

purchase sea stores, and were told that it would be entirely unnecessary, as we should fare as well as the Admiral. We accordingly went aboard without making any preparations, and were put in possession of a large cabin. The weather was very cold, and it blew quite a gale. That evening the Captain went ashore, and Captain Hunt, from the state of New York, who had previously managed to engage a Frenchman, to pilot him across the country to the United States, in case he should be able to make his escape, commenced preparations ; the better to assist, the Frenchman had hired himself on board in capacity of a waiter ; they got out of the cabin window into the boat which lay astern, but to their mortification, found there were no oars ; these, after considerable manœuvring we managed to convey from deck into the cabin, one party keeping the guard busy in conversation ; from the cabin they were handed to the boat, and having muffled the oars, and being joined by four others, the painter was cut, and notwithstanding there were fifty sail of vessels in the harbor, each one having a lanthorn mounted, and two guards patrolling the deck, they effected their escape, and got safe to land. There still remained on board the vessel, seventeen of our number, so that those who made their escape were not missed until the following morning at nine o'clock, when the Captain came aboard and had the roll called. We were told to prepare to leave the cabin in an hour, and that we should in future take up our quarters in the hold ; when we urged that it was rather a hard case to punish us, for the offences of others, our captain told us that he was very well aware that they could not have got away without our assistance. We then stated that it seemed rather like punishing us for not having availed ourselves of the opportunity presented us, as the boat was

sufficiently large to hold us all—the only reply he condescended to make us, was, that he would let us know that we had our eldest "*brudder*" aboard, and that he would take care of us—he was a Scotchman by the name of Snowden. When the hour given us for preparation had expired, we were marched into the hold, where we were kept for twenty-one days, three days and nights of which we had nothing to eat, and when at length they did furnish us with provisions, they were of such a quality as an American dog would not eat, without the necessary stimulus of starvation—they consisted of old sea bread or biscuit, which, for any thing I know, was twenty years old, at all events, it was so completely eaten up by the worms, all that the worms could penetrate, the outside pilt being only left, and that was so hard that it would require a hammer to break it. Bad as it was we were not furnished with more than one fourth of a common soldier's allowance. This was shovelled up into a sack and with a bone of beef thrown into the hold as if to so many dogs. We cut the meat and broke the bread into small pieces, and boiled all together, making a kind of soup called lob-scouse ; while it was in preparation, we had made each of us a spoon, and this done, it was poured out upon a large wooden dish, and standing round, we played away, until the hollow rattle of our spoons upon the dish reminded us that it was empty. We fared twice a day in this sumptuous manner. The water too which they gave us to drink was most dreadful stuff ; no human being could drink it without holding his nose, the stench was so great. In the evening, our waiter had the good fortune to procure us a bucket of water, which was divided amongst us as though it was a luxury, and indeed to our tasting, it was delicious.

When we came to a place called " Ship Harbour,"

the vessels were obliged to lie to for a couple of days, in consequence of bad weather. We had a very heavy sea, and the winds were very rough, and previous to our reaching Ship Harbour, had lost one of the vessels belonging to the fleet, which I believe was never heard of. It must have gone down, as a few days afterwards, the bodies of some of the crew were picked up on shore, where they had been cast, and were recognized by the device and number on their buttons. Fortunately there were no Americans on board of her. Here we were transferred to another vessel, bound to England ; after we had been put on board, we were ordered to go below among the sick and invalids—they were then dying fast, and they were every day throwing them overboard ; the place too, was very filthy, and full of vermin. We refused to go down, and remained on deck the whole day, which was bitterly cold, and the wind very high. We then petitioned the Admiral for better quarters, than those assigned to us, and declared in the strongest terms that we would otherwise remain on deck until we perished, and we walked the deck from early in the morning until dark, when one of the army officers invited us into their cabin, where they had something prepared for us to eat, which was the first meal we had eaten since we had had our lobster the day previous.

Next morning we were ordered back on board of the vessel we had left, and taking advantage of the opportunity offered us by the sailors, some of whom were going ashore, we gave them some money, to purchase for us something to eat. When they returned they brought us a bag of potatoes and some fresh cat-fish, of which we soon cooked a mess, and I thought it was the best meal I had ever eaten. After the storm had somewhat abated we again set sail for Halifax.

The fleet that went down with us, consisted of twenty sail, two of which were seventy-fours ; after we had been several days in the hold, the stove was hoisted upon deck, and we were compelled to do without fire for the balance of the passage. Orders had been issued that the lights should be extinguished at eight o'clock, and that the fire in the stove should be drowned out at nine o'clock. In consequence of neglect in this last particular, we suffered this severe privation. The weather was extremely cold, and the ropes were all hanging with ice, besides we could not induce the Captain to sell us any provisions. I offered the cabin boy one dollar for a pint of beef soup, but he refused, saying, that if he gave it, he would get the rope's end—he sold us rum, however, at one dollar per bottle, and it will be readily perceived that we paid our devotions pretty regularly to the bottle, when I state that during the passage we paid him for rum alone, upwards of two hundred dollars. We could not have lived without it, and were forced to " keep our spirits up by pouring spirits down." If our Captain were tired of us, before he took away the stove, we now gave him double cause to be so, as we kept up a continual singing, and noise until ten and eleven o'clock, every night, and very often to a much later hour. He at length became afraid of us, and had his guard doubled, by application to some of the other vessels. He afterwards made another application, and recovered his temper, when strengthened by a couple of army officers. Alarmed as he was, he would have been much more so, had he known that we had actually agreed to take the vessel as soon as we got out of the St. Lawrence, and had sea-room. Our plan was to be put in operation in the night, but unfortunately for us we got into the ocean early in the day, and by night we were inside of the Halifax coast-

ers. We had two midshipmen and one lieutenant of our navy on board, and had so far succeeded as to have made a passage, by which we could at pleasure enter the apartment where the guard slept, and their arms being stacked on the floor, could have seized them when we pleased. Two of the stoutest of us were to go on deck, but two being allowed up at a time, and the stairs of the hatches were to be filled with men, ready to rush up as soon as they should have seized the guard—some were to fasten down the hatches on the sailors, and others to take care of the cabin and the officers. We would then have compelled the sailors to work the vessel into New-York, but when night came on, our lieutenant discouraged the whole undertaking by informing us that we were then inside of the Halifax coasters, and that should we be so fortunate as to escape from the fleet, we would be re-taken by them, and if so, it was as likely as not, we should all be hung to the yard arms, without further comment. Having no particular propensity for *swinging*, we abandoned the project, and landed on the following day at Halifax.

We were marched up the street, under guard like a parcel of felons, to the office of the Provost Major, where we received paroles to Prescott, a village across the bay from Halifax, and were marched back in the same order to the boat ; cheered as we went along by the expression of sympathy, from the by-standers—ah! poor devils ! exclaimed a poor old Irish woman ; in the fulness of her heart and the roughness of her phraseology, she expressed her pity for our desolate situation, and I have no doubt she felt for us from her soul, for her manner indicated sincerity and her eye glistened with a tear. We were put on board with our little store of baggage, and in the morning landed at Prescott, our place of parole.

About the time I went on shore I was taken very indeed I had been in a very weak state of health, ever since I had had the fever, and my treatment from that time was not such as to strengthen or improve it. I remained unwell for several days, and wrote to Halifax for medical aid, asking even as a favor, to go to the hospital, and received neither medical assistance, nor answer of any kind. I took a fancy to a drink of cider, and accordingly went to a tavern, where I got some very good ; it appeared to do me good, and I continued the operation, and recovered, without other medicine.

Halifax is the capital of Nova Scotia, and was founded in the year seventeen hundred and forty-nine with a view to secure the British settlements from the French and Indians. It was divided into thirty-five squares, each containing sixteen lots of forty by sixty feet.—They have one established church, and one meeting house. The city is surrounded by picketings, and guarded by forts on the outside, and has since been very strongly fortified. Along the Chebucto, south of the town, are buildings and fish flakes, for a distance of at least two miles, if not more, and on the north of the river they extend for a mile and upwards. The plan was originally contrived, and afterwards considerably improved by the Earl of Halifax. In March of the year seventeen hundred and forty-nine, was first issued the proclamation for the establishment of this settlement, and so favorable were the terms offered to settlers, and so strong the desire of emigration amongst the people, that but two months afterwards, that is to say, in the month of May, persons had offered themselves, to the number of three thousand seven hundred and fifty. They accordingly embarked, and after a prosperous voyage, established themselves in the bay

of Chebucto, where they founded their city, calling it Halifax, in honor of their patron.

