

CHAPTER X.

Amherst leaves Canada, 1760—State of the country—Report of Murray, 1762.

The 27th of September, 1760, Amherst left for Three Rivers, where he arrived the following day; on his way he passed Vaudreuil's vessel which had run aground and was delayed by the lack of wind. He visited the St. Maurice forges and ordered work there to be continued. After having spent two days at Three Rivers he descended the river and passed by the greater part of the French troops on their way to Quebec where they were to embark.

The 1st of October finds him at Deschambault. On the morning of the 3rd he arrived at Quebec, from whence he wrote on the following day to Pitt: "Canada does not seem to be in need of cows, bullocks, sheep or poultry. There are already too many horses; and if the farmers had not had a superabundance of cattle they would not feel the need of them now. Clothing stuffs of all kinds are very scarce, these will now be purchased from the other colonies. The greater part of the houses throughout the country are built of stone and in excellent condition. The troops have good quarters in the various parishes of the three districts. They are being fed by the King's government and live in harmony with the country-folk. I can assure you, Sir, that this country is as peaceable and loyal as any province in the King's domain. I am leaving to-morrow for Crown Point and shall go from there to New York."

He gave a statement of the population of the districts:—

Quebec, 32,584 souls, 43 parishes; Montreal, 37,200 souls, 46 parishes; Three Rivers, 6,388 souls, 19 parishes. Quebec, 7,476 militia men, 64 companies; Montreal, 7,331 militia men, 87 companies; Three Rivers, 1,105 militia men, 19 companies.

I shall add the following: The rural districts contained 53,000 persons, the towns, 12,200, distributed as follows: Quebec, 6,700; Montreal, 4,000;

Three Rivers, 1,500. These figures included 400 noble, seigneurial or otherwise influential families. The clergy coming from France numbered 47 secular priests, 30 Sulpicians, 18 Recollets, 17 Jesuits, in all 112; the ecclesiastics born in the country numbered 42 secular priests, 10 Recollets, making in all 164 persons. Fifteen years later, in 1775, the number of French priests was diminished by half, while that of the Canadians was increased by five only; thus there had come from France: 27 secular priests, 20 Sulpicians, 13 Jesuits, 9 Recollets, making 69; of those born in the country there were 48 secular priests, 7 Recollets, 2 Sulpicians, making in all 126 persons.

On October 18th, Amherst, who had arrived at Lake Champlain wrote to Pitt that, according to the latest information that he was able to obtain, the habitants were on most friendly terms with the soldiers who were quartered in their houses.

About this date Mr. Briand, Vicar-General at Quebec, requested the parish priests to make a list of the poorest families, stating that General Murray was taking measures to relieve severe poverty in the parishes.

There was a great deal of distress in the district of Quebec as a result of the poor crops and the ravages of war. The officers of the English army took up a subscription among their troops, to the great surprise of the Canadians, who were thus saved from extreme want while awaiting better days. From the major-general down to the drummer boys every soldier contributed a day's pay each month; the English merchants who followed the army also contributed generously to the relief fund. Once their eyes were opened by these acts, the Canadians were convinced that there was no ground for the fears they had entertained concerning their conquerors, and, adds Murray, "far from seeking refuge in the other French colonies, they were in fear of being transported like the Acadians, and above all, wished to remain on their native soil. Thus they will remain in their own land enjoying religious freedom, becoming good and loyal British subjects, and their country before long will be a rich and useful colony of Great Britain," he said in a report to the minister, dated June 5th, 1762.

On the 6th of January, 1761, Mr. Montgolfier issued a letter mitigating the Lenten fast.

On the 18th of January, Vicar-General Briand requested the parish priests to make haste to return their reports in order to facilitate the distribution of food and assistance promised by General Murray.

George II. died on the 25th of October, 1760. On the 19th of February, 1761, "the gentlemen and other persons inhabiting the town who had not been enrolled in the militia," were ordered to assemble on the following Sunday to take the oath of allegiance to George III. The citizens of Montreal presented an address of condolence and warm sympathy to Governor Gage, many of them going into mourning. These acts of deep courtesy shewed that the clergy, the nobles and the bourgeoisie were acting in the best manner to further the good relations existing between the people of the country and their new rulers.

Here is another proof of this friendly feeling. The troops and other Protestants not possessing either church or chapel were accommodated in the Catholic Churches which were given up for their use during the hours on Sunday when they were not being used for Catholic worship. Mass being said from nine o'clock to half past ten, the Protestant services were held from eleven o'clock to half past twelve or one, as it happened.

