guns round the fort. This joyous cannonade was answered by the vessels in the harbor, and a new name, Annapolis Royal, was given in honor of Queen Anne to the old French fort.

6. It happened that Mascarene was the man who actually took possession of the place, for he was in command of the first English guard mounted at Annapolis. This is a trifle, only worth remembering because for nearly forty years Mascarene did more perhaps than any other man to hold the little capital of Nova Scotia for his adopted country.

7. In the early days of English rule, he was not, indeed, in the chief command at Annapolis, but his good knowl-

edge of the two languages—French and English—his pleasant manners, good sense and easy temper combined to make him one of the most useful officers in the garrison. He understood how to deal with the Acadians, and was one of those employed by the governor to hear and settle their disputes amongst themselves.

8. That first winter at Annapolis was a miserable one, for its new defenders were as ill-supplied with all necessaries as the French garrison had been. They were frequently short of both fuel and bread, and their ruinous fort afforded neither shelter from the cold nor security against the attacks of an enemy. The officers were kept constantly on the alert by rumors of intended attacks from the Indians and Acadians, but for the most part the alarms proved to be groundless. After nearly twelve months of this service, Mascarene was sent to Newfoundland but returned to Annapolis a few years later to find matters very little improved.

9. He was now made commander of the neglected garrison, and for years was the "master-mind at Annapolis," saving Nova Scotia to England in the teeth of difficulties against which he ought not to have had to struggle. The British authorities allowed the defences at Annapolis to remain in ruins from year to year, and let their soldiers go hungry and tattered and shoeless. They also permitted the Acadians to obey the laws or not as they chose, and to receive amongst them agents, sent by the French governor of Canada, who taught them that they were the subjects, not of the King of England, but of the King of France, though by a solemn treaty the latter had given up all claim to the country. The result of all this was that, in any time of trouble, the governors of

Nova Scotia had reason to fear that the Acadians would help the enemies of England.

10. When, in 1744, war broke out between France and England, Mascarene's difficulties reached a climax. For two years workmen had been preparing stone to make a strong new fort at Annapolis, but the walls were hardly begun when news came that a body of Frenchmen from Louisbourg had seized the little fort at Canso and were intending to march on Annapolis. This was the earliest notice of the war received by the defenders of Nova Scotia, but the news had been sent to Louisbourg six weeks earlier.

11. Mascarene now set his men to strengthen the old ramparts of wood and earth, and sent for re-inforcements to Boston. Meanwhile the French leader, Duvivier, lingered at Canso, until the Indians who had promised to help him grew impatient and tried to take Annapolis themselves. They killed two men and burned several houses, but were soon frightened away to a safe distance by Mascarene's cannon. At last Duvivier joined them. But he disgusted the Acadians, upon whose aid he had counted, by his bad manners and his demands for supplies, and, having no heavy guns, he could make no impression on Mascarene's defences. In vain he tried to tire out the garrison by night attacks, and to persuade the old soldier at its head to surrender by telling him of a fleet on the way from France, armed with cannon that would blow his defences to pieces. Duvivier was the first to tire of the siege. Fancying one day that he was to be attacked he broke up his camp in a pouring rain, and, when the fleet arrived, he was nowhere to be seen. This saved Annapolis, for, finding the land force gone,

the commander of the ships sailed away without firing a shot.

12. But Mascarene's work was not yet done. For three successive years each spring brought the rumor that that summer the French meant to win back their old stronghold. Twice, for days together, troops of Indians and Acadians prowled about the fort; but wave and tempest and the fortunes of war in other places worked for Mascarene, and when the strife ended he still held Annapolis safe for King George.

13. About this time the British Government began to put a higher value on Nova Scotia, and to try new plans (of which we shall hear more in another story) for keeping it safe; but Mascarene's labors were ended, and he passed his last days in peace and quietness at Boston.

WILLIAM PEPPERELL

AND THE FIRST CAPTURE OF LOUISBOURG.

1. IN THE year 1745 there lived in the little town of Kittery in Maine a wealthy, middle-aged merchant, who dealt in all kinds of goods from fish and salt to timber and ships. He was a kind, good-humored man and was liked and respected by all his neighbors. In his younger days he had become captain of a company of militia, and had risen, step by step, to be colonel of all the militiamen of Maine. He knew nothing of the art of war, but it has happened, strangely enough, that he is chiefly remembered in our day for a military exploit.

2. This was the capture of the great fortress of Louisbourg, in our own Cape Breton Island. It had been built by the French on a point of land, commanding a fine well-sheltered harbor, but was difficult for an enemy to reach because of the mighty waves that rolled constantly in on the rocky beach. Under the great guns mounted on its thick stone walls, the French vessels could quietly wait their time to swoop down on some defenceless English settlement. The officers of the garrison were constantly laying plans to drive out the British from Nova Scotia and to harass those settled along the coasts of New England. It was from Louisbourg that Duvier and his men had descended on Canso and Annapolis, and while that fortress was in the hands of an enemy the English in America never felt secure from attack.

3. The news of the capture of Canso roused the New Englanders to fury and when a wild scheme for attack-

ing Louisbourg was suggested to Shirley, the Governor of Massachusetts, he threw himself eagerly into the plan, and, rather against their will, persuaded the other authorities of the colony to consent to it.

4. Many people believed that the plan could not possibly succeed, for the New Englanders had no experienced leader, no regular soldiers, no cannon large enough to have any effect on the massive walls of Louisbourg. Undaunted by such difficulties, Shirley and his friends calmly did their best with what they had, and, as we shall see, it was a case of "Fortune favors the brave."

5. The merchant Pepperell, much to his dismay, was asked to leave his wharves and stores, and to take command of the expedition. When he consented the people were delighted, though, it is said, he had never seen a cannon fired except in sport. His army was to be formed of volunteers, but this offered no difficulty. The ranks filled up rapidly and soon four thousand men, each bringing his own gun, powder-horn and red coat, had mustered at Boston. In the harbor, meanwhile, nearly a hundred fishing-boats and a few small armed vessels were preparing to carry the little army to Cape Breton Island. Amongst the supplies put on board this fleet was a quantity of cannon-balls too large for any guns owned by the New Englanders, but likely, as they thought, to fit those they intended to capture from the French. But this, as one writer says, was "like selling the skin of the bear before catching him."

6. Leaving Boston late in March the little fleet was tossed about by storms, but not a boat was lost; sooner or later, all straggled into Canso Harbor, there to

await the melting of the ice about Louisbourg. The officers wisely spent the time in drilling their raw soldiers. Meanwhile the hearts of the leaders were gladdened by the arrival of several English battleships under Commodore Warren, who at the last moment had received permission from England to give his help to the colonial army.

7. On reaching Gabarus Bay, near Louisbourg, Pepperell landed his men without any loss. The next task was to land the cannon and drag them two miles across a marsh to a point near the city walls. One gun was lost in the mud, but the others were placed on sledges (to each of which two hundred men were harnessed with ropes) and under cover of fog or darkness were triumphantly dragged into position.

8. Unfortunately the inexperienced gunners often overloaded and burst their pieces, thus killing many men on their own side. As had been hoped, Pepperell soon obtained some larger cannon which had been left by the French on a hasty retreat from one of the batteries defending the harbor, and these guns were turned against their former owners with great effect.

9. The French, during this siege, were under the disadvantage of having a poor commander. Duchambon, the Governor of Louisbourg, distrusted his men, and on the first appearance of the New Englanders he retired behind his great stone walls and made scarcely an effort to drive them off.

10. The besiegers, on the other hand, had the greatest confidence in their good-natured general, who listened patiently to all their complaints, made great efforts to

keep the peace amongst his officers and with Commodore Warren, and spent large sums out of his own pocket in the common cause.

11. His army often puzzled the Frenchmen by their strange ways of doing things, and it must be admitted that the men sometimes acted like a set of rough school-boys out on a holiday. When not actually on duty some went catching trout and lobsters, to be caught occasionally by the Indians in their turn, and others fired at marks, though there was no powder to spare. Another favorite amusement was running after the balls from the French cannon. For these a reward was given, and they were sent back to the city from the throats of the British guns.

12. The siege lasted for nearly a month, then a large ship bringing aid to the French was captured by the British fleet, and the French, who were getting short both of food and gunpowder, lost all heart. Just as the British forces were preparing to make a combined attack by land and sea, Duchambon sent out a flag of truce, and forty-eight hours later the mighty fortress was given up to the New England leader.

13. It was sorely shattered by bombs and cannon-balls, but the strength of the huge walls, seen from within, amazed the men who had been battering them so long.

14. The Bostonians went wild with delight over this success, and when, a few weeks later, the news reached London, there, too, bonfires were lighted, and the bells of the churches were set ringing. Soon afterwards the king commanded Pepperell to go to England, and rewarded him for his services with the title of baronet

and the rank of colonel in the British army. The royal family made much of him, and he certainly deserved high praise. The success of the expedition was largely due to the patience and self-control which enabled him to work with the hot-tempered Warren, for without the help of the British ships the daring attempt of the colonists to capture Louisbourg would have failed almost certainly.

15. To the disgust of the New Englanders the captured fortress was soon restored by treaty to the French, but Sir William Pepperell lived just long enough to see it taken by the British a second time.

CORNWALLIS

AND THE SETTLEMENT OF HALIFAX.

1. OUR last story was that of a merchant who gained a great name by leading an army; this one will tell of a soldier, who was several times unfortunate in war, but deserves remembrance as the leader of a peaceful host of settlers and the founder of Halifax, the quaint old capital of Nova Scotia.

2. When Louisbourg was given back to France in 1748, the British Government began to think that they might build a fortified town on the shores of the Atlantic to be a stronghold and a city of refuge for all men and vessels carrying the English flag. Accordingly they sought on the storm-beaten coast for a safe large harbor, which might be protected easily from enemies. This they found in the beautiful Bay of Chebucto, where it has been said, all the warships of Europe could together ride at anchor.

3. In those days all the hills surrounding the harbor were covered with woods to the water's edge, and, far as the eye could reach, not a sign of life was to be seen save an occasional fishing-boat or the bark lodge of some wandering Indian. But now all this was to be changed.

4. In March, 1749, the British Government advertised in the "London Gazette," for single men and men with families to go as settlers to Nova Scotia. They promised to suitable men a free passage, free land, free provisions for a whole year, free tools to work with, and protection from all enemies. But no drones were wanted. All the settlers were to be people who could make themselves

useful to the community, either by their work or by helping to defend the new town in case of need. Doctors and workmen, such as masons, brickmakers, and ship-builders were particularly invited to go. So also were men who had served in the army or navy, perhaps because the reasons for founding the new town were chiefly military. No doubt it was on this account that a soldier was chosen to lead this peaceful expedition for actually taking possession of a land that had long been British in name. At any rate, the choice proved to be a wise one, and Colonel Edward Cornwallis won golden opinions from the people whom he governed and befriended during his three years' stay in Nova Scotia.

5. When he came to Halifax he was thirty-six years old, and had had already a more varied experience of life than falls to the lot of most men. He belonged to a noble family. His father was Baron Cornwallis and his mother the daughter of an Irish duke. He was one of their younger sons, having a twin brother, who afterwards became Archbishop of Canterbury.

6. Edward had entered the army when very young and had risen rapidly in his profession. Before coming to Nova Scotia he had fought in Flanders, had held a position at the court of King George II, had sat in the House of Commons, and had spent a few months at Stirling, in Scotland, as colonel of the regiment to which Wolfe belonged. Wolfe always mentioned him with the greatest respect and affection, and another friend of his described him as cool, brave and "indifferent to everything but being in the right."

7. He was in Scotland in the days of unrest and bitter feeling following the "Young Pretender's" vain attempt, in 1745, to gain for his father the throne of his ancestors, but in dealing with the angry and disappointed Scotchmen Cornwallis combined firmness with kindness, and so did much to pacify them. His conduct was approved by those in authority and this probably led to his being chosen for the difficult task of founding a new colony.

8. He set sail for Nova Scotia in May, 1749, in the *Spinx* sloop of war, and was followed across the Atlantic by thirteen vessels, amongst which were two bearing the odd names of *Brotherhood*, and *Merry Jack*. Most of these transports were unusually large ships for that time, and though they carried nearly twelve hundred colonists across the Atlantic only one child died on the way. They reached Halifax, as the new settlement was to be called in honor of one of the Lords of Trade, about the middle of July, but until huts could be built most of the people stayed on the ships in the harbor.