So actively and with such spirit did they enter into operations, that before the end of October three hundred comfortable wooden houses were built, and as many more during the winter. The British government, too, evinced great liberality in the manner, in which for six successive years, they granted them large supplies of money, for instance, in the year seventeen hundred and forty-nine, they voted them 40,000*l* for their expences ; in seventeen hundred and fifty they granted them /57,582 17*s* 3*d* 1-4; in seventeen hundred and fifty-one, /53,927 14*s* 4*d*; in seventeen hundred and fifty-two, a sum of /61492 19*s* 4*d* 1-4; in seventeen hundred and fifty-three, /94,615 12*s* 4*d*; in seventeen hundred and fifty-four, /55,447 2*s*; and in seventeen hundred and fifty-five, /49,418 7*s* 8*d*. This city has at length attained a degree of splendor, that bids fair to rival the first cities in the United States, for which it has been equally indebted to the late war, to the great increase of population from the influx of exiled loyalists, and to the fostering care of Great-Britain. The harbour is perfectly sheltered from all winds, being at the distance of twelve miles from the sea, and is so spacious that one thousand ships may ride in it without the least danger. Upon it are many commodious wharves which have from twelve to eighteen feet of water at all tides ; the streets are regularly laid out, and cross each other at right angles, the whole rising gradually upon the side of a hill, whose top is regularly and very strongly fortified. Many considerable merchants reside in this place, and are possessed of shipping to the amount of several thousand tons, employed in a flourishing trade with Europe, and the West Indies, There is a small, but excellent careen-

ing yard for ships of the royal navy, that may come in to refit, and take water, fuel, or provisions on board, in their passage to, and from the West Indies. It is well provided with naval stores; and ships of the line are hove down and repaired with the greatest ease and safety. Several batteries of heavy cannon, command the harbour, particularly, those upon George's island, which being very steep and high, and situated in mid channel, is well calculated to annoy vessels, in any direction. Above the careening yard, which is at the upper end of the town, there is a large basin, or piece of water, communicating with the harbor below, is nearly twenty miles in circumference, and capable of containing the whole navy of England ; lit is entirely sheltered from all winds, and has but one narrow entrance, which leads into the harbor. There are many detached settlements, formed by the loyalists, along the basin ; the lands at a small distance from the water, being generally supposed to be better than those near Halifax. An elegant building is erected near the town, for the convalescence of the navy ; but the healthiness of the climate has, as yet, prevented many persons from becoming patients ; scarcely any ships in the world, being so free from complaints of every kind in regard to health, as those that are employed upon this station. There is a good light-house, standing upon a small elevation, just off the entrance of the harbor, which is visible, either by night or day, from a distance of six or seven leagues. Halifax is seven hundred and eighty-nine miles north-east of New-York. In winter, the climate is very severe, and much addicted to fogs—but to return to our narrative.

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to seven dollars a week. Our fare, too, was very poor; breakfast consisted of bread and butter with some roasted herrings, and water, colored with coffee; for dinner they gave us generally a leg of mutton stuffed, and roasted, and plum-pudding—sometimes they would regale us with a roasted goose, but on Fridays we regularly sat down to codfish and potatoes; our suppers were light, consisting of bread slightly marked with butter, and a cup of tea, no doubt, through fear of injuring our digestion. The naval officers were paroled to a small village some miles distant, as they did not like to have them so near the water.

In some parts of Upper Canada, through which I passed, the people did not appear to pay the least respect to the Sabbath day. I have frequently seen women churning butter and baking bread, and men chopping wood, and attending to divers other employments, the same as on week-days. They have a substitute for coffee, of which it has fallen to my lot, more than once to partake, viz.: dry crusts of bread put on the fire and burnt black, then pounded fine, and boiling water being poured upon it, it is suffered to rest for a while when it is pronounced fit for, use. Provisions of all sorts were very scarce and dear. In the markets of Halifax, beef was upwards of twenty cents a pound, turkey was fifty cents per lb., wheaten meal, though sour, was twenty-four dollars per barrel, and I saw them manufacturing flour in a mill near Halifax, that was so much spoiled, and so firmly cemented together, that they had to dig it out of the barrel with a heavy spade, it was then placed under a sort of pounder, and after it had been pounded and bolted, through a cross-bolt, the lumps were collected, and after having undergone a repetition of the process, the whole was mixed with fresh wheat, and re-bolted, until made fine enough to

pass through, when it was packed and sent to market. Major Galloway and I paid two dollars, at a tavern in Halifax, for a couple of glasses of brandy each, and some oysters, which were so bad, we were forced to leave them untouched.

There were but few men in the village in which we were paroled, some followed fishing, some the sea, and others the army. The soil of the country around appeared to be very poor, the country abounded with small lakes; the timber was principally scrubby white pine, not growing thicker than from six to twelve inches in circumference. This was the wood used for firing by the inhabitants, each of whom cut and hauled as much as he pleased without interrunpon. The corn stalks which I saw in some gardens, and this was the only place in which I saw any, were no larger than a person's finger.

About this time the news of the defeat of the British before New-Orleans, reached Halifax, and disappointment and chagrin were depicted in the countenance of every individual, with the exception of the American prisoners, whose joy was almost without bounds. The merchants who had been speculating, and many of them had embarked largely in purchasing the soldiers rights of plunder at New-Orleans, of cotton, sugar, tobacco, &c., were actually thunderstruck. Many of them upon hearing the news, collected all the cash they could lay their hands upon, and disposed of as much merchandise as possible, and cleared out, well knowing that they had not the slightest chance of anything but absolute poverty, if they remained. Every day while I remained there, I witnessed sales of their goods at auction in the streets.

When the news of the victory reached us at Prescott, the officers assembled at what was called "Jack-

son's :Tavern," where Major Galloway, Captain Crowninshield, myself, and several others boarded, and spent the afternoon in jollity and mirth. "Hail Columbia," I suppose was never sung with more heart-felt gratitude, than we sang it that afternoon; joining hands, forming a circle and walking round, we sang with all our force, disregarding entirely of consequences; but we were permitted to enjoy ourselves without molestation, as there was not a British officer or soldier then resident in the village. Captain Crowninshield had been detained in imprisonment for something like a year after he had been legally exchanged; immediately after the news of peace had reached them, Captain Cushet, the provost Major, sent a line to him, with directions to have his baggage put on board of a certain vessel then lying in the harbor, bound for the United States, and then to repair to his office in Halifax; the Captain did so, and on appearing in the office, the Major asked him if he did not feel rejoiced at the prospect of returning to his family. Crowninshield replied that he did; but added at the same time, "without considering myself at all indebted to you, Captain Cushet." Cushet answered, that thanks were not only due to himself but to several others, gentlemen resident in Halifax, who had interested themselves considerably, to procure his liberation—to this our friend replied, that these of his friends in Halifax, who had interested themselves for him, he did indeed feel deeply indebted, but to Captain Cushet he again asserted he did not conceive himself at all indebted, as he had it in his power to prove without leaving the city, in black and white, that it was through his means alone he had been so long illegally detained in captivity; and he had yet to learn that cruelty and injustice had power to bind the object upon whom they had been practised, to feelings of regard or

consideration for his oppressor. This charge was denied most positively and as positively and firmly repeated, when at length, Cushet completely losing all command of his temper, the following dialogue ensued: "You shall not go home even now, sir." "Thank you, sir." "Go on board and remove your baggage, and return to your place of parole.: "Thank you, sir." "I will send you to Mellville prison, sir." "Thank you, sir." "Begone out of my office, sir." "Thank you, sir." Captain Crowninshield then left the office and related the circumstance at dinner, when he was warmly greeted by all for his firmness, and they actually carried him on their shoulders round th room. He then called for wine, to treat his fellow officers of whom there were about a dozen, then in the house; we devoted ourselves to merriment and had a jovial time of it; several other paroled American officers gathered in, and before we had retired to rest ourselves, we had consigned to rest upwards of forty bottles of good wine, thus celebrating our country's glory, and our enemies' disgrace, under their very noses. The next morning the Captain made it known that he expected a guard to be sent to conduct him to Melville prison; several of the officers, unknown to him, met together and formed a resolution to attempt his rescue, and if possible prevent his going to jail; he however came to the knowledge of the matter by some means, and begged of them to desist from their purpose, as it was impossible to prevent his going to jail in an enemy's country; that they would only risk their own lives, without doing him any service; I saw him plead with them, with tears in his eyes, so overcome was he by his feelings. before he could persuade them to give up their project—he, however, at length succeeded; he was so universal a favorite amongst the officers, that I firmly believe, had they after reflection,

found the undertaking feasible, they would never have consented to abandon the enterprise.

Captain C. was from Salem, in the state of Massachusetts ; he had formerly been the captain of a vessel, which occupation he had followed for nearly twenty years; and was well acquainted with the merchants of Halifax. For some time previous to the war, he had not gone to sea, and would not have again resumed the service, had he not had two vessels laden with goods, captured and run into British ports, where they were condemned under pretence of having smuggled goods aboard. One of the vessels thus captured had a cargo of West India goods, worth ten thousand dollars. Having still something of his property left, he fitted up a small vessel with a swivel gun and a good crew, and went out privateering ; he had married a young wife about a year before he went to sea. In his first trip he was fortunate, taking several British vessels ; when they proved to be of small value, the valuable part of the cargo was taken out, and she was scuttled ; her crew would then be paroled and put on shore—he made, however, two very valuable prizes, one of which sold for one hundred thousand dollars, which served in part to remunerate him for previous losses.

Upon his second trip, having taken and scuttled two or three vessels, the crews of which not having an opportunity of being put ashore, were still on board, he was on the look-out for an old West Indiaman, bound for Halifax, having a valuable cargo, and which was hourly expected, and when within a short distance of the Halifax coast, came in sight of an old seventy-four ; this he mistook for his expected prize, and accordingly made sail for her, and it being late in the evening, and a thick fog, he had got alongside before he discovered his error. Those on board the seventy-four,

with a view of correcting his mistake, shoved out their guns, and gave him a broadside ; by dint of several times shifting his course, he however, made his escape, and ran on until he thought himself safe, when he lay too, fearful that if he proceeded he would get out of the track of the West Indiaman ; unfortunately for him however, his antagonist had shaped her course in the same manner, and was alongside before day-break of the following morning, when before he could get away, she poured into him a broadside, which shot off his main-mast, and otherwise so far disabled him as to preclude all possibility of escape—he consequently struck his flag, and was fired into even after that process. When taken, he had twice as many prisoners, as he had of his own crew—they were all taken to Halifax, where they were detained until after the peace.

According to Captain Crowninshield's expectations, in one or two days after he had returned to his place of parole, Captain Cushet came over to pay us, what we called in derision, our starvation money, more properly, subsistence money, being twenty dollars per month, in lieu of rations, which was nothing like sufficient to support us ; he had a guard with him, and told Crowninshield that he must now set out for Melville prison. In conversation which they held about the matter, and in reply to the question of why he should be sent to prison, the captain was informed that it was not for anything he had said, but solely for the tone in which it had been spoken ; he was then taken off, and carried to Melville, where they kept him for about ten days, when he was set at liberty and sent home to Salem. In Melville prison there were confined from twelve to fourteen hundred Americans, who were treated with as much barbarity, as though the worst of convicts, some of them being half naked. John Hughes,

One of my men who was confined there, got an opportunity of writing to me, stating how much he suffered from want of clothes and tobacco, at the time I received his letter, I had but two dollars and three shirts which, however, I divided with him, giving him one dollar, and one shirt and a great coat, which proved to him of considerable service.