I have not found any mention of Catholic processions during the first ten years, however about 1773 it was the custom that: "An officer meeting the procession salutes with hand to the helmet. A soldier turns towards the dais (canopy covering the host), halts and stands at attention. Soldiers not wishing to pay this courtesy must avoid meeting the procession."*

The war in Europe still continued. Amherst must have written that Canada was quiet, for, on the 20th of March, 1761, he transmitted to Haldimand orders from His Majesty for the reduction of the troops. There only remained the necessary detachments for guarding the military stores and maintaining order in the absence of a police force.

Lord Egremont, Secretary of State, wrote to Sir Jeffrey Amherst on the 12th of December, 1761, that the King was much pleased with the kindly dispositions of this general towards the Canadians, and complimented him on his instructions to the troops to induce them to live on good terms with the people of the country. The latter, he said, being British subjects are

*See *Bulletin des Recherches*, 1906, p. 58, for more details.

entitled to the protection of His Majesty, and to all privileges and advantages enjoyed by his other subjects. He requests that the governors be notified to give formal and explicit orders forbidding any soldier, sailor or other person to insult the French habitants, who are now subjects of the same prince, forbidding any one to offend them by being so ungenerous as to taunt them with their defeat, or to make insulting remarks on their language, their clothes, their fashions, their customs, or their country, or uncharitable and un-Christianlike reflections on their religion. And, as the civil magistrature is not yet established in the aforesaid conquered country, it is the King's will that the governors use all the authority confided to them to punish all persons so disrespectful as to disobey the orders of His Majesty on a point so important to his interests, and he enjoins them to give orders to whom it may concern, in order that no English subject may disobey through ignorance, and that "all Canadians may feel and appreciate the advantages of the powerful protection of His Majesty, to their full extent."

This letter, read at the doors of the churches, after mass on Sunday, was placarded in the same places, for the information of the public in general. All the orders of the governors were posted, as well as the news of the entire world so soon as it was received. The Canadians had always been kept in ignorance of the outside world, and they were not publicly acquainted with their obligations. The press did not exist under the French rule. Everything was done behind closed doors, so that the decisions of those in authority were kept secret. Little, if anything, was said on the subject. This goes without saying, since the people were kept in absolute ignorance, and the result was a feeling of fear shared by all, although they were accustomed to this treatment. It was a great relief to the people to have the orders and news made public.

"The new subjects were, by these means, admitted to a knowledge of the political events which were happening in other hemispheres throughout the empire. Their experience had been hitherto limited to what took place in their parishes, and at their own firesides. They were now experiencing a consideration for their rulers, until this date unknown to them. As we, to-day, consider the notifications contained in the governor's proclamations,

they may appear trivial and of little benefit to those to whom they were addressed. To place ourselves in a position to understand why they contained within themselves the first element of political education, we must remember that printing had hitherto been unknown, and in the rural parishes outside of the cities of Montreal, Three Rivers and Quebec, the life of the *habitant* was diversified by no public event beyond his social and family relationships and his lawsuits, except when forced to take up arms in the field at the call of the governor.”*

On the 1st of February, 1762, Mr. Montgolfier ordered a “Te Deum” on the occasion of the crowning and the marriage of George III., stating that the formula was to read as follows: “We shall pray for our most gracious sovereign lord, King George, our most gracious Queen Charlotte, the Dowager Princess of Wales and all the royal family.” He spoke in highest terms of the English generals who had been in Canada, and of those who were then there. A similar charge was issued at Three Rivers by Mr. Perreault, on the 3rd of February, and at Quebec, by Mr. Briand, on the 14th of February.

Governor Burton in his report of the 5th April, 1762, speaking of the district of Three Rivers, stated that “the inhabitants, and chiefly the peasantry, seem very happy in the change of their masters. . . . None have hitherto, to my knowledge, emigrated from this government, and at present there seems no grounds to fear the emigration of any of them. The gentry are the only people who may perhaps intend to remove, if the country should remain under the government of Great Britain.” At the same date Governor Gage, of Montreal, said: “No persons have left this government to go to France, except those who held military or civil employment under the French King, nor do I apprehend emigration at the peace, being persuaded that the present inhabitants will remain under the British dominion. I perceive none preparing to leave the government or that seem inclined to do it, unless it is a few ladies whose husbands are already in France, and they propose to leave the country when peace is made, if their husbands should not rather choose to return to Canada.”