9. The first meeting of Governor Cornwallis and the gentlemen who were to be his councillors (amongst whom was Paul Mascarene), took place on a ship named the *Beaufort*. They sat in the cabin round a heavy oak table which may still be seen in one of the rooms of the Province Building at Halifax, while the governor's commission was read and the councillors took the oath to be faithful to their duties and true to the king; then all the vessels in the harbor fired off their guns and the rest of the day was given up to merrymaking.

10. But there was much to be done before winter, and, of all the company, the governor complained that only

three hundred men were willing to work. He found means to make the idle take their share, however, by dividing all the men into small working parties and putting each of these under the command of some experienced person. By the end of July, twelve acres on the side of Citadel Hill had been cleared, and soon afterwards two forts for the protection of the town were completed. These were much needed, for the Indians, stirred up by the French, were always on the watch to do mischief. Several settlers who ventured alone into the woods lost their lives, and in the spring of 1751 some of the colonists, who had taken up land at Dartmouth, were cruelly murdered, and others were carried by the savages into captivity. On the other hand, Cornwallis, though not generally cruel, treated the Indians almost like wild beasts, offering large rewards for all brought into Halifax dead or alive.

11. By December four hundred houses had been built within the fortifications and half as many outside, but these were not enough to shelter all the settlers, and some wintered on the ships, which were "housed over." Many of the dwellings were made of small, round logs, called pickets, set upright in rows and fastened together with strips of wood, but Cornwallis sent to Boston for frames and boards for some of the buildings, including a small house for himself.

12. A number of New Englanders soon came to the little town. Some of these were from the garrison which had been holding Louisbourg, others came directly from the older English colonies. Amongst these newcomers some gave the governor a good deal of trouble

by selling rum, and taking advantage of the ignorance of the English settlers.

13. Many of the latter were unfortunately worthless and idle, and there was so much drunkenness that Cornwallis ordered that any one who sold intoxicating liquors without a license should be put in the stocks for the first offence and flogged for the second.

14. The governor led a very busy life, for, besides protecting and keeping order amongst his people, he had to attend to a hundred other matters. Before he left, St. Paul's Church, a meeting-house for dissenters, a home for orphan children, a hospital for the sick, and a market-house had been built. All these things cost Cornwallis much thought and trouble, while the coming of new settlers, many of whom were foreigners, added seriously to the cares of his toilsome life. To make matters worse the British authorities complained that he was spending too much money on the new town. At last he asked to be recalled, and in the autumn of 1752 he sailed for home. He lived for twenty years longer, but probably never did any harder or more useful work than that of laying the foundations of the city of Halifax, and, it might be added, of Nova Scotia as a British province.

LAWRENCE

AND THE ACADIANS.

1. SOON after the departure of Cornwallis the task of governing Nova Scotia fell on the shoulders of another British officer, Colonel Lawrence. His name is connected with one of the saddest stories in our history, but to understand it we must go back a little. It has already been mentioned that, after the loss of Port Royal in 1710 the King of France gave up all rights over Acadia to the King of England. It was then agreed that any of the Acadians might leave Nova Scotia within twelve months or become British subjects as they chose. Most of them remained; and it seemed likely that left to themselves they would have settled down happily and peaceably under their new rulers, for they were treated kindly, taxed lightly and were allowed to have priests speaking their own language sent from France or Canada.

2. But they were not left to themselves. The French authorities were determined in spite of the treaty to win back Acadia, and they tried to keep the Acadians in Nova Scotia dissatisfied so that they would be ready whenever they were wanted to rise against their British rulers. With this end in view they sent amongst them priests who cared little for religion, but were willing to use their great influence to prevent their congregations of poor farmers and fishermen becoming good subjects to King George. If persuasion failed, they threatened to set the Indians on those who wavered. At the same time they stirred up the Acadians to murder and scalp any English settlers, who put themselves in their power.

3. One of the worst of these wicked priests was named Le Loutre. He acted so treacherously that he fell into disgrace with his own countrymen, and was severely blamed by his bishop at Quebec for mixing himself up with plots instead of teaching his people to lead good Christian lives.

4. It must be repeated that the British Government was much to blame for this state of things. For over thirty-five years, Nova Scotia had been utterly neglected and the governors at Annapolis, with hardly troops enough to hold that fort, had found it impossible to bring the rest of the country under firm control. But the founding of Halifax marked the beginning of a new era.

5. Soon afterwards, when trouble occurred between the French and English in the Ohio Valley, the British ministers resolved to make an effort, once for all, to break the power of the French in North America. Plans were made for attacks upon them at several points at once, but Colonel Lawrence feared that unless strong measures were taken the Acadians in Nova Scotia would seize the opportunity of the outbreak of war to rise against the English masters of that province.

6. This disaster he was determined at all costs to prevent.

7. When he became lieutenant-governor he had already spent some time in Nova Scotia, and he knew well the unfortunate state of affairs with regard to the Acadians.

8. Before Louisbourg was restored to France he had served a winter in that garrison with his regiment. Then he had come to Halifax and had been appointed by

Cornwallis a member of his Council. Soon afterwards he had been sent to build Fort Edward (near where Windsor now stands), and Fort Lawrence (called after himself), opposite to the French fort of Beauséjour on the little river which now forms part of the boundary line between Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

9. At Beauséjour were a number of Acadians who had been persuaded or forced by the priests to leave their homes. Le Loutre had, indeed, burned the houses of some of these unfortunate people to oblige them to take refuge with the French so that, in the event of war, they might be ready, like the Indians, to carry fire and scalping knife through the country.

10. But Nova Scotia was not the only British province which suffered when the French and their savage allies went on the war path. The frontier settlements of New England had equal reason to dread their raids. Accordingly Shirley, the Governor of Massachusetts, was fully as anxious as Lawrence to bring the Acadians under control.

11. Several letters passed between the two governors. At length they decided on a terrible plan to render the Acadians for ever powerless for harm. But they kept their scheme secret till all was ready.

12. In June 2,000 men were sent from New England to aid a detachment of British regulars to capture Fort Beauséjour. Its defenders soon surrendered. Amongst them was Le Loutre, who escaped and was on his way to France when his ship was captured by an English vessel, and he was kept for eight years a prisoner in the Isle of Jersey.

13. At Beauséjour many Acadians were taken with arms in their hands, and Lawrence, after giving their fellow-countrymen who had remained on their farms, one last chance to take the oath of allegiance to the king, prepared to remove them all from the country.

14. Never dreaming of the terrible blow about to fall, the Acadians went quietly about their usual summer's work. They suspected nothing when British troops encamped in their very villages, and continued to gather in their harvests. But when the last sheaf was under cover the men and boys were collected in the churches to hear a message from the king and were held close prisoners till ships arrived to bear them away as exiles to the English colonies along the Atlantic coast.

15. A story told to the poet Longfellow about one of these exiles suggested to him his beautiful poem of "Evangeline," but he did not know all the facts. Many of the Acadians were by no means the gentle and harmless people he thought them, but, as we know, they had been deceived by those who professed to be their friends, and neglected by those who pretended to govern them, so no one can help pitying them for the terrible fate that befell them at last.

16. Winslow, the New England commander, who was ordered to carry away the people of Grand-Pré and Minas, said it was the worst piece of business he had ever had to do. Longfellow gives a sad picture of the scene in the little church at Grand-Pré, when Winslow explained his errand to the assembled crowd.

“ You are convened this day,” he said, “ by his Majesty’s orders. Clement and kind has he been ; but how you have answered his kindness

Let your own hearts reply ! To my natural make and my temper
Painful the task is I do, which to you I know must be grievous.
Yet must I bow and obey, and deliver the will of our monarch :
Namely, that all your lands, and dwellings, and cattle of all kinds
Forfeited be to the crown ; and that you yourselves from this province
Be transported to other lands. God grant you may dwell there
Ever as faithful subjects, a happy and peaceable people !
Prisoners now I declare you ; for such is his Majesty’s pleasure !”

But to the last the people would not believe him, though the men were kept shut up for more than a month waiting for the ships that were to carry them away.

17. Winslow did his utmost to keep together all members of one family and even to send those from one village in the same ship, but there is a tradition that the story of Evangeline’s separation from her lover is founded on fact, and no one realized more keenly than Winslow himself that this wholesale banishment of the Acadians must cause terrible distress to innocent and guilty alike.

18. A few escaped into the woods and one party of prisoners seized the ship on which they were embarked. The rest were scattered “ far asunder on separate coasts,” and it cannot be denied that many suffered miserably from cold and hunger.

“ Friendless, homeless, hopeless, they wandered from city to city ;”

but some returned in the end to their own land where they became good British subjects. Now their descendants in Nova Scotia number thousands, and in all his vast empire King Edward has no more loyal subjects than they.

19. Governor Lawrence was satisfied that he had done well and wisely in sending them away, but for years their land lay desolate and he could not persuade the New England soldiers to settle in the places of those whom they had driven into exile. He was present with Amherst and Wolfe at the second siege of Louisbourg, and after that stronghold was again in British hands he tried with renewed energy to people the deserted farms on the Bay of Fundy. In the midst of his labors he caught cold at a ball he was giving at Government House, and after a short illness died in the autumn of 1759.

WOLFE

THE HERO OF LOUISBOURG.

1. ONE April morning in the year 1742, King George II, who was himself a brave old soldier, held a grand review on the common of Blackheath, in England. With him were two of his sons and several of his generals; and throngs of people went down from London to see the show. The River Thames was alive with boats filled with eager sightseers, but it was no mere holiday review, for several of the regiments whose presence made Blackheath so gay were to go immediately to fight the king's battles on the continent.

2. Amongst the hundreds of officers who marched past King George was one (probably the youngest there), whose name in future years was to be in every one's mouth. But James Wolfe was then quite unknown and, if he received any notice, it was doubtless due to his youth and the strangeness of his appearance.

3. He was about six feet high and looked almost as thin as the staff of the colors he carried. His profile, with its receding brow and chin, is said to have been like "the flap of an envelope." His face, though generally pale, flushed all over in times of excitement and his blue eyes sparkled with life and energy. His hair was red, but at that time was covered with a powdered wig. Above that he wore a cocked hat, edged with gold lace, and his long body was cased in a scarlet coat reaching to his knees.

4. He was still only 15, having been born at Westerham in Kent in 1727. His father was in the army, and from

his earliest years the boy had wished to be a soldier too. When but thirteen he had persuaded his father to take him as a volunteer on an expedition to attack the Spaniards in South America, but before the fleet sailed James fell ill and had to be sent home to his mother.

5. Mrs. Wolfe then lived at Greenwich, near the great encampment at Blackheath, and probably this increased her son's desire to enter the army. However, as we have seen, his wish was soon gratified.

6. He spent his first winter as an officer in Belgium, in the quaint old town of Ghent. He studied hard to improve himself in his profession and, for amusement, visited his brother officers, made friends with the townspeople and played the flute. Whenever he was away from home he wrote often to his parents, and though his letters begin stiffly, "Dear Sir," or "Dear Madam," they show the closeness of the tie which bound the family together and are full of amusing little details of all the young man did and saw. He often gives vivid pictures of the places he visited; but he was not afraid to tell something also of the deeper feelings of his nature, and the letters he wrote to his friends make it easy to understand why he was so much beloved.

7. He had one brother, Edward, about a year younger than himself. The two were always close friends and comrades, and before James was actually under fire Edward obtained a commission in the same regiment. Their first battle was that of Dettingen, the last in which an English king led his army in person. Their regiment had the post of honor and of danger, losing more men than any other engaged. James, who was acting as

adjutant of the regiment—a post usually given to experienced officers—had his horse shot under him and was thrown to the ground. His brother was in equal peril. “I sometimes thought that I had lost poor Ned,” wrote the elder brother to his father, “when I saw arms, legs and heads beat off close by him. He is called ‘The Old Soldier,’ and very deservedly.” James was made a lieutenant for his gallantry under fire, and next year became captain; but in the midst of his good fortune came a great sorrow, in the death of his brother from consumption.

8. In 1745, when the Young Pretender roused the Highland clans to battle, Wolfe fought for King George at Falkirk and Culloden Moor, and by the time he was twenty-three (when he was made lieutenant-colonel) he had seen service in seven campaigns. But it was not only on the day of battle that the young officer showed his good qualities. His men were always well cared for and well trained; and, though very strict, Wolfe won the love of all under his command, and earned the name of “The Officers’ Friend and the Soldiers’ Father.” Soon after the Jacobite rising of ‘45, he spent several years in different Scottish towns with the regiment, of which Cornwallis was colonel, and, by his tact and courtesy, did much to reconcile those with whom he came in contact to the hated rule of King George.