Melville prison is two hundred feet in length, and fifty broad, it is two stories high, the upper one being for officers, and for the infirmary and dispensary, while the lower part is divided into two prisons, one of which was occupied by French, and the other by Americans. The prison yard covers a space of ground of about one acre in extent, the whole island containing little more than five acres ; it is connected on the south side with the main land, by a bridge. In a journal which has fallen into my hands, I find a very minute account of the prison on Melville Island and the treatment of the unfortunate men confined there, which I copy in order to show my Leaders, that I am not the only one who speaks hastily of our English captives. With the language or sentiments of the writer I have nothing to do, and merely copy it as confirming my own statement, as to the hardships suffered by the inmates of the prison, and as giving a more minute account of its discipline and regulations, than I was enabled to procure from enquiry. The writer of the journal referred to, went from the Port of Salem, as assistant surgeon, on board a privateer, in December of 1812—the title page of the work is lost, and I am consequently unable to give his name.

" As to the inside of the prison at Melville, if the American reader expects to hear it represented as a place resembling the large prisons for criminals in the United States, such as those at Boston, New York, or Philo-

deiphia, he will be sadly disappointed. Some of these prisons are as clean, and nearly as comfortable as some of the monasteries and convents on the continent of Europe. Our new prisons in the United States, reflect great honor on the nation, they speak loudly that we are a considerate and humane people ; whereas the prison at Halifax, erected solely for the safe keeping of prisoners of war, resembles a horse stable with stalls or stancheons for separating the cattle from each other. It is to a contrivance of this sort that they attach the cords that support those canvass bags or cradles, called hammocks. Four tiers of these hanging nets were made to swing one above the other, between these stalls or stancheons. To those unused to such lofty sleeping berths, they were rather unpleasant situations for repose. But use makes every thing easy.

The first time that I was shut up for the night in this prison, it distressed me too much to close my eyes. Its closeness and smell were, in a degree, disagreeable, but this was trifling to what I experienced afterwards in another place. The general hum and confused noise from almost every hammock, was at first very distressing. Some would be lamenting their hard fate at being shut up like negro slaves in a guinea ship, or like fowls in a hen-coop, for no crime, but for fighting the battles of their country. Some were cursing and execrating their oppressors ; others late at night were relating their adventures to a new prisoner, others lamenting their aberrations from rectitude, and disobedience to parents, and head-strong wilfulness, that drove them to sea contrary to their parents' wish ; while others of the younger class were sobbing out their lamentations at the thoughts of what their mothers and sisters suffered, after knowing of their imprisonment. Not unfrequently the whole night was spent in that way, and when about

day-break, the weary prisoner fell into a dose, he was waked from his slumber by the grinding noise of the locks, and the unbarring of the doors, with the cry of "turn out—all out," when each man took down his hammock, and lashed it up and slung it on his back, and was ready to answer to the roll call of the turnkey. If any, through natural heaviness, or indisposition, was dilatory, he was sure to feel the bayonet of the soldier, who appeared to us to have a natural antipathy to a sailor, and from what I observed, I believe that in general little or no love is lost between them.

This prison is swept out twice a week by the prisoners. The task is performed by the respective messes in turns. When the prison is washed, the prisoners are kept out until it is perfectly dry. This in the wet seasons, and the severity of winter is sometimes very distressing and dangerous to health ; for there is no retiring place for shelter, it is like a stable where the cattle are either under cover-or exposed to the weather, be it ever so inclement.

When we arrived here in May 1813, there were about nine hundred prisoners, but many had died by the severity of the winter, and the quantity of fuel allowed by the British government was insufficient to convey warmth through the prison. The men were cruelly harassed by the custom of mustering and parading them in the severest cold, and even in snow storms. The agent, *Miller*, might have alleviated the sufferings of our-people, had he been so disposed, without relaxation of duty. But he as well as the turnkey, named *Grant*, seemed to take delight in tormenting the Americans. This man would often keep the prisoners out for many hours, in the severest weather, when the mercury was ten and fifteen degrees below 0 ; under a pretext that the prison had been washed, and was not suf-



ficiently dry for their reception, when, in fact every drop of water used, was in a moment, ice. People in the Southern states, and the inhabitants of England and Ireland, can form no adequate idea of the frightful climate of Nova Scotia. The description of the sufferings of our poor fellows, the past winter, was enough to make one's heart ache, and to rouse our indignation against the agents in this business.

Our people are sensible to kind treatment, and are ready to acknowledge humane and considerate conduct towards themselves or towards their companions, but they are resentful in proportion as they are grateful. They speak very general of the conduct of *Miller*, the agent, and *Grant*, the turnkey, with disgust and resentment. A complaint was made to him of the badness of the beef served out to the prisoners, upon which he collected them together, mounted the stair case and began a most passionate harangue, declaring that the beef was good enough and a d—d deal better than they had in their own country ; and if they did not eat it, they should have none. He then went on as follows:—
 Hundreds of you, d d scoundrels, have been to me, begging and pleading, that I would interpose my influence that you might be the first to be exchanged, to return home to your families, who were starving in your absence, and now you have the impudence to tell me to my face, that the king's beef is not good enough for your dainty stomachs. Why some of that there beef is good enough for me to eat. You are a set of mean rascals, you beg of an enemy the favors which your own government won't grant you. You complain of ill treatment, when you never had better in your lives. Had you been in a French prison and fed on horse beef, you would have some grounds of complaint, but here in his Brittannic majesty's royal prison you have ev-

everything that is right and proper for persons taken fighting against his crown and dignity.—There is a surgeon here for you, if you are sick, and physic to take if you are sick, and a hospital to go into the bargain, and if you die, there are boards enough, (pointing to a pile of lumber in the yard) for to make your coffins, and one hundred and fifty acres of land to bury you in, and if you are not satisfied with all this you may die and be d—d ! Having finished this eloquent harangue, orator Miller descended from his rostrum, and strutted out of the prison yard, accompanied with hisses from some of the prisoners. —

On a re-examination, however, of the "king's beef," some pieces were found too much tainted for a dog to eat, and the prisoners threw it over the pickets. After this the supply of wholesome meat was such as it ought to be, full good enough for Mr. Miller himself to eat, and some of the very best pieces good enough for Mr. Grant, the turnkey.

In all this business of provision for prisoners of war, one thing ought to be taken into consideration, which may be offered as an extenuation of crime alleged against the British agents for prisoners ; and that is, that the American soldier and sailor live infinitely better in America, than the same class of people do in Great Britain and Ireland. Generally speaking, an American eats three times the quantity of animal food that falls to the share of the same class of people in England, Holland, Germany, Denmark or Sweden.—He sleeps more comfortably, and lives in greater plenty of fish, flesh, vegetables, and spirituous liquors. Add to this, his freedom is in a manner unbounded. He speaks his mind to any man. If he thinks he is wronged, he seeks redress with confidence; if he is insulted he resents it, and if you should venture to strike him, he never will

rest quiet under the dishonor ; yet you seldom hear of quarrels ending in murder; the dagger and pistol are weapons in a manner unknown ; the fist a la mode de John Bull, is commonly the ultimatum of a Yankee's rage.

We often hear the British if they are unsuccessful, lamenting the war between England and America ; they call it an unhappy strife between brethren, and they attribute this "unnatural war" to a French influence, and their friends in New England, who are denominated tories, use the same language ; they say that all the odium of the war ought to fall on our administration, and their wicked seducers, the French ; and yet you will find that both in England and at Halifax, the French meet with better treatment than their dear brothers the Americans.

We found that there were about two hundred French prisoners in Nova Scotia. Some had been there ever since eighteen hundred and three ; few of them were confined in prison. The chief of them lived in or near the town of Halifax, working for the inhabitants, or teaching dancing or fencing, or their own language. Some were employed as butchers and cooks, others as nurses in the hospital, and they were every where favored for their complaisance, obedience, and good humor. They had the character of behaving better towards the British officers and inhabitants than the Americans, and I believe, with reason ; for our men seem to take delight in plaguing, embarrassing and alarming those who were set over them. 'A Frenchman always tried to please, while many Americans seemed to take an equal delight in letting their masters know, that they longed to be at liberty to fight them again. I confess I do not wonder, that the submissive, smiling Frenchman made more friends at Halifax, than the or-

dinary run of American seaman, who seemed too often to look and speak, as if they longed to try again the tug of war, with John Bull.

The daily allowance of the British government to our prisoners, is one pound of bread, one pound of beef, and one gill of peas. Over and above this, we received from the American agent, a sufficiency of coffee, sugar, potatoes and tobacco. The first may be called the bare necessities of life, but the latter contribute much to its comfortable enjoyment. Whether the British government ought not to have found the whole I am not prepared to determine, but certainly before this addition from our own agent, our men complained bitterly.

We were one day not a little shocked by the arrival of a number of American soldiers who were entrapped and taken with Col. Bcerstler, in Upper Canada. They exhibited a picture of misery, woe and despair. Their miserable condition called forth our sympathy and compassion, and I may add, excited our resentment against the authors of their distress. These unfortunate landmen had never been used to rough it like sailors, but had lived the easy life of farmers and mechanics. Some of them had never experienced the hardships of a soldier's life, but were raw, inexperienced militiamen. They were taken at some creek, between Fort George and Little York, by the British and their allies. the Indians, who stripped them of most of their cloathing, and then wore ,them down by long and harassing marches : first to Montreal and then to Quebec, and soon after crowded them on board transports like negroes, in a guinea ship, when some suffered death, and others merely escaped it. It appears from their account, and from every other account, that the treatment of these poor fellows at their capture and on their march, and

more especially on board the transports from Quebec to Halifax, was barbarous in the extreme, and highly disgraceful to the British name and nation.