“I feel,” said Governor Gage, of Montreal, on the 20th April, “the

*Kingsford: *History of Canada*, IV., 451.

highest satisfaction that I am able to inform you that during my command in this government, I have made it my constant care and attention that the Canadians should be treated agreeable to His Majesty's kind and humane intentions. No invasion on their properties or insult on their persons have gone unpunished. All reproaches on their subjection by the fate of arms, revilings on their customs or country, and all reflections on their religion have been discontinued and forbidden. No distinction has been made betwixt the Briton and Canadian, both are equally regarded as subjects of the same prince. The soldiers live peaceably with the inhabitants and they reciprocally acquire an affection for each other. . . . The Indians have been treated on the same principles of humanity. They have had immediate justice for all their wrongs and no tricks or artifices have hitherto been attempted to defraud them in their trade. . . . Immediately after we became masters of this country, all monopolies were abolished and all incumbrances upon trade were removed. The traders choose their posts without the obligation of purchasing them, and I can by no means think the French management in giving exclusive grants of trade, at particular posts, worthy of our imitation. The Indians, of course, paid dearer for their goods, and the trade in general must have been injured by monopolies. The traders were alone at the posts they had purchased, where no person in authority had the inspection of their conduct and committed many abuses, for which the Indians could get no redress; and it has happened that the Indians had murdered the traders and plundered their effects, by which the French have been drawn into wars at very great distances and at a great expense. The French also found a very great inconvenience in this kind of traffic from the loss of men to the colony."

On the 7th of June the Catholic clergy united in sending an address to Governor Murray thanking him for the religious tolerance enjoyed by the Canadians, and for his charitable procedure, and the wise measures in general that had brought about the feeling of good will existing between this people of two languages and two beliefs.

Haldimand wrote to Amherst from Three Rivers, on the 7th of August: "Everything is very quiet here; everyone interprets the news of the appear-

ance of a French and Spanish fleet in his own manner, but I cannot see that this news has made an impression at all disadvantageous to us."

As a matter of fact, in the hope of saving the fisheries of Newfoundland, Louis XV. had sent M. de Ternay with the Comte d'Haussonville, four frigates, a fire ship and landing troops, who took possession of the town of St. John's, after having destroyed the English fishing posts on the coast, but, at the end of a few weeks, General Amherst captured d'Haussonville and his garrison (September 18th), while de Ternay taking advantage of a fog escaped with his ships, pursued by Lord Colville, who had command of the English fleet in Quebec in 1760-61.

Here is another letter from Haldimand to Amherst:—

“THREE RIVERS, August 25, 1762.

“*Sir*,—Your Excellency's letters of the 19th of July and the 2nd of August, reached me together on the 16th instant, making me acquainted with the welcome news of the conclusion of peace between His Prussian Majesty, the Russians and the Swedes; with the list of officers serving in Portugal, those that we lost in the Isles, and the changes that have been made in the ministry. I have the honour of enclosing herein, the monthly report of the troops you have confided to my charge; their behaviour is excellent, and everything is peaceful in the district. The capture of St. John's, Newfoundland, did not create the slightest impression in our disfavour, among the habitants. I am convinced, on the contrary, that they would be filled with despair at seeing a French fleet arrive in the country, no matter how powerful it might be, knowing very well that, as we have such easy communication with our colonies, they would be the only victims; and, in general, the Canadians are beginning to appreciate too well the prize of liberty, to be the dupes of the French in such a case. Now they are quietly engaged with their crops, which will be good this year.”

The birth of the Prince of Wales, in the month of August, does not seem to have been announced here until the end of October. On the 2nd of November, 1762, Mr. Montgolfier issued a proclamation of joy, written in his most pompous style (he used no other), and said that the child would be mentioned in the public prayers already prescribed in honour of the royal family.

On the 31st of December, Mr. Briand wrote to Governor Murray that the form approved by the King would be followed by: "For Charlotte, our most gentle Queen, their Royal Highnesses, George, Prince of Wales, the Dowager Princess of Wales and all the royal family."

A very interesting report made by General Murray on the 5th June, 1762, contains the following observations in response to an enquiry from the Secretary of State as to the mode least burdensome and most acceptable to the colony that can be adopted for raising the additional supplies required by the civil and military establishment owing to the proposed scheme of administration:—

"The duty on liquids will ever bring in a considerable sum, for though the Canadians in general are not much given to drunkenness, yet men, women and children are accustomed to drink a certain quantity of strong liquors, the severity of the climate having probably introduced this practice. By the great improvement likely to be made in the fisheries, the consumption of these will considerably increase.