9. During these years he tried to improve his own rather neglected education, working hard at Latin and “the mathematics.” In a letter to his mother, however, he drolly complains that the latter “have a great tendency to make men dull.” Two years later he visited Paris, where he took lessons in fencing, riding and

dancing, and it is amusing to learn that the dancing master especially complimented him on his "surprising progress," assuring him that he would soon "dance not to be laughed at."

10. After the outbreak of the Seven Years' War, when an invasion of England was threatened, Wolfe again set foot on the soil of France, but this time was one of an army sent to attack Rochefort on the Bay of Biscay. His superior officers were not equal to their task, and the expedition was a failure, but Wolfe so distinguished himself that in the following year Pitt gave him command of a brigade in the army sent to attack Louisbourg.

11. Since Pepperell's siege in 1745 the French had spent vast sums in strengthening the fortress, but Pitt was determined that it should be re-captured. His generals had before them a hard task, however. The fortress was encircled with huge stone ramparts, upon which bristled two hundred and fifty great guns, and, in 1758, the harbor was guarded by a fleet of warships. These vessels were manned by three thousand sailors, and the walls were defended by as many regular soldiers, in addition to the townspeople and a number of Indians. Provisions for twelve months lay in the storehouses, and last, but not least, Drucour, the governor of the city, was a brave and good commander. His wife, also, did her utmost to encourage the defenders of Louisbourg, and every day during the siege she fired off a cannon with her own hands.

12. The English force, which numbered between eleven and twelve thousand men, was also fortunate in its

leaders. Admiral Boscawen and Major-General Amherst, the heads of fleet and army, worked well together, but by common consent the chief glory of the siege fell to neither of these, but to Wolfe, the fourth in command of the troops. Amherst knew his worth, and when there was anything to do of special difficulty or importance he laid it upon his young brigadier.

13. It was Wolfe who led the troops to a landing on the rocky shore of Gabarus Bay, undeterred either by breakers, which stove in several of his boats, or by a storm of bullets from the French batteries. It was Wolfe who, in spite of the fierce sorties of the defenders, set up batteries along the shores of the harbor, which poured shot and shell into the town, dismounted the French guns and at last opened gaping breaches in the walls.

14. Meanwhile, though the French admiral sank half his fleet to bar the harbor's mouth, this did not save the rest of his ships from the English. Three of the French vessels were set on fire by shells and the remaining two were captured by bluejackets, who rowed into the harbor in small boats under a hot fire from the town.

15. The proud fortress was now helpless, and in the eighth week of the siege Drucour sadly surrendered. To Wolfe was given the task of keeping the victorious soldiers in order on their entrance into the town, and, as usual, he did his duty well. As soon as he had time he went to pay his respects to the French ladies, who had been obliged to take shelter from the English bombs in dismal refuges half underground, called casemates.

1a. The news of this second capture of Louisbourg was received in England with the greatest joy. Everyone praised Wolfe, and a few weeks later he was chosen to lead an expedition against Quebec. How, in spite of the heroic resistance of Montcalm, he succeeded in this great undertaking, and how he fell in the moment of victory is a story so well known that we will not repeat it here; but neither Englishmen nor Canadians will ever let it be forgotten.

MICHAEL FRANCKLIN

AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

1. Two or three years after Cornwallis brought his settlers to Nova Scotia, there came to Halifax a merchant from England named Michael Francklin. He was a clever, energetic man and soon won the respect of his fellow townspeople. Not much is known of the events of his early life, but according to a letter he wrote many years later he must have passed through some strange adventures. Once he was taken prisoner by the Indians and was kept in captivity long enough for him to gain a knowledge of their customs and ways of thinking, which he turned afterwards to good account. Unlike many of his countrymen he learned to understand and speak French, and this gave him influence both with the Acadians and with the Indians, who cherished a kindly feeling towards the former rulers of Acadia long after the country had been given up to England.

2. After the second capture of Louisbourg had made Nova Scotia comparatively secure from the danger of French interference, many New Englanders flocked into the province, and, oddly enough, Francklin was also in a position to gain a clearer insight than most Englishmen into their way of looking at things. He had married a Boston lady, and had thus made friends and connections amongst the New Englanders.

3. All these circumstances combined to fit him for the work he had to do, and for three-and-twenty years he had a share, small or great, in the government of Nova Scotia. Indeed, he did, perhaps, more than any other

man to keep the province true to England during the stormy days of the American Revolution. Even in Canada, however, his name is not very widely known.

4. At the beginning of the quarrel many people believed that Nova Scotia would side with New England, for all the colonies had the same grievances. All were forbidden to manufacture articles which might interfere with the trade of Great Britain, and were expected to pay the stamp duties and the famous tax on tea. There really seemed no special reason why Nova Scotia should be more loyal than Virginia or Massachusetts, and for some years the rulers of the province had a very anxious time.

5. Francklin was lieutenant-governor for ten years, occasionally taking command of the province in the absence of the governor. When in authority he tried to make firm friends of the Indians, and also of the Acadians, many of whom were at last eager to become British subjects. His efforts met with great success, but, unfortunately, late in 1773 a British officer, Colonel Francis Legge, was put over his head as governor. Legge suspected half the people of disloyalty and treated them most ungraciously. By his rudeness he drove Francklin away from Halifax to Windsor, but there he still continued to work for his king and country. Others, however, were so angry over Legge's treatment of them that they felt almost inclined to join the rebels.

6. All the while Legge fancied that it was only his care and watchfulness that had saved the country from rebellion; and it certainly was a time of danger and

excitement. On the outbreak of war American privateers began to attack the fishing boats and raid the unprotected villages of Nova Scotia. The province was, in fact, almost defenceless and for months every one expected an invasion. At one time when smallpox was raging in Halifax there were but thirty-six men in the garrison well enough to carry arms, but it was rumored that it was only the fear of this dread disease that had prevented the "Liberty Army's" making a descent upon the place.

7. Legge now tried to raise a regiment of one thousand men but few would enlist under him. Francklin, on the other hand, was soon able to enroll between four and five hundred men in King's and Cumberland Counties. This was the more fortunate as many of the Cumberland people sympathized with the rebels and some influential men had actually joined them. One of these, John Allan, had been a magistrate and a member of parliament, but he, though eager to see the tie with England broken, urged that there should be no revolt till a strong force could be sent to invade Nova Scotia.

8. Rumors reached Halifax, however, that some of the Cumberland people had invited an army to invade the province. In haste the governor sent men to repair the half-ruinous Fort Cumberland, but the American leaders having other plans would at that time do nothing towards the invasion of Nova Scotia, beyond allowing a former inhabitant of Cumberland, Jonathan Eddy, a small supply of provisions and arms, and giving him permission to raise what forces he could.

9. He hoped to rouse all his old neighbors, but when he marched upon Fort Cumberland with a handful of

white men and Indians, whom he had collected on the St. John River, even those who wished him well were afraid to take up arms. However, he had a little success. Under cover of a thick fog he captured a vessel, laden with provisions, lying under the very guns of the garrison. Eddy was proud of this exploit and expected an easy victory. But he was mistaken. In vain he demanded the surrender of the garrison. In vain he tried to surprise its commander. In vain he burnt the houses of friend and foe alike in hope of setting the defences of the fort ablaze.

10. Meanwhile, Francklin was working hard against him, and Eddy, who realized that he was an enemy to be feared, offered a reward of two hundred pounds for his capture. No one succeeded in earning this money, and Francklin, gathering a body of militiamen to defend Fort Edward at Windsor, thus set free a number of soldiers to go to the help of the beleaguered garrison of Fort Cumberland. A few days after their arrival, they surprised Eddy in his camp, and drove him and his men into the bush.

11. Some little time before this, a naval officer, Arbuthnot, had been made lieutenant-governor in place of Francklin. He, though hurt at being thus set aside, continued, as we have seen, to work for Nova Scotia as hard as before. After a time he was appointed Superintendent of the Indians, which was a very important post in those unsettled days.

12. There were only a few hundred Indian warriors in Nova Scotia, but, from their plan of fighting by lying in wait for lonely travellers or attacking unprotected houses,

a few could do a terrible amount of mischief; and the Americans were sparing no pains to induce them to fight on their side. Some redmen had joined in the attack on Fort Cumberland, and their chiefs had promised to send 600 men to aid Washington's army. John Allan was very busy among them, but in Francklin he met more than his match.

13. With some trouble, Francklin persuaded the chiefs to give up to him the treaty they had made with the Americans, and also some medals presented to them by General Washington. He induced them, too, to go back quietly to their hunting and fishing, and to promise to warn the commanders of the British forts of any threatened attack that might come to their knowledge. To all this the Indians agreed with solemn form and ceremony, swearing on their knees to be true to King George. Then the hatchet was buried, the peace-pipe was passed from hand to hand, and presents were exchanged. The chiefs, in token of their determination to keep the new treaty, gave Francklin a belt of wampum. In return he presented a rich store of gifts to both chiefs and people.

14. It was a harvest time for the Indians. In the name of the Massachusetts government, John Allan also bestowed presents upon them, but at last he was obliged to confess himself worsted. The presents given by the British were better and more numerous than those supplied to him, he complained, and as the British traders dealt with the Indians more fairly than did the Americans it was impossible to prevent the savages making friends with the British.

15. His rival's task was harder than Allan thought, however. The gifts, which seemed to him so liberal

were given grudgingly, and sometimes Francklin had, as he said, "to risk the ruin of his family," by paying out of his own pocket for feasts and presents. The money he had spent was at last repaid, but he received little reward for his toils except the knowledge that he had probably saved Nova Scotia from the horrors of an Indian war. The temper of the savages was so uncertain that he never dared to slacken his efforts to keep them in good humor, and to the end of his life he had to continue his long journeys into the wilderness. He died in 1782 when the Revolutionary War was drawing to its close.

RICHARD JOHN UNIACKE

AND THE CUMBERLAND REBELS.

1. ONE day in the year 1774 a Swiss named Delesdernier went down to a wharf at Philadelphia to watch the landing of the passengers from a vessel just arrived from the West Indies. He was not merely amusing himself. He and some friends owned lands on the Bay of Fundy, which had once belonged to the Acadians, and he wished to obtain settlers to work upon them. As he watched the people coming ashore he was struck with something in the appearance of a very tall, strong-looking young man of about twenty, and, going up to him, began a conversation.

2. The young fellow said that he had sailed from Ireland to the West Indies to seek his fortune, but having lost hope of finding it there had come to see if he could do better on the mainland. He expressed his willingness to do any kind of work, and soon Delesdernier asked him to go to Nova Scotia to act as a clerk or overseer.

3. The young man belonged to an Irish family, bearing the uncommon name of Uniacke, and a curious little story is told as to how this name originated. Long years ago a war was raging between one of the native Irish princes and a Norman lord, named Geraldine, who had settled in Ireland. The Norman was besieging a town or castle, which long held out against him, but at length saw some way, through a narrow breach perhaps, by which he thought an entrance might be gained. It appeared so dangerous, however, that in the hearing of his whole army he asked whether "ere was

one man who dared to lead the way. Only one stepped forward—a young knight named Fitzgerald. To the astonishment of all he did what was asked and lived, and in memory of his brave deed his comrades gave him a new name—Unicus or “the only one.” It was borne by his children after him, and in course of years was changed gradually to Uniacke.

4. The descendant of this bold knight, Richard John Uniacke, who came to America, was the fourth son of a wealthy country gentleman, but the lad, having seriously offended his father, was left at twenty to make his own way in life. Before that he had been apprenticed for five years to a lawyer in Dublin, but when he left Ireland this term was not quite completed.

5. Soon after his arrival in Nova Scotia he was married to Delesdernier's daughter, a little girl of twelve, and, when Eddy attacked Fort Cumberland, Richard Uniacke was living somewhere in the neighborhood of the fort. His friends seemingly sympathized with the rebels, and the young Irishman himself was accused of having forced a messenger sent out by the garrison to go to the rebel camp. Whether or not he had actually taken part in the rising is not certainly known, but after Eddy's flight, Uniacke and several other suspected persons were seized, put in irons, and sent to Halifax.

6. When on his way thither under a guard of soldiers, it is said that the young man asked the sergeant, an Irishman like himself, to take off his handcuffs. The man, trusting his promise to make no attempt to escape, granted his request, and in after years, when Uniacke had become a great man in Nova Scotia, he never forgot the kindness but often asked the soldier to his house.