We have asserted uniformly that the prisoners who came from Quebec to Halifax, and Boston, down the St. Lawrence, were treated and provided for in a manner little above brutes. Colonel Scott, now Major Gen. Scott, came by that route from Quebec to Boston, and it is well-known that he complained, that there was neither accommodations, provisions or anything on board the ship, proper for a gentleman. He spoke of the whole treatment he received, with deep disgust and pointed resentment. If an officer of his rank and accomplishments had so much reason for complaint, we may easily conceive what the private soldier must endure.

We paid every attention in our power to these poor fellows, whose emaciated appearance and dejection gave us reason to expect that an end would soon be put to their sufferings by death. They, however, recruited fast, and we were soon convinced that they were reduced to the condition we saw them in, absolutely for want of food. The account which these soldiers gave of their hardships, was enough to fill with rage and resentment the heart of a saint. Four men were not allowed more provisions than what was needful for one. They assured us that if they had not secretly come at some bags of ship bread, unknown to the officers of the transport, they must have perished for want of food.— We cannot pass over one anecdote ; some fish were caught by our own people on the passage, in common with the crew, but they were compelled to deliver them all to the captain of the ship, who withheld them from the American prisoners. Some of the prisoners had a little money, and the captain of the transport was mean

enough to take a dollar for a single cod-fish, from men in their situation. This fact has appeared in several Boston papers, with the names of the persons concerned, and has never been contradicted or doubted. We give this as the common report, and as the Boston news-papers circulated freely through Nova Scotia and Canada, we infer that had the story been void of truth it would have been contradicted.

About the month of August, Halifax was alarmed, by a report that the prisoners in Mellville jail, had attempted to break prison with a view of seizing upon the town—the report was in some measure correct, as an attempt of the kind had been made, but failed, in consequence of the imprudence of some of the prisoners, who having mined under the wall, crept out in day light to see how it looked from the outside, and being discovered by the guard were fired upon. Whether there was just cause for the extraordinary excitement created by this affair, or any real necessity for the very formidable precautions which were taken, remains a matter of speculation ; be that as it may, however, orders were issued that all loyal citizens should hold themselves in readiness at a moment's warning, to repel the attack of about one thousand unarmed prisoners; a company of artillery with two pieces of cannon were placed upon an eminence south of the prison, cannons were also placed in different directions so as to play upon the prison, and a line of sentries were placed at regular distances, all the way into the town of Halifax, the people had been actually made to believe that they had sworn to murder every man, woman and child in the town.

The weather was at this time very severe ; I have seen many of the American prisoners, with their ears frostbitten, and many of the negroes, who were carried

away from their masters, in the United States, actually perished with the cold. The Indians were wrapped up in blankets, feet and legs, and also appeared pretty well preserved with smoke. They came into the town of Halifax about ten or eleven o'clock every day, apparently half frozen, and would mope about the streets from store to store, in search of empty whiskey barrels ; when they found one they would take it to the pump, pour water in it, and after rinsing it well, would drink the water; they were the most wretched and pitiable objects I ever saw.

We got through the winter as well as we could, and near the last of February, our ears were blessed with the news of peace, and we immediately commenced making preparations for our return home. According to the articles of the treaty of peace, every officer was bound to pay his debts before he could return home, and Colonel Cushet made a loan, for all the volunteer officers who were there. The only place at which he could raise money, was from a merchant tailor, who bound him to take as much cloathing as would amount to the sum wanted in cash, at his own price, paying the whole to a certain house in Boston in ten days, with ten per cent for the use of it. Having procured cash, we settled our affairs, laid in sea, stores, and went aboard—here again the weather seemed to have conspired against us, and we were, in consequence of contrary winds, detained ten days on board ; at the expiration of which time we landed at Salem, where we were warmly received by an old friend, Capt. Crowninshield, who had landed a few days previous. He was accompanied by several gentlemen of distinction, who were awaiting our landing on the shore. We proceeded with them to a tavern, where we remained until evening, and then, with a number of the citizens, repaired

by invitation to the house of Captain Crowninshield, where we were entertained in the most hospitable manner.

Next morning we took the stage for Boston, and arrived there in time for dinner. We then called upon the paymaster, to have our accounts settled ; he told us he had no money, but he would give us due bills, and we could sell them to the brokers, which he did, informing us at the same time where we could get them cashed ; we were compelled, however, to allow a discount of twenty per cent. ; as we had to pay our borrowed money, we had no other resource—some were forced to allow twenty-five per cent. I took some Philadelphia paper, and when I went to pay my stage fare, they deducted five per cent more—thus, calculating the ten per cent which we paid at Halifax for borrowed money, twenty per cent discount for cash at Boston, and five per cent deducted by the stage proprietor, made in all, an allowance of thirty five per cent which we were compelled to pay. Having at length settled our affairs, we proceeded homeward, passing through New-York and Philadelphia, in each of which places we remained a couple of days. We were compelled to hire horses at Harrisburg, as the stage went no further, and when we arrived at Carlisle, we were detained by the inhabitants, to partake of a dinner prepared for us at the Carlisle tavern—the next day I arrived home in Adams County.

DESCRIPTION

OF

UPPER CANADA.

THE province of Upper Canada extends along the northern bank of the river St. Lawrence, the lakes Ontario and Erie, and the water communication from lake Superior, about seven hundred miles, and is five hundred miles wide, according to an imaginary line that divides it from New Britain on the north. The line that divides it from the lower province, begins in lat. 45, at lake Francisco, and takes a due north course to the Outta ways river, then up that river a north west direction to lake Tomiscauting, then due north to the line of New Britain.

The upper province is divided from the United States by a line commencing some distance above the St. Regis village of Indians, situate about seventy-five miles below Ogdensburgh, and running through the centre of the St. Lawrence, to where lake Ontario begins, thence through the centre of it to the outlet of lake Erie, then through the centre of the outlet to the beginning of the said lake, then through the middle of it to the head, and so onward, passing through lakes St. Clair, Huron, Superior, and lake of the Woods; it then takes a south-westerly course to Red Lake, near the headwaters of the river Mississippi.

In the upper province there are no mountains, and but few hills of any considerable height ; the country, however, is not of a clear level, but affords sufficient eminences to render it agreeable to the eye, and convenient for the building of water-works, &c.

The sudden rise of ground dividing the waters of lake Erie from lake Ontario, towers in some places five hundred feet high, and almost perpendicular; general, however, the height does not exceed two hundred feet, and the ascent is very gradual, with natural offsets about five hundred yards wide, upon which are situate plantations, and from which, especially those on the top, are most extensive and beautiful prospects ; the eye rests with admiration on the fertile plains below, and lake Ontario stands entirely exposed to observation. Upon the top of this eminence, the country is level, fertile and extremely beautiful ; nearly all the waters on the south side of the slope run into lake Erie, though there are but few that find their way through, affording excellent situations for the erection of mills or other buildings requiring water power.

The soil of the province of Upper Canada is exceedingly good in every part, yet it is much the best in the upper part, west south west of the head of the bay Quantie, around the north shore and head of lake Ontario, and the west side of Grand River, in the London District. The lower part of the province is sand and clay mixed ; from the head of the bay Quantie, to the head of lake Ontario, it is altogether a black light, rich mould in most places, seven inches deep, after which it is brown clay. On the Grand River, or Indian Land, and in the London District, the soil is sand, brown loam and clay.

The timber of the lower part of the province is chiefly hemlock, birch and beech ; that of the middle part, beech,

sugar maple and white pine. On the west of the Grand River, the chief of the timber is white pine, elm, bass, black walnut, and the different oaks, chestnut and the like—Indeed in this part of the province, may be found nearly all the varieties of the United States ; also, some of the trees of the Balm of Gilead ; one of a majestic appearance stands upon the main road, about twenty-five miles west of Niagara. In the lower part of the province, there is but little of any kind of wild fruit, but in the middle part there are several sorts, particularly whortleberries and rice. In the western part there is a great variety of wild fruits, viz.: cranberries, raspberries, grapes, blackberries, and wild potatoes ; also, strawberries and plumbs of an excellent quality, and a great quantity of the very best crab apples, which are preserved by the inhabitants with the molasses of pumpkins.

Considerable quantities of wheat are raised in the lower part of the province ; and in the middle part, wheat, rye, oats, peas, flax, hemp and corn. In the western part, the product is wheat, which thrives much better here than in any other part ; rye, oats and corn, also come to great perfection, as likewise buck-wheat. All kinds of roots and vegetables flourish well in any part of the province, but especially in the west.

All kinds of birds found in the United States are plenty ; here is also found a kind of bird, having the same motion and voice as the parakite, so plenty in the state of Kentucky—it differs, however, in colour, being grey, and is called by some, the frolic. Wild ducks are very plenty in all the lakes, as are also geese in all the lakes north of the settlements.

There are seven lakes of considerable size, in the inhabited part of the province, and many parts of the wilderness. Lake Ontario is about two hundred and

thirty miles long, from north-east to south-west, and eighty wide about the middle, being of an oval form; it is exceeding deep and in most places appears to be without bottom, as there has been great length of cord let down without finding any. The water is very clear and cool at all times of the year, having the appearance of a large spring. This lake never freezes, except near the shore, where it is shallow, nor does it freeze even there, except in very severe weather, and then only for a very few weeks.

The little lake, or Burlington bay, lies to the south-west of lake Ontario, and is divided from it by a causeway five miles long, and in many places three hundred yards wide ; the surface of this causeway is completely level, of a light sand, matted over with grass, and beautifully decorated with groves of timber, chiefly oak, of a middle size, but of an endless variety of curious forms ; some six feet in circumference at the butt, yet not more than twelve feet high, with extensive limbs, crooking and twining in all directions. A great number of these trees are entirely encircled with grape vines, and produce great quantities of grapes, of an excellent quality ; this lake is about twenty miles in circumference, and generally shallow.

Near the head of bay Quantie, on the north side is a lake of considerable extent, named Hog lake, as also several others not far distant. About twenty miles west of the head of bay Quantie, and fifteen miles north of the shore of lake Ontario, is situated what is called Rice lake, in consequence of the large quantities of rice which grows in it. This lake is from three to nine miles wide, and thirty-six in length, though not very deep. Its course is from east to west ; the west end is not far from lake Simcoe. At the east end there is a fall of eighteen feet perpendicular, in

the form of a half moon. Below the falls, begins what is called the river Trent, which is tolerably large, and affords many falls fit for water works. It empties into the bay Quantie at the head. This lake communicates with a chain of small lakes, called the Shallow lakes, which also afford rice, and extends near the north end of lake Simcoe. Lake Simcoe lies still west of Rice lake, and is something larger ; it communicates with lake Huron to the south-west, by the river Severn.

Lake Erie lies thirty miles distant from lake Ontario, and is three hundred miles long, and from twenty to forty miles wide. This lake is elevated about three hundred feet higher than lake Ontario, which causes the Falls of Niagara. The water, though pure, is not deep, nor is so safe for navigation as lake Ontario.

The lake St. Clair is situate in a north-westerly course from lake Erie ; still further to the north-west is lake Huron, in lat. 42 ; it is one hundred miles in circumference. From lake Huron to the straits of St. Mary, it is seventy miles to lake Superior, which is fifteen hundred miles in circumference, and lies between forty-six and fifty degrees N. latitude, and between eighty-four and ninety degrees west longitude from London. The island Royal, situate near the middle of this lake is one hundred miles long, and forty wide.

This province also contains many fine streams of water, the principal of which are the following :

The Ottaways, or, as it is sometimes called, Grand River, is a large stream, rising out of lake Tomiscaut-ing, and running a south-easterly course, and empties itself in the St. Lawrence, above and below Montreal. The spring floods in the river rise in the month of June, or thereabout, and are often very destructive to the young crops. There is a great variety of fish in this river.

The river Cananocqua is also a considerable stream, and empties into the St. Laurence a few miles below Kingston.

There is a stream of some note, called Myre's creek, which is said to abound with fish ; the water is remarkably pure and clear ; it empties into the bay Quantie about fifty miles north of Kingston.

The river Trent also empties into the head of bay Quantie from Rice lake, is large, and contains a variety of fish ; many hundred barrels of salmon are caught in this stream every fall.

Duffer's creek is also a fine stream, emptying into lake Ontario, thirty miles north-east of York.

The river Rush empties into the lake eighteen miles below York, and is navigable for boats twenty miles up.

The river Credit, one of the best rivers in Canada for salmon, is tolerably large, and empties into lake Ontario about fifteen miles above York.

The Sixteen mile creek empties into the lake a few miles further up, is large, and also well stocked with fish ; the Twelve mile creek empties itself about five miles further up, and is a beautiful stream.

The Chippewa river runs into the Niagara river, three miles above the falls; what is called the Twenty mile creek, has its rise near the head of the Chippewa, and empties into lake Ontario sixteen miles west of Niagara.

The Fifteen, Sixteen, Seventeen, Thirty and Forty miles creeks all run into lake Ontario, rushing over the slope affording fine falls.

The Grand river is a considerably large stream, of exceedingly clear water, rising from lake St. Clic, and is navigable for vessels of a considerable size, for fifty miles from its mouth; it empties into lake Erie, sixty miles from the east end, and contains many fine fish.

T, There is also the Thames, a large and beautiful river, rising near the head of Grand river, and emptying about thirty miles above Sandwich into the head of lake Erie; there are, also, a number of fine streams running into lake Erie, such as Big creek, passing through Houghton and Middleton township, and Kettle and Otter creeks, in Middlesex county.

There are not many villages in the province of Upper Canada, of much note, the inhabitants finding their greatest advantage in agriculture, the land being very cheap and fertile. The following are a few of the most notable.

CORNWALL is situate about one hundred and thirty miles -down the river St. Lawrence, and is handsome, but small.

PRESCOTT is situate seventy miles below, standing opposite to Ogdensburg, on the United States side; it is an inconsiderable place, and there is a fort and a garrison.

BROCKVILLE lies twelve miles higher up the the river, and is handsomely situated, containing about eighty houses.

KINGSTON stands a few miles below the head of the St. Lawrence, opposite to Wolf island, which is the means of forming a safe and commodious harbour. It contains about one hundred and fifty houses, azourt house, jail, and two houses for public worship. **The** fort in this place is temporary, and the cannon small. It is a place of considerable commerical business, and is rapidly increasing.

YORK is situate one hundred and seventy miles south-west of Kingston, on the northern shore of lake Ontario, and is somewhat larger. It is laid out very much in the manner of Philadelphia, the streets intersecting each other at right angles. It is the seat of

government, and contains some fine buildings, among which are a court-house, council house, and king's store house. The harbour is safe and beautiful, affording every convenience to shipping, and is so situated, that while the water of the main lake is tossed like the waves of the sea, it remains perfectly smooth and calm.

NIAGARA is situated on the south side of the lake, almost opposite York, at the point of land formed by the junction of the outlets of lakes Erie and Ontario. It is a beautiful, prospective situation, being surrounded on two sides by water, the lake on the north, and the Niagara river on the east, which affords a fine harbour. There are many squares of ground in this village adorned with almost every species of rare fruit. It is a place of considerable business, and is inhabited by an industrious and intelligent people.

QUEENSTOWN lies seven miles further up the Niagara. It is a small but handsome village; the most of the houses are built of stone or brick, and are large and well finished. Here also is done considerable business, and there are some very wealthy residents.

CHIPPEWA is situated ten miles above Queenstown, and two above the falls of Niagara, at the mouth of the Chippewa Creek. It contains some handsome buildings.

FORT ERIE. There is a small village here of considerable beauty.—The inhabitants carry on a considerable traffic from the lake.

TURKEY POINT is situated about sixty miles south-west of Fort Erie, on the Lake shore, in the district of London, a little north of Long Point. It stands in a beautiful situation, is surrounded by a fertile country, and has a handsome court-house and jail.

PORT TALBERT lies sixty-four miles farther to the south-west, on the lake shore; a town was laid out here in 1807, and bids fair for a considerable place. It has a fine harbor for shipping.

MALDEN, this fort and village is situated on the south-west end of lake Erie, fourteen miles south of Detroit. It is a pleasant, though not a large place, and the fort is a strong one. On the twenty-seventh of September, 1813, this fort was burned by the British, on the approach of Harrison, previous to the battle of Moravian Town.

SANDWICH is situated still farther up the river, opposite Detroit, and is a handsome village of considerable age, inhabited chiefly by French.

There are several other villages in the province not immediately situated upon the water, which are of considerable size and beauty, but those already named are the principal.

The province of Upper Canada is divided into eight districts, twenty-four counties, and one hundred and fifty-six townships, generally about twelve miles square, these are subdivided into townships, and each township into fourteen concessions, the whole of which make two thousand one hundred and eighty-four. These concessions are divided into twenty-four lots of two hundred acres each, the whole of which amounts to thirty-two thousand, four hundred and sixteen, which number multiplied by two hundred, will produce ten million, four hundred and eighty-three thousand, two hundred, the number of acres surveyed in the province, besides considerable called broken fronts, not yet surveyed, but granted to those who owned land in the rear thereof. Between every concession there are four rods left for the public roads, and also between every fourth lot, which is one quarter of a mile wide.

Amongst the curiosities of the province of Upper Canada, the Falls of Niagara stand conspicuous ; a description of them, therefore, cannot fail to be highly interesting:-

" In order to have a proper view of the Falls and the adjacent parts, I will suppose a person to be sailing in a little boat, out of Lake Ontario, up the Niagara river, or outlet of Lake Erie. Soon after you leave the Lake, you pass the village of Niagara on the right hand, and Niagara old fort on the United States side. A little farther up you pass Fort George on the right—here the water is deep and smooth. You still sail on a due south course, the water being smooth and the banks about sixteen feet high, and in most places perpendicular for seven miles. Here you come to Queenston on the right hand, and Lewiston on the left. This place is called the "landing," for here all the lading of vessels destined for the country, each side of Lake Erie and the Michigan territory are taken out, and conveyed up the mountain or slope, nine miles, to the still water, two miles above the Fall. The ascent of this slope, though three hundred feet high, is very easy. The river here is half a mile wide, and a little above there is a whirl of considerable depth, though not dangerous. After you pass this place three hundred yards, you enter the dismal chime, and instead of the lively prospect of the sailing of ships, with flying colors, fruitful fields, and pleasant landscapes, you are all at once buried in a grave, of at least three hundred feet deep. Although it is open in the top, should you look up, the sight is truly gloomy—the banks are perpendicular, and in some places more than perpendicular, abounding with craggy rocks, hanging over your head in a frightful manner ; near the surface, there are to be seen flat rocks, projecting towards each other in a hor-

izontal position. You still row on a south direction, with little variation ; the water is considerably rapid, and the banks have nearly the same appearance, until within about a mile of the cataract, where the banks are not quite so high ; but still all is gloomy, as you are buried from the sight of the land of the living, and must be filled with haunted thoughts of five hundred murdered dead,* that in on fatal hour plunged into the mighty grave, in which you now are.