7. For some reason Uniacke was not, after all, tried as a rebel. Perhaps he was able to convince the governor that there was no case against him. At any rate, he was set free, and, returning to Ireland, took up his law studies again. Afterwards he came back to Nova Scotia, and began to practise as a lawyer in Halifax. From the first he was remarkably successful. Soon he was appointed to the government office of solicitor-general, rather to the surprise of some who remembered the old accusation of disloyalty. However, Uniacke was not long in making it clear that whatever he had been in his boyish days he was now a loyal British subject. From this time onward he was one of the leading men in Nova Scotia, and during his long public life did much useful work for the country in various ways. For thirty-three years he was attorney-general.

8. In 1794, when France and England had just come to blows, he was lieutenant-colonel of a battalion of Halifax militiamen. These citizen-soldiers were very enthusiastic, but of course needed much training. On the king's birthday, the Duke of Kent held a review, and asked Uniacke to put his men through some of their exercises. He replied, "If your Royal Highness only knew how much trouble I have had in getting them into line, you would never ask me to break it."

9. Like many Irishmen, Uniacke was very generous, kindhearted and fond of fun. Once, so the story goes, when he was at an evening party, a dance was proposed. But in those days pianos were not plentiful in Halifax, and there was no musical instrument in the house. At length Uniacke suggested that he should go and borrow a piano from two ladies living not very far away. It was

ten o'clock and the ladies had gone to bed, for people kept early hours then, but Uniacke pounded at their door till they threw up the window and asked who was there. "I'm the Attorney-General," cried the visitor, "open the door in the king's name, or I'll break it in." The ladies laughed, came down, and consented to lend what they called their "spinet." It was something like a modern piano, but was much smaller, and Uniacke, who was very strong, hoisted it on his shoulders and bore it in triumph to the party.

10. During his later years Uniacke spent most of his time at a beautiful country house he had built near Windsor. It is said that when he passed the spot on his way to Halifax as a prisoner it seemed to him so like a place belonging to one of his relatives in Ireland that he wished that he could have it for his own. About ten year later this wish was gratified, and, when he grew wealthy, Uniacke built a costly house and laid out charming pleasure grounds on the shores of the lovely lake that had so taken his fancy in his youth.

11. He had a large library and was fond of reading, but also liked to spend much time out of doors, looking after his farm and seeing that the creatures which lived in his stables received proper care. He was fond of all animals, and once he made a pet of a young bull. He used to give it bits of bread and sugar. One evening, however, when he went to see it in its field he forgot to take either of these dainties, and this made the creature so angry that it suddenly put down its head and struck him on the side. The blow knocked him down, but its great horns were so wide apart that he fell between

them and was able to frighten it away with a stick. Soon afterwards the animal was killed for its treachery.

12. When this accident happened Uniacke was over seventy, and three years later he was found one morning dead in his bed. He was buried under St. Paul's Church in Halifax, and in a corner of that building the tablet erected to his memory may still be seen, bearing his family motto, "Faithful and Brave."

EDWARD WINSLOW

THE LOYALIST.

1. THE night of April 18, 1775, was an exciting time in Boston. All the people of New England still owned George III as their king, but some were growing so angry at his attempt to tax them against their will that they were ready to fight rather than pay. Gage, the commander of the British troops then in America, knew this very well. He had heard that the colonists were collecting arms and ammunition, but was determined to prevent their using them. One day he was informed that there was a store of guns, powder and provisions at Concord, twenty miles from Boston, and at once he gave orders that 800 soldiers should go by night to destroy these things. He meant to keep his plan secret, but in some way it leaked out. Before his troops were well on their way messengers from Boston were speeding through the darkness to rouse the country people to arms. Bonfires were lighted, bells rung and guns fired as signals to call the "minute men" together, and when at dawn the British reached Lexington they found a body of armed men drawn up on the village green. There was fired the first shot in the Revolutionary War. Seven Americans fell dead upon the turf, then the British pressed on to Concord, where, in spite of opposition, they destroyed a quantity of stores. But when they attempted to retreat the colonists gathered about them like a swarm of hornets. Every wall and hillock seemed that day to conceal a foe. Many of the soldiers fell, the rest hastened back towards Boston, firing as

they went. At last their ammunition failed and their retreat was fast becoming a flight when they were met near Lexington by a second British force which formed a hollow square to receive them. Still the Americans hovered about them, firing from every cover, but the royal troops went back by a short cut to Boston.

2. They were guided by a New Englander, Edward Winslow, who had joined the army as a volunteer. He belonged to a notable family, for his grandfather, one of the "Mayflower Pilgrims," bearing the same name as himself, had been the first governor of Plymouth Colony.

3. The young man, who was now twenty-nine years old, had passed the greater part of his life at Plymouth. Within a stone's throw of the rock where the Pilgrims landed, his father, a government official, had built himself a fine, large house, which is still standing. Edward was well educated, graduating from Harvard College at Cambridge before he was twenty. He was a clever, energetic fellow, and all his life was apt to be a leader amongst his comrades. He was one of those, however, who dislike violent changes and look back fondly to the past. Thus, when the time of trouble came he sided with the supporters of the king and the old form of government. He protested publicly against the destruction of the tea at Boston, and also organized what was called the "Tory Company" of volunteers to support the royal authority.

4. Like his father he held various government offices, amongst others that of "Naval Officer" of Plymouth. This does not mean that he had command of a ship, but that it was his duty to see that the Navigation Laws were obeyed. These laws, which had been made by the

Imperial Parliament for the benefit of British merchants and shipowners, interfered in numerous ways with the trade of the colonies, and many Americans felt bitterly towards all who tried to enforce them. In this way Edward Winslow brought upon himself much ill-will. At last he was publicly declared to be unfit to hold any office of trust, and people were advised to try to force him to give up his position. Winslow took this as fair warning, and made his escape to the British army, carrying with him the papers under his charge. Thus it came to pass that he was at Lexington on the day of the fight. Lord Percy, who led the relief party, never forgot Winslow's services on that occasion, and both then and afterwards was always a good friend to him.

5. Winslow was appointed to certain government offices at Boston, but again lost his employment, in a few months' time, when the city was given up to the Americans. On that occasion he had a dangerous and exciting experience, for a mob burst open the doors of his office. But Winslow, having a party of soldiers at his command, managed to hold the rough fellows in check until he had packed up his papers and put them on board a ship bound for Halifax.

6. He did not then stay long in Nova Scotia, but rejoined the army, and from that time to the end of the war was engaged in raising loyalist troops to serve with the British forces. This obliged him to take long journeys on horseback to visit the outposts of the army, but he was never captured by the enemy, though once, at least, he was in great peril of this fate. He was at a place called New Utrecht, and was sitting with several

friends in a room with an open window, when a party of Americans, marching past the house, stopped to reconnoitre. As it happened there was neither powder nor shot in the house, but, strange to say, the rebels passed on, and took some other royalists prisoner.

7. For a time Winslow commanded a little fleet of armed vessels, manned by his Loyalists. He was under orders to alarm and harass the enemy, to capture their vessels and destroy their public buildings. These commands he sternly carried out, making prizes of a number of small vessels, and seizing large quantities of stores and hundred^s of horses, sheep and cattle. He also took a number of prisoners, though he commanded his men to treat defenceless people kindly.

8. When the war came to an end, Winslow's work did not, for he was sent to explore the uninhabited wilderness on the St. John, and to make arrangements for settling a number of Loyalists in that region. Amongst the refugees from New York came Winslow's own family. The rush of incoming settlers was so great that it was difficult to obtain clothing, shelter, or other necessaries, but Winslow, after hastily settling his wife and children in a rough loghouse near Annapolis, was obliged to go back to his work of taking charge of other refugees.

9. His energy was untiring. Besides arranging for the distribution of food and other supplies amongst the distressed refugees, he acted as military secretary to the British general at Halifax, cut roads through the woods on the St. John, and marked out the land into lots. Soon, however, he had the joy of seeing prosperous settlements springing up in the wilderness.

10. In those days, when there were neither railways, steamboats, nor even good roads, Halifax seemed a long way from the settlements on the St. John, and Winslow and many other Loyalists were anxious that the one great province should be divided into two. This was done, and that part of old Nova Scotia, which is now called New Brunswick, was put under a separate government.

11. Winslow, who was appointed to a seat in the council of the new province, went to live near Fredericton. Many years later he was made a judge, and to the end of his life, in the year 1815, he worked hard for the benefit of his new country, but in his private affairs he was unfortunate, and his life was one long struggle against poverty.

WALLIS

AND THE "CHESAPEAKE."

1. IN 1791, only a few years after the coming of the Loyalists to Nova Scotia, there was born in a house in the navy yard at Halifax a boy, who was to become a British admiral and was to live over a hundred years. His father was one of the officials of the navy yard, and perhaps this made him decide that his only son, Provo William Parry Wallis, should enter the naval service. At that time a boy's friends sometimes had his name put down as one of a ship's crew long before he was old enough to go to sea or to do any kind of work. This happened in the case of little Provo. His father, eager to miss no chance for him, had his name put down as "an able-bodied seaman," when he was only four years old, and after that while Provo was still playing in his nursery or was away at school in England his name for nine years was always on the books of some battleship. In this make-believe fashion he served on four different ships, but was still only thirteen years old, when, in 1804, he really went to sea, as a midshipman in a frigate named the *Cleopatra*.

2. Those were the exciting days when Napoleon was keeping all Europe in an uproar. Englishmen and Frenchmen were fighting desperately, on land and water, whenever they met. Provo had not been six months at sea before his ship had a terrible battle with a French vessel bigger than herself. The *Cleopatra* was beaten, and her crew were made prisoners, but their captivity only lasted a week, for as the French vessel was sailing

homeward with her prize another British ship came in sight and captured both victor and vanquished.

3. After that Wallis was never again made prisoner, though he was in many a fierce battle. There were other dangers. Once the ship, on which he had been serving as lieutenant for a year though he was still only seventeen, was wrecked, but all on board escaped. Before he was twenty-one he had served on nine or ten different ships, and had been appointed second lieutenant on the famous *Shannon* under Captain Broke.

4. A few months later, in June, 1812, a war began between the United States and England. We all know the story of the American invasions of Canada, and how every true Canadian sprang to defend her soil and the flag of the Empire. Meanwhile no hostile foot crossed the boundary into the Maritime Provinces, but at sea the strife raged fiercely and with varying fortune, causing terrible suffering, loss of life and waste of useful goods to both England and the United States.

5. As soon as war was declared the *Shannon* sailed from Halifax with three other men-of-war and in a fortnight this squadron, under Broke's command, captured and burned forty American vessels, chiefly merchantmen. The *Shannon* took perhaps more than her share of fighting, for she could out-sail most other ships and her captain was filled with a restless energy that impelled him to deeds of daring.

6. In one memorable chase during which the sailors were kept at their posts for sixty hours, the American *Constitution* sailed away from the *Shannon*, however,

and then fell in with another British ship, the *Guerriere*, which she disabled and sank.

7. During the bitter winter weather, when frozen spray on deck and rigging made her look like a ship of ice, the *Shannon* still cruised hither and thither on the North Atlantic. She carried destruction to many ill-fated American vessels, rescued a British crew from a wreck near Sable Island, and once was nearly wrecked herself by a lightning stroke that shivered two of her masts to splinters. Fighting, chasing the enemy, battling with roaring tempests and raging waves, every man on board the *Shannon* had that winter his share of hardship and danger. But the sailors were devoted to their captain and he lost no chance of training his "sea-children," as he called them.

8. He was proud of them, of his ship, and of his country, and he felt it sorely that several British vessels had lately been beaten in their encounters with American ships. He was determined to do something to win back the lost laurels of "the Mistress of the Seas." For weeks in the spring of 1813, with his *Shannon* and a companion-ship, the *Tenedos*, he watched the port of Boston, where lay three American frigates. Under cover of a fog two escaped, but the *Chesapeake* remained and Broke, sending away the *Tenedos* so as to give the American captain, Lawrence, fair play, wrote entreating him to come out and fight. This letter probably never reached Lawrence, but on the first of June, a lovely sunny day, he determined to accept the challenge which the *Shannon* constantly made by sailing backwards and forwards across the mouth of the harbor. Soon after midday the eager British saw that the *Chesapeake's* sails

were being unfurled. "She is coming out!" was the joyful cry, and on she came with a crowd of little boats in her train, anxious to witness her expected victory. The *Shannon* sailed a few miles out to sea, then waited for her foe.