As you proceed, the water becomes very rapid, and at length the mighty Falls appear in full, tremendous view, and fill the ear with dismal roar. It is eight miles from Queenston. When you arrive within three hundred yards of the cataract, you must stop. Here the bed of the river widens, and is not sunk more than half of the distance below the surface, as it was at your first entrance of the chime. A view of the horizon is more extensive. In sitting in your little bark the above distance, with your face to the south, before you flows the main body of water, and plunges over with a tremendous dash. About sixty yards of the middle of this cataract is much deeper than the rest, in consequence of a chime sunk in the rock. The water has a blueish green appearance. On your left hand comes the other part of the river, not so large by a sixth part, and falls over also.

This river is divided into two separate pitches, each four hundred yards width. This division is made by a small island, crowding up to the verge of the rock, near the middle. It extends half a mile up the stream, and terminates in a point, where the water divides to the right and left.

*Down this dreadful chime, a number of American soldiers were driven headlong by the Indians, after they had surrendered themselves prisoners of war to the British, on the thirteenth of October, eighteen hundred and twelve.

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As you proceed, the water becomes very rapid, and at length the mighty Falls appear in full, tremendous view, and fill the ear with dismal roar. It is eight miles from Oueenston. When you arrive within three hundred yards of the cataract, you must stop. Here the bed of the river widens, and is not sunk more than half of the distance below the surface, as it was at your first entrance of the chime. A view of the horizon is more extensive. In sitting in your little bark the above distance, with your face to the south, before you flows the main body of water, and plunges over with a tremendous dash. About sixty yards of the middle of this cataract is much deeper than the rest, in consequence of a chime sunk in the rock. The water has a blueish green appearance. On your left hand comes the other part of the river, not so large by a sixth part, and falls over also.

This river is divided into two separate pitches, each four hundred yards in width. This division is made by a small island, crowding up to the verge of the rock, near the middle. It extends half a mile up the stream, and terminates in a point, where the water divides to the right and left.

*Down this dreadful chime, a number of American soldiers were driven headlong by the Indians. after they had surrendered themselves prisoners of war to the British, on the thirteenth of October, eighteen hundred and twelve.

The form of the cataract bends inward, or is nearly a semicircle. By the striking force of the falling water upon that below, wind is pressed under, which rises below in a foaming manner, though not to any height or violence.

The lime stone rock on the United States side over which the water flows, shelves considerably, and leaves a large cavity between the base and falling column of water, and, were it not for the depression of air, a person might walk some distance in it without being wet.

The mighty dash of so great a body of water on the bed below, raises a fog or small rain, which mounts up two thousand feet, in which, when the sun shines, may be seen a variety of beautiful rain-bows. This fog spreads to a considerable distance, and proves a fecundating moisture for the circumjacent woods and fields, the superior freshness and luxury of which are strikingly perceptible.. This fog can be seen in clear weather for forty miles, particularly by persons on the lakes, and often serves as a guide for sailing.

In the winter this rain falling upon the neighboring trees, congeals in a thousand shapes, forming a romantic and pleasing appearance.

About half a mile above the falls, what are called the rapids begin, and descend fifty feet to the cataract. The draft of this rapid is so great, that it often reaches ducks and geese, when they appear to be half a mile out of danger, and when once under the influence of the impetuous current, they cannot get on the wing again. Indians, with their canoes, have been known to be irresistably carried down the rapid, and have disappeared forever.

Above the rapid, the river spreads to nearly three miles wide, and is shallow, with several small islands.

The river now has a south-east course to Grand Is-

land, nine miles wide, and then south to lake Erie, where it is only a mile wide. This is twenty miles from the falls by water, from this place you may, sail more than a thousand miles, if you wish, without encountering any more falls.

If my reader pleases, I will invite_ him back again to view and contemplate a little more, this awful scene. On both sides of the rapids, above the falls, the banks of the river are quite low; and there are many convenient situations for water works. Several are now erected, yet there is room for more. With a small expense a large quantity of water can be brought in use to do great execution.

The perpendicular pitch of this vast body of water is one hundred and forty-four feet, add to this fifty feet which the water descends, above the falls, and seventy feet below, and we find that the river descends in eight miles and a half, two hundred and sixty-four feet. Some who have never seen this river suppose it to be much less than it is, and others suppose it to be larger ; indeed it is hard for any one to judge with propriety, that has seen it, as there are but eight miles in the whole length of the river, between the two lakes, where any current can be seen, and that is very rapid.

For the contemplation of the curious, who may, perhaps, never see these falls, I have made the following calculation, from which they may form some tolerable correct idea of the quantity of water that falls over this cataract.

Say that each of the spaces, over which the water pitches; is four hundred yards wide, or twelve hundred feet ; the most shallow one of these, or that on the United States' side, is three feet deep on the verge of the rock, over which it falls. Now if we multiply its depth three feet, into its width, twelve hundred feet, we have



thirty-six hundred cubic, or solid feet of water, on the verge of the precipice. As there are sixty-two pounds avoirdupoise, in a cubic or solid foot of water, and a little more, which we leave out to avoid fractions, so if we multiply sixty-two, the pounds in a square foot of water, by thirty-six hundred, the number of feet of water on the verge, we have, two hundred and twenty-three thousand, two pounds of water, on the verge of the precipice. But when we consider the laws of gravity respecting spouting fluids and falling bodies, we shall find the water of this cataract, receives a vast additional weight by the time it comes to the lowest point of fall. In order therefore to find this additional weight, we must note the following things :—" Heavy bodies near the surface of the earth, fall one foot the first quarter of a second, three feet the second, five the third, and seven feet in the fourth quarter ; that is sixteen feet in the first second. Let go three bullets together, stop the first at one second, and it will have fallen sixteen feet ; stop the next at the end of the second second, it will have fallen, four times sixteen, or sixty-four feet; stop the last at the end of the third second and the distance it will have fallen will be nine times sixteen or one hundred and forty-four feet, and so on. Now the momentum or force with which a falling body strikes, is equal to its weight multiplied by its velocity," and in order to find which we must multiply the perpendicular space fallen through by sixty-four, and the square root of the product is the velocity required.—*See Pike's Arithmetic, pages 362 and 5.*

From calculation, we find that the water of the cataract is three seconds descending the one hundred and forty-four feet, and that the velocity acquired in that time and distance to be ninety-six, which, if we multiply into two hundred and twenty-three thousand, the

number of pounds of water on the top of the rock, we find that twenty-one millions four hundred and twenty-seven thousand two hundred is the weight thereof, at the lowest point of fall—This is the weight of the water at the smallest part of the cataract, or that on the United States' side. The other part of the Falls, as has been noted, is at least six times as large ; that is, six times the quantity of water flows over. Now if we multiply the above sum, 21,427,200 by six, we shall have the enormous sum of 128,563,200 lbs. of water, which falls on the bed of the river below."

About two miles above the Falls, there is a spring of water, whose vapour is highly inflammable, and is emitted, for a time, with a considerable degree of force. If gathered into a narrow compass, it will support combustion for twenty minutes, and is capable of communicating to water, placed in a confined vessel and held over it, the degrees of boiling temperature.

There is also, at some distance below the Falls, a large hole, called the Devil's Hole ; it is three hundred yards in circumference, and three hundred feet deep, with trees and craggy rocks sticking to the inner surface. There is supposed to be a considerable depth of water at the bottom.

What is called the Mountain Lake, may also be termed one of the curiosities of this portion of country ; it is situated in Prince Edward County, on the shore, about thirty miles from Kingston, on the top of a mountain of about two hundred feet in height—it is three miles round, and, what is a curious circumstance, is well stocked With fish, although being in no manner connected with the bay or lake, except by a small stream that flows from it into the bay, by a perpendicular descent.

There are also many other curiosities, which the lim-

its of this work will not allow of being noticed. Among these may be counted the Whirlpool, about three miles below the Falls, and four above Queenston ; as also the many falls in Twenty Mile Creek, which, like the Niagara, flows over the same mountain. One of these falls has a perpendicular descent of seventy-seven feet, and the water, after running for some time with great violence, falls over again, presenting to the admirer of nature a most imposing spectacle.

DESCRIPTION

OF

LOWER CANADA.

THIS province lies on both sides of the river St. Lawrence, between forty-five and fifty-two degrees of north latitude, and sixty-one and eighty degrees west longitude, from Greenwich. It is bounded on the north by New-Britain, on the east by the gulf of the St. Lawrence, on the south east by New-Brunswick, the district of Maine, and New Hampshire : south by Vermont, and seventy-five miles of the state of New-York, viz : from lake Champlain to the St. Regis river, where it empties into the St. Lawrence ; and on the west by Upper Canada.

Upon the north line it extends to a distance of six hundred and eighty-five miles ; its extent on the south line is nearly nine hundred miles, and measures in the middle about four hundred and fifty miles, running narrower to each end, more especially to the north-eastern one. The dividing line between this

and the upper province, takes its commencement from the north side of lake St. Fr'aritis ; it then pursues nearly a north course, running nearly twenty miles to the Ottawas river, which comes from the north-west, and falls into the St. Lawrence at Montreal, it then ascends that river to longitude eighty west, thence it takes a due north course to Charlton Island, about the middle of the south end of James' Bay, where it intersects the north line in north latitude fifty-two, and west longitude eighty.

The climate of this province is any thing but pleasant, during the winter, which lasts six months, commencing in November and finishing in the latter end of April, there are continual falls of snow, which lie generally to the depth of from four to five feet. The mercury in the thermometer, in this province, has been known to freeze, and in summer time it sometimes rises to ninety-six degrees; when, however the winter breaks up, the growth of vegetation is really surprising. Yet notwithstanding the intense heat of summer, and the rigor of winter, the inhabitants enjoy excellent health, and are vigorous and robust, carrying a strength, quite unusual to more southern climates, even to a very advanced age.

The ice on the rivers and lakes of Lower Canada generally acquires a thickness of two feet, and is capable of sustaining almost any weight—that on the borders of the St. Lawrence sometimes exceeds six feet.

As regards variety of soil the province of Lower Canada can vie with almost any other ; the traveller may be for many days delighted with the prospect of the most luxurious vegetation, and landscapes, improved by art and industry, and in a transition which he feels to be almost sudden, finds himself surrounded on

all sides by barrenness and desolation, without one solitary object upon which the eye may rest with pleasure. On all the low banks of the St. Lawrence, the soil is good, as it is on the low grounds of other large rivers. Some of the vallies not situate on rivers afford excellent land ; it is generally of a black mould, mixed with a small portion of sand. On the higher grounds the soil is of a more sandy nature and is mixed slightly with blue clay. On the high hills and mountains, it is clay and gravel—lime-stone is found in great plenty, in many places of this province, and answers an excellent purpose.

In the northern part of the province there are 'many very large and shallow ponds of water, abounding with animals of the fur kind, which in summer time become partly dried up, creating an unwholesome effluvia ; these if they were drained would make excellent meadow land, and many of them might be thus converted into good land at a very trifling expense.

There are two sorts of pine in this province, the white and the red, which are excellent for the East Indies ; four sorts of firs, two sorts of cedar and oak, the white and the red ; the male and female maple; three sorts of ash trees, the free, the mongrel and the bastard; three sorts of walnut trees, the hard, the soft, and the smooth ; vast numbers of beech trees and white wood, white and red elms and poplars. The Indians hollow the red elms into canoes, some of which, made out of one piece, will contain twenty persons ; others are made of the bark, the different pieces of which they sew together, with the inner rind, and daub over the seams with pitch, or rather bituminous substance resembling pitch, to prevent their leaking. The ribs of these canoes are made of boughs of trees. In the hollow elms, the bears and wild cats take up their residence from November to April.

In every part of the province there are plenty of evergreens, such as hemlock, cedar, firs, holly and laurel, with others. Many of these evergreens are loaded with an abundance of moss, which has a romantic appearance, and affords fine shelter for wild beasts and fowl, in the winter season. Here may be found large spots of ground under natural roofs, covered with dry leaves, while the snow is five feet deep on the surrounding parts, a circumstance extremely beneficial to the Indians, and the animals of this cold region. To these places the Indians resort for hunting purposes, and here screened from the wind they lie down upon the dry leaves beside their fire and feel as comfortable as the rich farmer or merchant in his warm house. One who has never been at these places can form no correct idea of the great difference of the weather in these solitary retreats.

There is also a great variety of wild fruit, particularly the crab-apple, potatoe, onion and cranberry.

Near Quebec there has been found an excellent lead mine, and many valuable ones of iron, have also been discovered at different places. Some silver, it is said, has also been found in the mountains. There have also been found some coal mines, the coal from which burns well, and some of alum, copperas and clays, that paint quite well.

Fifty miles from Quebec on the banks of the "*Trois Rivieres*," there is an excellent mine of iron ore, it lies horizontal, situate near the surface, and is composed of masses easily detached from each other, perforated, and the holes 'filled with ochre. It possesses softness and pliability, and for promoting its fusion a grey lime-stone, found in its vicinity is used. The hammered iron is soft and tenacious, and has the quality of not being subject to rust.

The lakes of Lower Canada are numerous, though not large ; a considerable number of which have no names; the first, however, of any note, is that of Black river, from which the river has its source ; it lies in north latitude fifty-one, and west longitude sixty-six, forty-eight, is of considerable depth, and about one hundred miles in circumference.

Middle Lake lies about one hundred miles to the west of the former, is small, and is the source of Bustard river, which empties into the St. Lawrence, and passes through several lakes ; also, a vast number of lakes are to be found in every direction from the lake.

Lake St. John is situate about one hundred miles north of Quebec, and is about ninety miles in circumference. This lake is the source of the river Saguenay. Another considerable lake is also found, one hundred miles to the north-west, near the great chain of mountains ; it is the source of Picksuagus river.

Abbitib Lake is situate in latitude forty-nine, and longitude seventy-nine, and is the source of a large river of the same name, which runs into the south end of James' Bay. It is one hundred and ninety miles in circumference, tolerably shallow, and abounds with small islands. In the vicinity of this lake are several more of less note.

Lake Mistissiney is situated north of Quebec about two hundred and fifty miles, and is about three hundred miles in circuit, though a number of points of land extend into it a good distance from every direction. It is the source of Rupert's River, which passes through some small lakes, on its Way to James' Bay, a north-east course.

Lake St. Charles is situate north of Quebec, and receives and discharges the river St. Charles ; it is about five miles long.

Lake Megantic, lies south of Quebec, about ninety miles, and is the source of the river Chaudiere.

Lake Calvier is small, and is situated a few miles above Quebec.

Lake St. Peter is formed by the expansion of the St. Lawrence, to the breadth of twenty miles. It is one hundred and twelve miles from Quebec.

The lake of the Two Mountains, and the lake of St. Louis, are in the vicinity of Montreal ; the latter is formed by the junction of the Ottawas, with the St. Lawrence. The lake of the Two Mountains is an expansion of the Ottawas, ten miles above its mouth, and is twenty miles long, and three broad.

The rivers of Lower Canada are very numerous, and chiefly run into the St. Lawrence ; the most of them come from the north, and afford many romantic falls.

In sailing up the gulf of St. Lawrence, the first river of note which is seen, is the *Moisic* river; about forty miles further up, we come to *Machigabiu* river : and in forty more, we come to *Black* river, already noted ; this river is three hundred miles long, and quite large, and falls into the St. Lawrence, some distance above the gulf.

The next in course is *Bustard* river, about ten miles further up. This is one of the longest rivers of Lower Canada. It falls into the St. Lawrence in lat. 48.50, north, after running a course of at least four hundred miles.

Betsaimites river, appears next in sailing up the St. Lawrence. It is large, of considerable length, and passes through several lakes.

Portnus, is a river of some length, coming from two small lakes. It empties into the St. Lawrence, fifty miles above.

Pete Chaisinagau river, succeeds in course, and falls into the St. Laurence, twenty miles above Portnus.

In sailing up the St. Laurence, several small streams are seen; at length we come to *St. James' river*; and a little distance above, we come to the river *Saguenay*, which rises out of lake St. John, already noted; which lake is the repository of four considerable rivers, with their numerous branches, viz: those of the *Picksuaganis*, *Chissouematon*, *Sable*, and *Periboaca*. In its course, the Saguenay receives the *Missigwinifii*, and several more of considerable size, after which, it falls into the St. Laurence, one hundred and fifty miles below Quebec, from nearly a west direction. This river is one hundred and fifty miles in length, from the lake; and sweeps along a prodigious quantity of water. It is interrupted in its course, by abrupt precipices, over which it dashes its foaming current; and being bounded by banks of great elevation, is remarkable for the depth and impetuosity of its flood, which is sensibly felt in the St. Laurence, whose water is obliged to yield to its impulse for a distance of several miles. Large vessels, apparently going their course, have thereby been carried side-long in a different direction.

This river, is generally, three miles wide, except at its mouth, where it is only one; at which place, five hundred fathoms of line have been let down, without finding any bottom. Two miles up, it is one hundred and thirty-eight fathoms, and at sixty miles, it is sixty fathoms deep.

Albany river succeeds next in course, which rises in a small lake, about sixty miles north from the St. Laurence, and flows through the fertile valley of Mal-bay. This river abounds with salmon and other excellent fish.

Montmorenci is the next considerable river, and falls into the St. Laurence, eight miles below Quebec, over a precipice of two hundred and forty-six feet.

St. Charles, falls into the same close by Quebec, and is of considerable size.

On the south side of the gulf and river St. Laurence, there are a number of streams, which fall into it, and take their rise in New Brunswick, New Hampshire and Vermont.

The largest is the *Chandiere* river, rising out of lake Megantic, and flowing a north course, one hundred and thirty miles, falls into the St. Laurence about eight miles above Quebec. Ships sail some distance up this river.

The river *St. Nicholas*, falls in on the same side of the St. Laurence, but a little higher up. *Jacques Cartier*, a river of considerable size, falls into the St. Laurence, about thirty miles above Quebec. The stream of this, like all the rivers in Lower Canada, is frequently broken into cascades, affording picturesque scenery.

The *St. Ann*, and *Dog rivers*, are streams of some note, and fall into the St. Laurence, from the north.

Batisean river, also flows from the north, into the St. Laurence. *Three Rivers*, otherwise, called *St. Maurice*, falls into the St. Laurence, from the north, fifty miles above Quebec, by three mouths. It is three hundred miles long, and much navigated by the Indians, from the vicinity of Hudson bay. The tide of the St. Laurence flows no higher than the mouth of this river.

St. Reges river, rises in the state of New-York, and falls into the upper end of lake St. Francis, in lat. 45 degrees. This is the last river of Lower Canada, which runs into the St. Laurence, from the south.

Ottawas river, is one of the largest in Upper Canada, except the St. Lawrence, into which it falls below, and above Montreal, as has been noted. It is at least, one thousand miles long ; one of its branches, the *Petite Riviere*, rises out of lake Tomis-Cauting, and after meeting together four hundred miles from Montreal, receives a number of tributary streams on its way, and pitches over a number of precipices.

All the rivers as yet described, run into the St. Lawrence from the south or north; there are several which run into James' bay, after running a western or north eastern course—viz.

Slude river and *RuAert's river*, which has a course of nearly two hundred miles ; and *Harraconaw river*, which empties into the south end of James' bay, and is a beautiful river.

The river St. Lawrence is one of the greatest, and most beautiful rivers ; from its mouth to Montreal, the head of ship navigation, it is five hundred and forty-five miles : for one thousand more it is passed by very large boats, from here, for two hundred and forty miles, through lake Ontario, the largest vessels in the world may sail.

The harbors in Lower Canada are numerous, chiefly situate in the St. Lawrence; there are a few on lake Champlain, and two or three on the north-west coast of James' Bay.