9. In a short, terrible, little speech Broke gave his directions for the coming battle. He told his men not to cheer. In grim silence they went to their posts, and, as the *Chesapeake* drew near, they fired their great guns twice into her quarters with dreadful effect. There was a brief storm of musket shot from the rigging and decks of both ships, then the *Chesapeake* drifted helplessly against the British ship, and Broke, crying, "Follow me who can!" sprang aboard. Altogether the fight lasted little more than ten minutes, but the loss on both sides was very heavy. Almost all the American officers were killed or wounded, including Captain Lawrence, who died four days later.

10. Broke was also badly wounded and his first lieutenant was accidentally killed by an English gun. Thus it happened that it fell to Wallis to take the *Shannon* and her prize to Halifax.

11. Owing to fogs, the voyage lasted six days, and the young lieutenant was so anxious for the safety of his charge that he scarcely dared to sleep or change his clothes. It was Sunday when the ships reached port and the people were in church. But when it was whispered that they were coming up the harbor crowds poured out to the wharves to see them. At first sight neither ship seemed to have suffered much, but Judge Haliburton, then a boy of seventeen, gives a terrible account of what he saw on a nearer view.

12. Lawrence was buried with military honors at Halifax, but his remains were afterwards taken back to his own country. A few years after the battle his ship, the *Chesapeake*, was broken up at Portsmouth and part of the materials was used in the building of a flour mill. In this ship each of the guns had a name engraved upon it. One was called "Jumping Billy," another "Raging Eagle," and a third "Wilful Murder."

13. A short time after bringing the two vessels safely to Halifax, Wallis was promoted to the command of a ship named the *Snipe*. But we cannot follow him through all the events of his long life nor tell of all the honors that were showered upon him. In 1860 he was knighted, and instead of being required, like most naval officers, to retire at seventy, he was counted as being in active service till the end of his days. At last he was made Admiral of the Fleet, but for many years before his death did not go to sea; thus he never served in a warship of iron nor in one driven by steam.

14. His last days were passed very quietly at a little village in Sussex. But when he died his coffin, covered with the Union Jack, was borne by blue jackets, and a great company of naval officers followed the "Father of the British Fleet," as Wallis was fondly called, to his last resting place in the village churchyard.

JUDGE HALIBURTON

OR, "SAM SLICK."

1. THE name, Judge Haliburton, calls up the picture of a man with a long robe, a grey wig and solemn looks. "Sam Slick" somehow suggests a lively, quick-witted, saucy fellow. Yet the second name is sometimes used to stand for the same man as the first.

2. Thomas Chandler Haliburton was a Nova Scotian by birth; but his grandfather was one of the New Englanders, who had settled on land left vacant by the expulsion of the Acadians. If we go further back, we find that some of his ancestors belonged to a Scotch "Border" family, from which the great poet and novelist, Sir Walter Scott, was also descended.

3. Tom Haliburton, as his friends called him, was born in 1796 at Windsor, then a very quiet little village, which had few excitements except the arrival of the six-horse coach from Halifax. He passed his earliest days in a house which had been floated twenty miles down the river from the spot where it was first built, so Tom (who much loved to puzzle or astonish people) used to say he had been born "in the same house as his father but twenty miles apart."

4. In due time the boy was sent to the grammar school of his native village, passing from that to King's College, from which he graduated with honors.

was always boasting of the wonderful speed of his old horse, "Clay." He often gave a sly hit at the slowness and laziness of the "Bluenoses." But there was a purpose in all those droll stories. Judge Haliburton thought that his countrymen would prosper better if they depended less upon obtaining help from the government for all sorts of undertakings, and more upon themselves. He also believed that they did not value their native land highly enough. He made Sam Slick say that Nova Scotia, with its "dyke-marshes," fisheries, and "great-men-o'-war harbors," was "the best location in all America." The Nova Scotians, he declared, "have got everything but enterprise, and that I do believe in my soul they expect to find a mine of, and dig up out of the ground as they do coal."

10. Haliburton was never weary of trying to persuade his countrymen to be more energetic and self-reliant, and at last he believed that he had succeeded in opening their eyes to some of their shortcomings, for in one of his latest books Sam Slick says, "The blisters I have put on their vanity stung 'em so they jumped high enough to see the right road, and the way they travel ahead now is a caution to snails."

11. Some people were very angry at his laughable stories, however, and perhaps Judge Haliburton was never so much admired as a writer in his own country as he was in England and the United States.

12. When Haliburton was sixty years old he resigned his position as judge, and went to live in England—a country which he had always loved. He longed to see the different parts of the British Empire welded more

firmly together, and, in his own way, he certainly did his utmost, by speaking and writing, to help to bring this about. During the last few years of his life he had a seat in the British House of Commons, and it has been said, that he regarded himself not so much as a representative of the English town of Launceston, which had elected him, as of the colonies beyond the seas.

13. He died in 1865, and was buried at Ilesworth on the Thames, in the same village churchyard, where rest the remains of the explorer, Vancouver.

5. Before settling down to work, Tom went to England to visit his step-uncle, Captain Piercy, an officer in the navy. In his house, he met a young lady, who had a strange history. Her father had been an officer in the army, and, when ordered to India, he had left his motherless child in charge of a lady, whose husband was deeply concerned in the Irish Rebellion of 1798. A price was set on this man's head, but he escaped to France in the open boat of a smuggler, taking with him his wife, and the little girl, Louisa Neville. For a time she went to school in Paris, but afterwards rejoined her father in London. Soon, however, he fell dangerously ill, and on his deathbed he wrote to Captain Piercy, thinking him an old friend, and begged him to look after his daughter. He had made a mistake. The captain was not his friend, but nevertheless generously took the orphan girl to his own home. Here she was living when his nephew appeared on the scene, and fell in love with her. Haliburton was not yet of age, but before he returned to Nova Scotia he married the young lady.

6. He had chosen the profession of a barrister and for a few years he lived at Annapolis, where he built up a good practice. He was still only a young man when he was elected to the assembly. There he soon made his mark. In those days Roman Catholics were not allowed to vote for nor to become members of the assembly, nor to hold any offices under government. Haliburton thought this wrong and made several earnest and clever speeches pointing out the injustice of this state of things. At length, largely through his efforts, the laws were

changed and the Roman Catholics were allowed henceforth to have the same voice in the government as the Protestants.

7. At the age of thirty-two, Haliburton was made a judge. In the following year he published a "History of Nova Scotia," for which he received a vote of thanks from the provincial assembly.

8. Six years later he again took up his pen, and wrote for the "Nova Scotian" newspaper an account of the doings and sayings of a Yankee peddler, whom he called "Sam Slick." There was something so lifelike about this character that, in after years, many of his readers believed that they had known the real man, from whom Judge Haliburton had drawn his "Clockmaker." They were mistaken, however. Though at that time there were many Yankee peddlers going their rounds in Nova Scotia, Sam Slick had never lived except in the mind of his author. People were so much pleased with the character that he appears in several books written by Haliburton; and often he put the Clockmaker's name instead of his own on the titlepage of his stories, as if they had really been written by Sam Slick.

9. The Yankee was described as going on what he called a "circuit" through the province, selling his wooden clocks and picking up all kinds of strange stories about the people he met. Nothing seemed to escape his "bright, twinkling, black eyes." His "long yarns" are often witty, sometimes coarse and sometimes full of wild exaggerations. They abound in accounts of his own clever, though not always honest, tricks. He prided himself especially on his sharpness as a horse-trader, and

LEMUEL ALLAN WILMOT

THE REFORMER OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

1. LEMUEL ALLAN WILMOT was born in the county of Sunbury, New Brunswick, in the year 1809. His family claimed descent from one of the "Pilgrim Fathers," of New England, and his grandfather, Major Lemuel Wilmot, was a United Empire Loyalist, who had fought in the Revolutionary War. Most of the major's neighbors were Loyalists like himself, and it is not surprising that in the midst of such influences his grandson and namesake grew up a lover not only of the fair province where he first drew breath, but also of the mother land.

2. Lemuel was a bright, "many-sided" boy, clever alike at work and play. Amongst his various gifts was a beautiful voice, and, curiously enough, when he was very young the lieutenant-governor of the province, Sir George Smythe, gave him lessons in singing so that he might sing in the choir of Christ Church at Fredericton. The boy spent some time amongst the French people at Madawaska, and thus learned to speak their language almost as well as his own, while later, at the University of Fredericton, he gained a good knowledge of Greek and Latin. He was an earnest and diligent student, though he earned a great reputation amongst his companions for swimming, wrestling, running, skating and rowing. He was also, we are told, an excellent musician and speaker, and in addition to all this had the advantage of good looks. He was tall, straight and graceful, and had bright eyes and good features.

3. But even for this brilliant lad all was not wholly plain sailing. He wished to be a barrister, and though said, as I have mentioned, to be a good speaker, he was troubled in his college days with an inclination to stutter. Indeed, his own father tried to dissuade him from entering his chosen profession on account of his "stammering tongue." But Lemuel refused to be discouraged. He not only became a barrister, but he conquered his defect and became one of the most eloquent speakers ever heard in New Brunswick. When he was to plead the court was usually crowded and he won many cases. At the age of twenty-five he was chosen by the electors of York to represent them in the assembly.

4. Those were stormy days in New Brunswick, as in the other British American provinces. Now we have what is called responsible government, a plan, which it is difficult to explain in a few words. Its result is that the ministers who manage the business of the country can only hold their position as long as the people are satisfied that they are doing their work well. When Wilmot was young, however, the men who filled the public offices were appointed for life, and as long as they could persuade the governor, sent out from England, that they were managing things well they did not care what the people thought. When a new governor arrived, he usually did not know much of the country, and often, while he was still a stranger, the "officials" contrived to get a great influence over him. Some of these officials were very fine men; others were much more anxious for their own than the public good, and when one was attacked the others, as a rule, made common cause with

him, and stood by him right or wrong. This state of affairs led to all kinds of injustice, and to a shameful waste of the public money.

5. The people were determined to have a change, and in Lemuel Wilmot they found a champion able and willing to battle for their rights. Though the youngest member of the assembly, he made his presence felt, and was soon the recognized leader of the Reformers.

6. But though he felt strongly and spoke fearlessly in favor of reform, Wilmot was thoroughly loyal to his sovereign. He always believed, indeed, that if the British Government understood the real state of things, they would make the changes desired by the people. For some years a question concerning the quit-rents, or land taxes claimed by the crown, had been causing trouble. The people and the governor could not agree upon the matter, and in 1836, Wilmot, and an older member of the house, named Crane, were sent by the assembly to England to appeal for redress to the king.

7. They were well received in England. When they were presented at court King William IV broke through the usual stiff formalities of the ceremony, and questioned Wilmot about his personal history. The delegates were not quite successful in their mission, however, and were obliged to make a second journey to England. This time they obtained what they desired. The matter of the quit-rents was arranged, and a new governor, Sir John Harvey, who soon became very popular, was sent to New Brunswick.

8. A few months later the two provinces of Upper and Lower Canada were convulsed by a rising of the most

hot-headed and impatient of the Reformers. They were quickly dispersed, and several of the leaders fled to the United States, where they tried to gather an army for the invasion of Canada. A number of tramps and ne'er-do-weels flocked to their standard, and in 1838 they threatened to cross the border. When this news reached Fredericton, Wilmot was foremost in urging that help should be sent to the sister-province. "Their cause is ours," he cried. "The province, in aiding our fellow-subjects will be fighting its own battles." His enthusiastic patriotism found an echo in the hearts of his hearers, and the assembly voted that 1,200 men should be sent to the help of the loyal Canadians.

9. It soon appeared that this force would not be needed, but within a few months' time, it was the turn of Wilmot's own beloved province to dread invasion.

10. The boundary lines between Maine and New Brunswick had never been definitely settled, and the action of a few lumbermen in cutting timber on the disputed lands nearly brought on a war. The Governor of Maine asked the American authorities to send him 10,000 soldiers, while the Assembly of Nova Scotia voted £100,000 in money, and 12,000 men to help to defend the rights of New Brunswick. Meanwhile the people of that province were preparing energetically to defend themselves. In every county volunteers sprang to arms, and the soldier-governor, Sir John Harvey, led a small force to the scene of the disturbance.

11. In these unquiet times, as in the days of peace, Wilmot held a leader's post. From early manhood he had been a militia officer, and now he raised a troop of

mounted men to do despatch duty on the border, and to block the forest paths to prevent the advance of the enemy. Happily the dispute was settled without fighting, and Wilmot had no opportunity to show his courage on the field of battle.

12. Many a contest still lay before him, but his bloodless victories were won at the polling booth and in the Province Building. By these were obtained what many men have died to win—larger liberty and better government for his native land, but the result of the struggle was long doubtful.

13. In those days an election often lasted many days. This worked up the people to such a pitch of excitement that, once at least (in 1842), soldiers with fixed bayonets were stationed at the poll in Fredericton to guard the electors from violence. On that occasion only two Reformers gained seats in a house of forty-one members. One of these was Wilmot, and at the close of the election he unfurled a scarlet flag bearing the words, "Responsible Government," to show that though his party then seemed to be beaten he meant to fight for reform to the last. With deafening cheers his supporters bore him through the streets, but his real triumph was yet to come when, six years afterwards, the right of the people to a voice in the government was fully acknowledged.

14. In 1851 Wilmot retired from the battlefields of political life to become a judge. Seventeen years later, when four of the British North American provinces were united to form the Dominion of Canada, he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick.

15. It was a new thing for the people of Fredericton to have a fellow-townsmān occupying their stately old Government House. But they were delighted to do him honor. On the day when he became governor all the dignitaries of the city went to offer their congratulations, and amongst them went a little lad from the Sunday school of which Wilmot had long been superintendent. He received the little fellow very kindly, and to the end of his life he continued to take charge of the Sunday school and to lead the choir of the Methodist church to which he belonged. In his busiest days he had always found time to give to the study of the Bible and the service of the young and the unfortunate. When he had leisure one of his greatest pleasures was gardening, and his house was always surrounded with beautiful shrubs and flowers. The peace of his last years was troubled with frequent attacks of severe pain, but he never laid down his accustomed work, and in his seventieth year death came to him with scarcely a warning.

JOSEPH HOWE

THE NOVA SCOTIAN REFORMER.

1. HAVING told the story of Lemuel Wilmot of New Brunswick, we must now go back to Nova Scotia to tell something of the life of another great man who was at the same time working hard to bring about reform in that province.

2. This was Joseph Howe. He was the youngest son of a Boston Loyalist, who had come to Halifax in 1775 with his bride and his printing press. Joseph's mother was John Howe's second wife, and the boy was born in December, 1804, in a pleasant cottage overlooking the lovely North West Arm. Here Joseph's parents lived until he was thirteen, and no doubt he owed much of his love of nature to the beauty of his early surroundings. He loved to wander by the sea and in the woods and he grew up strong and sturdy, but the nearest school was two miles away and he attended very irregularly. Fortunately his father was a clever man and from him Joe learned to use his eyes and ears and to love reading, so in after life he was able to overcome, to a large extent, the disadvantages of his early want of education. At thirteen he began to learn printing and for the next ten years he worked at this trade and occasionally helped his elder brother in the post office.

3. During these early years he tried writing verses, and when he was quite an old man he still sometimes amused himself in this way. One poem, written on his fifty-ninth birthday, is particularly interesting because it tells so much about his boyish days. He says:—

"Midst trees, and birds, and summer flowers,
 Those fleeting years went by ;
 With sports and books the joyous hours
 Like lightning seemed to fly.

The rod, the gun, the spear, the oar,
 I plied by lake and sea—
 Happy to swim from shore to shore,
 Or rove the woodlands free,

To skim the pond in winter time,
 To pluck the flowers of spring.
 'Twas then I first began to rhyme,
 And verses crude to string.

* * * * *

My next ten birthdays Labor claimed,
 And hard I worked, my son ;
 But still at something higher aimed
 Whene'er my toil was done.

I worked the press from morn till night,
 And learned the types to set,
 And earned my bread with young delight,
 As you will earn it yet.

In the dull metal that I moved
 For many a weary hour,
 I found the knowledge that I loved,
 The life, the light, the power."

Amongst Howe's youthful poems was one on "Melville Island," where in the old war times French and American prisoners had sometimes been confined. Many people thought this poem clever and it attracted the attention of the governor, Lord Dalhousie, who invited the young writer to call upon him.

4. Encouraged by this success Joe wrote other poems and some articles in prose, and at the age of twenty-three he joined with another young man to buy the weekly

"Chronicle," which they re-named the "Acadian." This undertaking cost some courage, for young Howe had had no experience in newspaper work except as far as the mere printing was concerned. However, after a year's trial he was so well satisfied with his new employment that he sold his share in the "Acadian" to his partner and paid more than a thousand pounds to have another newspaper, the "Nova Scotian," all to himself.

5. Some of Howe's friends thought this venture a mistake, but he was determined to make it a success. He spared no pains in gathering news; he himself reported important trials and debates in the house of assembly; and he travelled on horseback all over Nova Scotia in the effort to improve the circulation of his paper. In this way he learnt a great deal about the resources and the people of the province.

6. Being naturally fearless and outspoken, he wrote exactly what he thought, and, as both the province of Nova Scotia and the town of Halifax, were governed, like New Brunswick, by a set of officials over whom the people had no control, there was much to criticize in the management of public affairs. Things were so contrived in Halifax that the poorer people had to pay a most unfair share of the taxes, and some of the officials, in charge of the poorhouse and jail, actually cheated the unfortunate inmates of proper food. At last some one wrote to the "Nova Scotian," complaining that within thirty years the magistrates of the county of Halifax had cheated the people of at least thirty thousand pounds. Believing the accusation to be true, Howe published the letter, and the magistrates in a rage had him tried for libel

7. If they could have foreseen all, they would probably have been afraid to take this step, but they fancied they had Howe at their mercy. The lawyers thought the same, and not one of them would try to defend him. Nothing daunted, Howe borrowed some law-books and prepared to defend himself. When the day of trial came the court-room was thronged, and Howe who had never before made a speech in public, spoke for six hours, showing that the charges against the magistrates had been made with good reason. Amidst breathless silence, the jury pronounced him "Not Guilty!" Then the assembled people gave a great shout of joy, which was taken up by hundreds outside the building, and he was borne to his home on the shoulders of his admirers. They felt that they could not honor him enough for his bold stand in the cause of right and freedom, and all that day and the next Halifax kept holiday, while bands of music and processions of sleighs paraded the streets.

8. From that time Howe was a power in the land. Soon he was elected to the assembly, where he speedily became the leader of the Reformers, and did good service by his boldness and plain speaking. In vain the council tried to put him and his friends to silence. They were determined to be heard, not only by the governor, but by the queen on her throne.

9. But when the hot-headed Canadian "Patriots" took up arms the Reformers of the Maritime Provinces counselled patience, and in those colonies "not a blow was struck nor a pane of glass broken." Some of their enemies tried, indeed, to brand them as disloyal, but such a slander was powerless to harm them. With

unflinching courage they continued the struggle for reform. Howe, with voice and pen, cheered on his followers, and wrote long, powerful letters to the British ministers, urging that responsible government would prove the best remedy for the mismanagement of colonial affairs. At first the authorities at home were afraid to grant this reform, lest it should lead to the separation of the colonies from the empire, but Howe was convinced that it would have the opposite effect.

10. At last it seemed that the victory was won, for the governors of the provinces were told to give the public offices to those in whom the people showed their confidence. But in Nova Scotia the fight was not yet ended. The governor, Sir Colin Campbell, refused, in spite of the new rule, to make any change in his council. This was not to be borne. Though the Reformers on many accounts liked and respected the stern old soldier they asked for his recall. This request was granted, but Sir Colin bore them no malice, and on his last meeting with Joseph Howe he insisted on shaking hands with him.

11. On the arrival of the new lieutenant-governor, Lord Falkland, Howe and another Reformer entered the executive council, though all the other members belonged to the opposite party. For some time the old opponents contrived in some way to work together, but at last the two leaders, Howe and Johnston, took opposite sides on an important question of education. A general election followed, and the people decided against the side taken by Howe. A little later the governor, when making an important appointment,

neglected to consult the two Reformers in the council. Upon this Howe and his friend resigned. Several years of bitter strife followed. In this Lord Falkland unwisely took part, and Howe, feeling that the governor was not carrying out the principle of responsible government, for which he had toiled so long, sometimes expressed his indignation in language that cannot be justified.

12. But brighter days were dawning. Falkland was recalled, and his successor, Sir John Harvey, who had been in New Brunswick, did his utmost to smooth away the difficulties in the way of reform; thus the long struggle ended at last in the complete triumph of Howe and his followers.

13. While the fight was still going on, Howe worked hard to obtain for his native province better education, increased trade, and improved means of travelling by road, railway and steamboat. He loved old England, and desired to bring his countrymen more closely into touch with the mother land. At one time he also wished to see a union of the British American colonies, but when, in after years, steps were taken to unite the provinces, he thought that Nova Scotia had not been properly consulted, and he opposed the scheme with all his might. He tried first to prevent, afterwards to undo, the union, but, realizing at length that this was impossible, he set himself to obtain for his province a larger grant out of the general funds raised in the Dominion. In this he succeeded, and in 1869 he consented to become a member of the Dominion Government.

14. Four years later he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, but he had passed only three

weeks at Government House, when death came suddenly to call him away from the scene of his struggles and triumphs. Since that day Nova Scotians of all shades of opinion have delighted to pay honor to his memory, and a statue of the great Reformer has recently been erected under the shadow of the old Province Building of Halifax, which in former days so often echoed to his voice.

SIR SAMUEL CUNARD

AND HIS STEAMSHIPS.

1. IN THE summer of 1838 a sailing-vessel named the *Tyrian* lay becalmed on the Atlantic. On board she had mail-bags filled with letters for people in England, but whatever reason there might be for haste she had been obliged to come to a dead stop. There was no wind, and without it she was helpless. Presently as she lay with her big sails hanging limply from her masts another ship was seen on the horizon moving without wind. It was a strange sight in those days and we can fancy the excitement of the *Tyrian's* passengers, amongst whom were our old friends Joseph Howe and Judge Haliburton. Nearer and nearer came the other vessel with her long cloud of smoke behind her. At last she was within speaking distance and then the captain of the *Tyrian* begged the captain of the steamship to take his mail bags to England for him. He agreed, and Howe went on board with them to have a nearer view of the *Sirius*. Soon afterwards she was again swiftly ploughing on her way across the deep while the *Tyrian* still lay like a log waiting for a breeze. But the lesson was not lost on Howe and Haliburton. When they reached England they joined with some other gentlemen in trying to persuade the British Government to take steps to establish a steam mail service across the Atlantic, and, as we shall see later, their efforts were not in vain. In this story they are not the chief figures, and to tell it properly we must go back a good many years.

2. In the year 1787 a boy who was named Samuel Cunard was born at Halifax. His father was a Loyalist from Philadelphia, a carpenter by trade, who had obtained employment in the royal dockyard. Being hardworking and thrifty he was able to save enough money to start a small grocery store. Meanwhile his son Samuel was growing up. The boy went to school in Halifax, but in those days the schools were not nearly so good as they are at present, and he had no special advantages as far as education was concerned. He had, however, gifts which enabled him to make the best of his chances in life. He was strong in mind and body and was not easily tired, discouraged or put out of humor. While little more than a child he began to help his father in the store and was still only a young man when he himself became a prosperous merchant.

3. But that was not enough for him. He was so full of energy that he could not contentedly shut himself up to the business of his shop. By the time he reached middle-age he had tried many different ways of making money, and had become known as one of the best business men in Nova Scotia. He had shares in the coal mines of Pictou and Cape Breton Island, and in a lumbering company which was at work in the mighty woods of Miramichi. His vessels had chased the whales in the cold northern seas, and had carried on a brisk trade with the West Indian Islands. The result of all this was that he had grown rich, but that is not the reason why he deserves to be remembered by Canadians.

4. Living in a sea-port town and owning ocean-going vessels, he was naturally interested in all matters connected with the building and sailing of ships, and it

happened that he was born in an eventful period in the history of navigation.

5 Different men, in France, England and America, were then trying to contrive boats that could be driven by steam instead of sails. After many difficulties and misfortunes, an American, named Fulton, launched a steamboat on the Hudson, which proved a great success. Soon there were steamboats on other European and American rivers, including our own St. Lawrence, and people began to think that steamships could be used on the ocean, though they were troubled with doubts as to whether any vessel could carry coal enough to keep up its steam during so long a voyage. At first they tried what could be done with vessels having steam-engines and great sails also, but even these took so long to cross the Atlantic, and burned so much coal that people could not afford to send them often. At last a little Canadian ship, named the *Royal William*, steamed all the way from Pictou to Liverpool without any help from sails.

6 We have now come back to the year 1838, and the *Sirius* with which we started. She had made her first voyage westward, from England to America, and just as she reached New York had been overtaken by another steamship, the *Great Western*. This vessel, which had made the passage in fourteen days and a few hours, long continued to cross and re-cross the ocean, though her voyages were so expensive that her owners lost money by them. When, a few months after the *Sirius* carried the *Tyrian's* mailbags to England, the British Government began to make arrangements for a regular mail service by steam vessels, the *Great Western* company tried to obtain the contract. But they had a formidable rival.