Fish, of which there is a great variety, is very plenty.

There are but two cities in Lower Canada, Quebec and Montreal, (a description of these may be found in the memoirs.)

Considering the great extent of Lower Canada, its villages are few in number, and small in size, chiefly lying on the banks of the St. Lawrence.

The first of any note above Quebec, for there are none below, is *Jeunne Lorette* ; it lies nine miles north west of Quebec, and contains fifty log houses, inhabited by French and some Indians; there is a decent chapel in this village.

The village of *Trois Rivieres*, is situate on the north bank of the St. Lawrence, extends three fourths of a mile long, and contains seventy houses and a church.

Charlebourg is situate' eighty miles east of Lorette, and is something larger.

The village of *William Henry* or *Sorel* is agreeably situate at the confluence of the Sorel or Chambly river with the St. Lawrence, and contains a Protestant and Roman Catholic house for divine worship.

Some distance above Sorel, is situate *Vercheres* ; it contains about forty houses.

Sault Saint Louis, is a small village of about one hundred and fifty houses, inhabited chiefly by the Iroquois or Mohawk Indians. It is about sixteen miles above Montreal, and was originally built for those Indians, who have long been converted to the christian-religion. It is chiefly built of stone. The church and dwelling of the missionaries are protected by a stone wall, in which there are loop holes for musquetry.

Point aux Trembles village is fifty-one miles from Quebec, contains one hundred and twenty houses, a small convent of nuns, and a neat church.

The village of the *Cedars* is charmingly situated on the St. Lawrence, not far above Montreal ; it contains about fifty houses.

The *Canasadago* village of the Iroquois, a Mohawk, and Algonquin tribes of Indians, is situate on a delightful point of land on the hills, on the east side of the two mountains, in the Ottowas river. Near the extremity of the Point, their church is built, which di-

vides the village into two parts, forming a regular angle along the water side. It contains about two hundred houses, and two thousand five hundred souls.

The province of Lower Canada is divided into three districts and twenty-one counties, viz : Gaspé, Cornwallis, Devon, Hertford, Dorchester, Buckinghamshire, Richlieu, Bedford, Surrey, Kent, Huntington, York, Montreal, Effingham, Leinster, Warwick, St. Maurice, Hampshire, Quebec, Northumberland and Orleans. These counties are subdivided into parishes.

The only natural curiosities worth naming in Lower Canada, are those cascades and water-falls with which the province abounds.

The Bird Isles, which are situate in the gulf of St. Laurence, consist of two rocks elevated above the water, upwards of one hundred feet, their flattened summits, whose circumference does not exceed three hundred yards, exhibit a resplendent whiteness, produced by the quantities of ordure with which they are covered, from immense flocks of birds, which, in summer, take possession of the apertures in their perpendicular cliffs, where they form their nests, and produce their young. When alarmed, they hover above the rocks, and overshadow their tops by their numbers. The abundance of their eggs affords to the inhabitants of the neighboring coast, a material supply of food.

Ninety miles up the Saguenay river, already noted, there is a fall of water, that deserves notice, chiefly on account of the immense sheet of water, which is perpetually broken in its rugged course, and assumes a resplendent whiteness.

When viewed from below the scene is stupendous and terrific. The incessant and deafening roar of the waters and the violence with which they hasten to their descent, tend to produce on the mind of the spectator an

impression awfully grand. The picturesque and rudely wild forms of the lofty banks, exhibit a gloomy contrast to the lively splendors of the cataract.

Three hundred and thirty miles from the mouth of the St. Laurence is situate Cape Tourment, whose perpendicular altitude is two thousand feet. It exhibits a grand and sublime view, especially to those sailing up the river.

The cataract of the river Montmorencie, which empties into the St. Laurence, eight miles below Quebec, may be reckoned among the natural curiosities of this country. The following description is in the words of Mr. Herriott :

"After exhibiting a grateful variety throughout its course, the Montmorenci is precipitated in an almost perpendicular direction, over a rock of the height of two hundred and forty-six feet ; falling, when it touches the rock, in white clouds of rolling foam; and underneath, where it is propelled with uninterrupted gravitation, in numerous flakes, like wool or cotton, which are gradually protracted in their descent, until they are received in the boiling profound abyss below."

" Viewed from the summit of the cliff, from whence they are thrown, the waters, with every concomitant circumstance, produce an effect equally grand, and wonderfully sublime. The prodigious depth of their descent, the brightness and volubility of their course, the swiftness of their movement through the air, and the loud and hollow noise emitted from the basin, swelling with incessant agitation, from the weight of the dashing waters, forcibly combine to attract the attention, and to impress with sentiments of grandeur and elevation, the mind of the spectator. The clouds of vapor arising and assuming the prismatic colors, contribute to enliven the scene. They fly off from the

fall, in the form of a revolving sphere, emitting with velocity pointed flakes of spray, which spread in receding, until intercepted by neighboring banks, or dissolved in the atmosphere."

"The breadth of the fall is one hundred feet; the basin is bounded by steep cliffs, composed of grey lime slate, lying in inclined strata, which on the east and west sides, are sub-divided into innumerable thin shivers, forming with the horizon an angle of forty-five degrees, and containing between them fibrous gypsum, and *5ierre a calumet*, a soft stone of which the heads of pipes are sometimes formed, mouldering incessantly by exposure to the air, and the action of the weather; no surface for vegetation remains upon these substances."

Eight miles from Quebec, the river Chaudiere empties into the south side of St. Laurence; and four miles from its mouth, there is a beautiful cataract, which deserves attention.

The month of May, appears to be the most advantageous period, at which to contemplate this interesting scene, the approach to which ought first to be made, from the top of the banks; as in emerging from the woods, it conducts at once to the summit of the cataract, where the objects which instantaneously become developed to the eye, strike the mind with surprise, and produce a powerful impression.

"The water descends from a height of one hundred and twenty feet, and being separated by rocks, forms three separate cataracts; the largest of which, is on the western side, and they unite in the basin, beneath their broken and agitated waters. The form of the rock forces a part of the water, into an oblique direction, and advances them beyond the line of the precipice. The cavities worn in the rocks, produce a pleasing va-

riety, and cause the descending waters to revolve with foaming fury, to whose whiteness the gloomy cliffs present a strong opposition of color. The vapor from each division of the falls, quickly mounting through the air, bestows an enlivening beauty on the landscape.

The wild diversity displayed by the banks of the stream, and the foliage of the overhanging woods, the brilliancy of colors richly contrasted, the rapidity of motion, the refulgent brightness of the cataracts, the deep and solemn sound, which they emit, and the various cascades further down the river, unite in rendering this such a pleasing exhibition of natural objects as few scenes can surpass."

"On descending the side of the river, the landscape becomes considerably altered, and the falls appear to great advantage. Masses of rocks and elevated points of land, covered with trees, together with the smaller cascades on the stream, present a rich assemblage, terminated by the falls. The scenery, in proceeding down the river, is rugged and wild.

"Viewed in the Winter season, the falls exhibit an appearance more curious than pleasing, being for the greatest part congealed, and the general form of the congealed masses, is that of a concretion of icicles, which resembles a cluster of pillars in Gothic architecture; and may not improperly be compared to the pipes of an organ. The spray becomes likewise consolidated into three masses, or secretions of a cone, externally convex, but concave toward the falls.- The west side being usually the only place in which the waters flow; the aspect is infinitely inferior to that, displayed in Summer; and the sound emitted is comparatively faint. The surrounding objects, covered alike with snow, produce one uniform glare. The rocks and the bed of the river, disguised by unshapely white masses

produce a reflection, which gives, even to the waters of the cataract, an apparent tinge of obscurity."

In the midst of the low ground, near cape Tourment, a narrow hill, about a mile in length, and flatted on its summit, rises to the height of one hundred feet. Upon the top is erected a large dwelling house, and a chapel; and thither the ecclesiastics of the seminary of Quebec, to whom the land belongs, retire in the Summer.

There are many other curiosities in this province, which cannot here be described ; those most remarkable, however, have already been noted.

Almost all the inhabitants of Lower Canada, that have come to the years of maturity, are professors of religion—the great majority are of the Roman Catholic persuasion, for whose worship, some years back, there were one hundred and thirty churches, seven convents, one hundred and ninety secular and regular priests, and one bishop. There were also sixteen clergymen of the church of England, and one bishop, besides some Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists and Quakers ; all of whom enjoy freedom of conscience, unmolested.

The Roman Catholic clergy of the province are distinguished for their devotion, benevolence, and inoffensive conduct and humanity. They are regular and rigid in their religious ceremonies.

In the year 1497, Lower Canada was discovered by John Cabot, a Venetian in the service of the English.

In 1534, Jacques Cartier, a Frenchman, under commission of Frances I, explored the gulf of St. Lawrence, and the next year ascended the river, and wintered at St. Croix, where he erected a wooden cross.

In 1603, a patent for an exclusive trade was granted to Sieur de Monts, who employed Champlain to make further discoveries in Canada.

In 1608, Champlain sailed up the St. Laurence, as far as a strait, called by the Indians Quebec, which is the mouth of Sorrell river, where, on the third of July, he began to build, and here passed the following Winter. At this time, the settlement of Canada commenced.

In 1628, a company of rich merchants, one hundred and seven in number, was established by patent, for an exclusive trade.

This company acquired a right of soil, in 1642 ; but their charter was revoked in 1663.

In 1629, Quebec was taken by the English, under Sir David Keith ; and surrendered to the French by the treaty of St. Germain.

In 1690, Sir Wm. Phipps, with an armament from Boston, made an unsuccessful attack upon Quebec.

On September 13, 1759, an English army under Gen. Wolfe, made a successful attack upon Quebec, which surrendered on the 18th.

In 1760, the whole province of Canada surrendered to Gen. Amherst, and was confirmed to Great-Britain by the treaty of 1763, under whose dominions it has since continued.