Samuel Cunard made what appeared to be a more advantageous offer, and the government agreed to give him a large sum of money every year for carrying mails between England and Halifax and Boston.

7. It was a bold undertaking. He knew that it would cost vast sums of money to build the necessary steamships, and he went to England to try to persuade some of the great merchants and shipowners to help him. They were afraid to take the risk. He then went north to Scotland, and at length induced some shipowners, who had steamboats plying between Glasgow and Liverpool, to take a share in his great enterprise.

8. The next step was to build four steamships to cross the Atlantic fortnightly from east to west, and from west to east; and on July 4th, 1840, the first of these, named the *Britannia*, was ready to sail.

9. Nowadays this would be counted a very small vessel, and it differed in many ways from the great ships which now cross the ocean. But to the people gathered on the quays at Liverpool to see her start, she seemed a most wonderful vessel. Cunard himself was on board, and, when after a voyage of eleven days he entered the magnificent harbor of his native town, the people received him and his new ship with gladness and pride. After a few hours' stay, he went on to Boston, and there the citizens almost went wild with delight. It was late on a Saturday evening when the *Britannia* steamed up to her wharf, but excited crowds were gathered all along the water front, and great guns thundered a noisy salute.

10. Three days later a public banquet was held in honor of Cunard and of the establishment of the mail service

by steam between the Old World and the new. Nor was that all. It seemed as if the Bostonians could not do enough to show their joy. Some of them gave Cunard a valuable present of silver plate. He also received eighteen hundred invitations to dinner, or enough to keep him dining out every day for nearly five years.

11. For about ten years Cunard's company owned nearly all the steamships on the Atlantic. After that many other lines of steamboats were established. Now there are thousands of steam vessels afloat, but the great "Cunard Liners" are still amongst the finest of the "ocean greyhounds."

12. From the first, Cunard and his associates took the utmost pains to make their vessels comfortable and safe as well as swift. For many years they were able to boast that they had never lost a passenger, though, of course, they could not guard against all mishaps. Once a strange accident happened. The *Scythia* ran into a whale. The whale was killed outright, and the ship was so much injured that it had to put back to Liverpool.

13. To the disappointment of Cunard's townspeople he did not long make Halifax the chief stopping-place of his steamers, and, after a few years, New York became the American headquarters of the line called by his name. He himself went to live in England, where he died in 1865. A few years earlier he had received from Queen Victoria the title of baronet.

JAMES W. JOHNSTON

THE CONSERVATIVE LEADER.

1. IN THE sketch of Howe's life mention was made of his great rival, Johnston, but he deserves more than a passing word.

2. Twelve years older than Howe, he did not enter public life quite so soon. Like Howe, he was the son of a Loyalist, and was always anxious that the connection between the mother country and the colonies should not be broken; like him, too, he served Nova Scotia long and faithfully, but here the resemblance between the two men ends. Johnston saw much to defend and admire in the old order of things, which Howe worked so untiringly to overturn. For years they were the leaders of opposite political parties, and in character, manner and appearance they differed as widely as in opinion.

3. James W. Johnston was born in the year 1792, at Kingston in the Island of Jamaica. His father was a doctor who had previously been a captain of the New York volunteers, had fought in the Revolutionary War and had suffered heavy losses through his faithfulness to his sovereign. This gentleman married an Austrian lady of noble birth, and he himself claimed a right to the title of Marquis of Annandale. But the question was never carried into the courts of law, and neither he nor his son James ever bore the title.

4. When very young James was sent from his West Indian home to be educated in Scotland, and before he rejoined his family they had removed to Nova Scotia.

He followed them thither, and, deciding on the profession of law, entered the office of a lawyer at Annapolis. At twenty-three he was called to the bar and began practice on his own account at Kentville, but soon removed to Halifax.

5. Amongst the lawyers of that town he soon made his mark. He was quick to see the weak and strong points of a case, had rare powers of persuading or obliging even an unwilling witness to tell what he knew, and could speak so as to touch the hearts of his hearers, fire them with enthusiasm or kindle them with indignation. Added to these gifts he had the still more valuable qualities of energy, patience and perseverance.

6. He soon made his way to the front rank in his profession, and for some time after he had passed his fortieth birthday he seems to have had no ambition outside it. In the year 1835, memorable as that of Howe's trial for libel, Johnston accepted the government office of solicitor-general. Three years later, at the wish of Sir Colin Campbell, he became a member of the legislative and executive councils, and almost at once was recognized as the leader of the Conservatives. When Sir Colin was blamed by the Reformers for his neglect to make the changes in his council, to which the British ministers had consented, Johnston defended him warmly, and at a great meeting, held in Halifax, to discuss this question he and Howe met for the first time on the same platform. Both spoke well and strongly, but they looked at almost everything from entirely different standpoints.

7. However, as we have seen, they endeavored a few months later, at the request of the new governor, Lord

Falkland, to work together as members of the government. Their differences were so great that it is more surprising that they were able, for several years, to sit at the same council board than that the attempt at compromise should end at last in a violent rupture.

8. On the education question there were special reasons why the two men should take positions far asunder. Howe, largely self-educated, was anxious to give the best possible chances in life to lads, who were at once clever and poor, and he thought that one good college could be conducted at less expense and rendered more efficient than several small ones. Johnston, on the other hand, though also wishful to place a good education within reach of all the children of Nova Scotia, had a special desire to see the ministers of the church to which he belonged well-fitted for their duties; and it appeared to him that the separate colleges already established in connection with the different churches would be better able to do good work than one general university. Johnston had been brought up in the Church of England but had afterwards joined the Baptists. Highly educated himself, he desired to have a well-educated ministry, and for many years he was one of the most earnest supporters of the Baptist College at Wolfville. On this matter of education the people held with him rather than with Howe, and the latter at length gave up the struggle.

9. In the year 1843 Johnston resigned his seat in the legislative council, and was elected to the assembly as member for Annapolis, which he continued to represent for twenty years. Sitting in the same chamber he again and again crossed swords with Howe, and during the

years when the plan of responsible government was being worked out in practical shape, there was many a stormy scene in the house.

10. But Johnston was by no means opposed to all reform. For instance, when he was head of the government he passed an act providing that in a general election all the voting should take place on the same day, and this has done much to put a stop to the disorderly scenes that often occurred when rough fellows could travel from one polling place to another. He also did a very useful piece of work for the province in arranging a difficulty which had arisen concerning the minerals of Nova Scotia. Through a grant made by George IV to his brother, the Duke of York, a company claimed the ownership of all the mines of coal and other minerals in the province. But, in 1857, Johnston, and one of the leading Liberals, named Archibald, went to England, and after much trouble arranged with the company to give up their claims to all unworked mines. By this agreement the right to the wealth hidden beneath their soil was secured to the people of Nova Scotia, and it happened soon afterwards that gold was discovered in the province.

11. Like Howe, Johnston was anxious that the tie with the mother country should not be broken, and that the British North American colonies should be united, but a few years before the confederation of the provinces, Johnston retired from political life and became a judge. He was then 71 years of age. Nine years later he went to the south of France, hoping that a change of climate might benefit his failing health.

12. On Howe's death, in the following year, Johnston was offered the position of Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia. He accepted the honor, but while making preparations to return home again fell ill and was obliged to give up the idea of becoming governor. A few months later he died at Cheltenham, in England, leaving behind him an honored memory as a Christian gentleman and a Christian judge.

SIR FENWICK WILLIAMS

THE DEFENDER OF KARS.

1. WILLIAM FENWICK WILLIAMS was born at Annapolis in the year 1800. He was the second son of Thomas Williams, barrack master at Halifax, and was a great grandson of General Amherst, who had commanded the British troops at Louisbourg in 1758. His elder and only brother was a soldier who was killed at the battle of New Orleans in 1815. William chose the same profession, and after attending King's College at Windsor went to the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich in England.

2. In 1825 Williams obtained a commission in the Royal Artillery. Soon afterwards he was sent as special engineer to Ceylon, and did his work there so well that he was afterwards chosen to help the British ambassador to settle certain boundary disputes between Persia and Turkey. During this time he had to endure much hardship. He was obliged to live in a tent, though the exposure made him ill, and was attacked several times by fierce bands of robbers. When this task was done he was kept in Turkey by other duties; thus he gained a knowledge of the people and their ways which afterwards stood him in good stead.

3. During these years trouble between Russia and Turkey always seemed to be threatening. The Czar of Russia, anxious to enlarge his dominions in Asia Minor, was thought to be watching for an excuse for war. But the English Government, not wishing to see the power of Russia increased in this way, directed Williams to do

his utmost to prevent an outbreak. For several years his efforts were successful, but at last a struggle could be averted no longer. In 1853 began the Crimean War, in which the French and British took part with the Turks against the Russians. The Sultan of Turkey could not be trusted to hold his own and in 1854 Williams was sent as British Commissioner to take charge of the Turkish forces in Armenia.

4. The British were particularly anxious for the safety of two large forts in Armenia, at Erzeroum and Kars. These were supposed to have been recently strengthened by the Turks, but Williams found them in a shocking condition.

5. At Kars, out of an army of thirty thousand men at least ten thousand had died of disease from overcrowding and bad food. The rest were ragged and half-starved. The horses belonging to the garrison were almost too weak to stand. There was scarcely any ammunition in the city and no entrenchments had been made. All this was the fault of the worthless officers whom Williams found in command. They spent their time in drinking, and robbed their men not only of their pay but of the very clothing sent to keep them warm.

6. But when Williams appeared on the scene all this was changed. He absolutely struck terror into the hearts of the good-for-nothing pashas, for he seemed to be everywhere at once. He drove out the officers from the great houses they occupied, and turned these into comfortable quarters for two or three hundred men. He pounced—to use his own word—on the “black dough” given to the troops for bread, and “fell upon the camp-

kettles" to see what sort of soup the "thieving colonels" were giving them.

7. Soon he could report that "here, within range of my eye, all fear and obey me;" but he could not reach the authorities at Constantinople, and they neglected to send him necessary supplies.

8. He spent the winter at Erzeroum, straining every nerve to be ready for the Russians in the spring. Meanwhile a young Englishman, Captain Teesdale, was trying, under his orders, to improve the state of the army at Kars. Williams thought well of the common soldiers, often praising them for their bravery and their willingness to work, but many of those at Kars were countrymen who had been pressed into the army against their wills.

9. For weeks they were kept digging trenches and throwing up earthworks till Kars was well-defended on every side. But its strength was to be severely tested. In the spring came news that a mighty Russian army was advancing against it. Williams hastened thither, and with the help of three English officers and an English doctor, prepared to hold the city by means of the feeble Turkish troops.

10. The Russian general, Mouravieff, was a bold experienced soldier, ever on the watch to catch the defenders of the city faltering in their guard, and for weeks the Englishmen could scarcely venture to take rest by night or day. Within the entrenchments were enemies even more to be dreaded than the Russian hosts. These were disease and starvation. "The days of all beleaguered places are numbered," wrote Williams, early

in August, "without bread and forage no man or beast can fight."

11. With fire and sword the Russians laid waste the country for miles round Kars. Tighter and tighter they drew their lines about the city, but Williams held on grimly at his post, hoping against hope for relief that was never sent. Some of his wretched soldiers deserted, but the general severely punished those who were caught attempting to escape.

12. Late in September the Russians made a terrific onslaught on the defences. For seven hours the battle raged, till thousands of the besiegers lay dead about the batteries they had fought so furiously to capture. At last they gave up the struggle, and the hearts of the defenders beat high with hope.

13. But, alas, they were doomed to disappointment. The Russians beaten, but determined as ever, kept dogged watch over Kars; and after the beleaguered garrison had suffered nearly two months' more of awful famine, news came that no help was to be expected; then Williams surrendered.

14. Mouravieff treated him and his soldiers with noble respect, and, ever afterwards, Williams counted the Russian general as one of his best friends.

15. For his gallant defence of Kars Queen Victoria made Williams a baronet, and gave him a pension of a thousand pounds a year. The newspapers of the Empire were filled with his praises, and honors of all kinds were showered upon him. The Legislature of Nova Scotia, proud that the province could claim the

hero as her son, voted him a sword beautifully wrought of Nova Scotian steel.

1a. Some years after this, in 1859, Major-General Williams was appointed to the command of the British forces in North America. In 1865 he became Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, a position which he held till Confederation. The remaining years of his life were almost as changeful as his earlier days, and he lived to be a very old man, dying in London in his eighty-third year.

SIR JOHN THOMPSON

PREMIER OF THE DOMINION.

1. IN THE days when the hero of Kars was winning a glorious name in far-away Armenia, there was in his native Nova Scotia a little ten-year-old boy, who was to serve the queen and the Empire as truly as the great soldier, though in quite a different way.

2. John Thompson was born in the city of Halifax in 1844. His father had some employment under government, and was assistant-editor of Howe's newspaper, "The Nova Scotian." Mr. Thompson has been described as an accomplished gentleman, and a good writer, and his little son received most careful training. He was sent to one of the public schools, and as a schoolboy was not regarded as being in any way remarkable. Afterwards however, when, at the age of fifteen, he entered a lawyer's office, he began to show signs of the thoroughness and capacity for hard work, which marked him in later years. He had to do much copying of tedious legal papers—work which is now done on the typewriter—but that did not prevent his doing his utmost to master the meaning of the legal terms and the principles of his profession. Between five and six years were passed in this hard toil, then, though barely twenty-one, he was called to the bar. He was a slight, delicate-looking young fellow, with a shy manner, and like most lawyers, had some time to wait before people were willing to entrust him with their business.

3. In the midst of his law-studies he had found time to learn to write shorthand, and he was thus able to add

something to the little he earned from his first cases. Soon he began to report the speeches made in the assembly, and in that way he learned much that proved very useful to him when he himself became a member of the house. For several years he was reporter-in-chief to the assembly, and during that time he worked especially hard, for his father's health was failing, and John often sat up far into the night to do a portion of his work in addition to his own.

4. At twenty-six, John Thompson married a young lady, who was a member of the Roman Catholic church, and about a year later he too joined that church.

5. By this time the shyness of his manner was wearing off, and he was beginning to take a notable part in public affairs. For several years he was an alderman of the city of Halifax, and in 1877 was sent to the assembly by the people of Antigonish. Another year passed and he became Attorney-General of Nova Scotia, and one of the recognized leaders of the Conservatives of the province. His next step upward was to the position of Premier of Nova Scotia, but this he only held for a few weeks, as his party was beaten in the general election immediately after his accepting office.

6. Thompson was a somewhat silent, reserved man, who lacked the gifts of stirring speech and the graces of manner that make it easy to gather a large following. Moreover, there was much in parliamentary life that did not suit his tastes. Thus his friends were not surprised when they heard that, though only thirty-eight, he had retired from politics to become a judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia.

7. He was, it is said, the youngest judge in all Canada, but even those most strongly opposed to him in politics thought him a very clever lawyer, and believed that he was well-suited for his new position. He hated deceit and untruthfulness above all things, and the wrongdoers of Nova Scotia soon discovered that Judge Thompson meant to do all in his power to put down roguery and crime. Cruelty to the weak and helpless was another thing that specially stirred his indignation, and those proved guilty of such conduct found him a stern judge, indeed. But though he was thus "a terror to evil doers" he was not by any means a hard man. He gave liberally to the poor, and those who knew him best found him always kind and warm-hearted. Lady Aberdeen has told a little story, which shows several of his good qualities very plainly. Once a woman, whose savings he had invested many years before, came to tell him that the money was lost. He could not have been held responsible for this, but thinking that the misfortune was due to his advice he managed with some difficulty, for he was never a rich man, to replace the whole sum out of his own pocket.

8. During the years he sat on the bench he spent many hours a day in studying law. He was wishful to help others to study, too, and took a great interest in the founding of a law school in connection with Dalhousie University at Halifax. He gave to it not only money but time, lecturing to the students without charge.

9. But he did not long remain a judge. In the year 1885 Sir John Macdonald, the great Conservative Premier of Canada, asked him to take the position of Minister of Justice for the Dominion. This was a high

and unexpected honor, for Judge Thompson had never sat in the Dominion Parliament and was not well known outside his own province. He soon won the respect of men of all parties, however, though in the nine years, during which he was a member of the Dominion Government many a violent political storm swept over the country. Unfortunately some of these arose out of matters connected with religion, and some unwise people tried to set the people of one province against those of another and to stir up the Roman Catholics against the Protestants. In spite of difficulties Thompson did his utmost to see that justice was fairly meted out to all, and then, as throughout the rest of his life, never spared himself trouble in doing the work he had undertaken. For instance, after he went to Ottawa he began to learn French, thinking that he ought to understand the language which is spoken by so many Canadians. He also made a point of seeing with his own eyes the condition of all the prisons which were under his charge as Minister of Justice. With this object he made a long journey, in 1887, through Manitoba, the North-west Territories and British Columbia.

10. On the death of Sir John Macdonald in 1891, Sir John Thompson (as he had then become) was asked to be prime minister. At that time he refused, but accepted the position about a year and a half later.

11. It is, of course, impossible to give an account here of the work done by Sir John during these later years of his busy life. Helping to arrange disputes with the United States, toiling hard to simplify and improve the criminal laws, laboring to bring about in Canada a meeting of representatives of all the British colonies, he

constantly tried to put into practice his belief that "He who serves Canada serves the Empire, and he who serves the Empire serves Canada as well."

12. He worked so hard that he injured his health, and in the autumn of 1894 decided to take a brief holiday in the hope that rest and change might do him good. With one of his daughters he went to Italy; from there he went to England to be sworn in at Windsor Castle as a member of the Imperial Privy Council. The ceremony took place on the appointed day, but he had hardly left Queen Victoria's presence when he was suddenly called into that of "the King of Kings," passing away with scarcely a moment's warning.

13. All honor was paid to the dead statesman alike by the queen and her people. His coffin "was crowned with laurels by his sovereign's own hand," and was "borne across the ocean by one of Britain's proudest warships."

14. At the funeral service in the Cathedral of St. Mary at Halifax representatives of all parties, classes and creeds were present. Together they joined in singing the funeral hymn, beginning

Now the laborer's task is o'er :
Now the battle day is past ;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, in Thy gracious keeping
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.

And together they marched in the long procession that followed Sir John Thompson to his grave in the Holy Cross Cemetery.

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON

THE GEOLOGIST.

1. THE great Canadian geologist, John William Dawson, was born in 1820. He was the son of Scotch parents, who had settled at the little town of Pictou, in Nova Scotia. His father, James Dawson, had landed in the province with only a guinea in his pocket, but at the time of William's birth he was a prosperous merchant and ship-owner. Four years later he suffered heavy losses in his business, and though he struggled bravely to pay all he owed, years passed before he succeeded in throwing off this burden. Indeed part of his son's first earnings was devoted to the repayment of some of these longstanding debts.

2. This trouble and others saddened the life of Mrs. Dawson, but in spite of this shadow on their home, William, and a younger son, James (who did not live to grow up) had a very happy childhood. In their rambles through the woods and explorations of the salt pools left by the tide, their father was often their companion, and he encouraged their love of collecting, and their interest in flowers, birds and strange sea-creatures.

3. William found that little quiet corner of the world full of wonders, but it was not easy to get answers to the questions that puzzled him. He was fortunate, however, in having as his first teacher a gentle Scotch lady, who, if she could not tell him all he wished to know, had a deep sympathy with his thirst for knowledge. His experiences when he grew old enough to be sent to the grammar school were not quite so happy. The hours

were long, his lessons hard, and his companions rather rough. He did not mix much with these other lads, but spent his play-hours in reading and collecting for his little museum.

4. His special interest in geology arose in a curious way. Half buried in a bank near the schoolhouse was a soft easily-split rock, from which some ingenious boy had discovered that he could cut slate pencils for himself. William Dawson, of course, wanted to have home-made slate pencils, too, and one day when he was cutting away with his knife at a bit of the rock he was surprised to see upon it a black marking of the shape of a fern. Digging deeper into the rock, he found other marked pieces. Much wondering how these strange patterns could have come into the stone, he consulted his parents. They could not tell him, but his father advised him to go to the Master of Pictou Academy. To the boy's delight, this gentleman took him into the college museum, and there showed him pieces of rock with the same kind of wonderful markings, from England and Cape Breton Island. He also explained to him how the leaves had been buried in soft mud, which had afterwards hardened into stone. Thus, at twelve years old, William had his first lesson in geology, and the master put some of his fossils, as the marked stones are called, on the shelves of the museum.

5. After this his school-fellows ceased to laugh at William's interest in rocks and shells, and he searched for fossils along the cliffs, and even in the heaps of limestone brought to Pictou for building. He found the remains of many plants and sea-creatures, and, being ever on the watch to learn from books or people

knowing more than he knew himself, he soon picked up much knowledge of that wonderful history of the earth, which may be read in its rocks and soils.

6. In due time he entered the college, and though he was proud to put on the scarlet gown then worn by the students of Pictou, he was even more delighted to have the privilege of using the books in the library and the specimens in the museum. Besides studying Greek, Latin, and the other subjects of the regular course, he took as many extra lessons as possible. These covered a wide variety of subjects. He studied drawing and elocution with teachers who came for a time to his native town. He also learned the art of preparing specimens of birds and insects for the museum. Later, at a time when he thought of becoming a minister of the gospel, he studied Hebrew.

7. When only fifteen he was sent by his father on business to Boston, and this first long journey—made by stage-coach and sailing vessel—was, of course, an event to be remembered. By visiting different collections in Boston, William added something to his knowledge of natural history, but probably this trip to the great city was of less interest to the young geologist than a long, delightful day he spent alone amongst the strange coast-cliffs of Cumberland Bay. Here he saw different kinds of rock resting one upon another in clearly marked strata, and amongst them were beds of coal, fossil plants, and sandstone “casts” of extinct trees.

8. In the year following his visit to Boston he delivered his first scientific lecture before the Literary and Scientific Association of Pictou. He had already, however, often taken part in the debates of this society.

9. James Dawson had given to his sons all the educational advantages in his power, but as far as his favorite studies in natural science were concerned William was almost entirely self-taught until his twenty-first year. Then he went for a few months to Edinburgh University. In the following summer he was fortunate enough to meet two famous geologists, Sir Charles Lyell and Sir William Logan, both of whom were henceforward his firm friends.

10. In 1846 Dawson again crossed the Atlantic. He sailed in a large timber-laden vessel, expecting to be able to send letters home from Canso. But the ship was driven out of her course by a great storm of wind, and did not touch land till, after an unusually long voyage, she reached Scotland. Meantime news had travelled to Pictou that a timber-laden vessel had been wrecked on the Magdalen Islands, and William's parents, giving him up for lost, wrote the sad tidings to his Scottish friends. Thus when he at last appeared he was received like one risen from the dead. He passed another happy winter of study at the university, and in the spring returned to Nova Scotia with a Scottish lady as his wife.

11. Two years later Dawson gave a course of lectures in Halifax in connection with Dalhousie College. This led to his being asked by Joseph Howe, then Provincial Secretary, who had known him from boyhood, to become Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia. Dawson consented rather regretfully, and for three busy years he travelled up and down the province, holding meetings and trying in every way he could think of to improve the system of education. Many of the schools were in

a woeful state. Dawson found one "in the bush," which had been put up without the use of a nail or a pane of glass, and which was so ill-provided with books that the teacher had to give his reading lessons from old newspapers. Many of the teachers had not received proper training, but Dawson succeeded in establishing a normal school where they could be trained.

12. In 1855 he left Nova Scotia to become principal of McGill University in Montreal. He held this position for thirty-eight years, and saw the number of students grow from eighty to over a thousand. Heart and soul he gave himself to the task of extending the usefulness of the university on every side—to women as well as men—but he did not shut himself up from other interests. He was an earnest worker in the cause of Christian missions and of the Bible Society, and for years he held a Bible class on Sunday afternoons for the students and citizens of Montreal.

13. Besides all this he never ceased to try to increase his own and other people's knowledge of the structure of our earth and of the animals and plants that lived upon it in the ages before the history of man began. He wrote many books and papers, he discovered fossils hitherto unknown, and altogether his work was so valuable that his name became known by those interested in science all over the world.

14. He was the first president of the Royal Society of Canada, which was founded in 1881 by the Marquis of Lorne for the encouragement of literature and science in the Dominion. Two years afterwards Dawson was knighted.

15. Owing to failing health he resigned his position at McGill University in 1893, and six years later, on a Sunday morning in November, passed peacefully away. Sir William Dawson was one of the greatest of Canadians, "fit," it has been well said, "to be the example of the thousands of young men who frequent a university," for he was as remarkable for gentleness, kindness and courtesy as for perseverance, firmness and courage in meeting difficulties.