"As the Canadians seem thoroughly reconciled to the use of British-made corn spirits, the consumption thereof could suffer no diminution, from a moderate duty upon the same at six pence per gallon, and that of rum or New England spirits might be raised to a shilling; this would check the importation of the latter and favour that of the former.

"As there have been few or no purchases made since we have been in possession of Canada, the people having no money and being uncertain of their fate the *lots et ventes* have produced nothing considerable; when a settlement takes place this branch of the revenue will probably receive a large increase. As probably it may be thought right not to receive the duties on dry goods, a tax upon horses might be introduced in lieu thereof; it would serve also to restrain a piece of luxury the people of this country are too apt to run into in that respect, and prove a means to encourage the breed of horned cattle, of which at present, by the unavoidable waste of war, they are very short.

"It must be observed that the lighter the burthens of taxes are laid at present upon the people, the more it will ingratiate their new masters; the

more it will enable them to repair their past losses, and the sooner they will be in a condition to contribute a proper portion to the public expenses.

“Under the pretence of a scarcity of black cattle, and before the British troops had made an impression upon the colony, horses were killed and served to the troops, probably to excuse the exorbitant charge for all kind of provisions purchased on the King’s account, for notwithstanding the waste made by two contending armies, and that the French troops lived entirely upon the country for nearly two years, we have the strongest ocular proof that there was no occasion to have recourse to this expedient, if the King’s officers had not meant it as a cloak for their knavery.

“The French paid their whole attention in this part of the world to the fur trade. They never entered heartily or with any spirit into the fisheries; most of what was done in this way was by adventurers from the ports of France. Some fish, indeed lumber and provisions, were exported to the French islands. Had this trade been opened and agriculture promoted with any degree of spirit, this branch of commerce must have become both valuable and extensive, but it was monopolized by a few, by the connivance and management of the chiefs, their sole view being to enrich themselves by every means. The interest of the State could not fail to be sacrificed upon all occasions.

“The intendant’s fixing a price upon provisions at his own will and pleasure, was liable to much abuse, for though the country was abounding with all kind of grain, yet under pretence that a large quantity was wanted for the King’s service, repeated levies were made upon the inhabitants, through every part of the province, proportionately to what it was supposed they could spare, the intendant paying such price as he pleased to set upon it, a great part of which grain was afterwards exported by his emissaries to the French Islands, and when a scarcity was apprehended, they sold the remainder to the public at an advanced price.

“The small salaries given by the French government to the civil officers in general made them neglect their duty and rack their wits to cheat and trick both King and people. This was carried to such a length that many instances may be cited of clerks and men in petty offices with yearly salaries

of only six or eight hundred francs, making for themselves in the course of three or four years fortunes of three or four hundred thousand.

“The Canadians mostly of a Norman race, are in general of a litigious disposition. The many formalities in their procedures and the multiplicity of instruments to be drawn up upon every occasion, seems to encourage this disposition. A short and well digested code, by laying aside many of these, may in a great measure serve to correct it.

“The members of the courts of justice were mostly natives of old France, and paid more attention to their own affairs than to the administration of justice. Their decisions, therefore, were not held in much respect; and, indeed, for success the parties generally depended more upon the favour and protection of the great than upon the goodness and justice of their cause. Though the Governor-General, the Bishop and the intendant were by their several offices, presidents of the council, and heretofore used to be present at their deliberations, in latter times they never honoured it with their presence, a circumstance that contributed much to the general disesteem into which this part of the judicature had fallen.

“The office of Grand Voyer, or inspector of the high roads, under proper regulations and restrictions seems to be highly necessary for the care and benefit of the interior commerce.

“The Gentry.—These are descended from the military and civil officers who have settled in the country at different times and were usually provided for in the colony troops. They are in general poor, except such as have had commands in distant posts where they usually made a fortune in three or four years. The croix de St. Louis quite completed their happiness. They are extremely vain and have an utter contempt for the trading part of the colony, though they made no scruple to engage in it, pretty deeply too, whenever a convenient opportunity served. They were great tyrants to their vassals who seldom met with redress, let their grievances be ever so just. This class will not relish the British government from which they can neither expect the same employments or the same douceurs they enjoyed under the French.

“Most of the dignified among the clergy are French, the rest Canadians who are in general of the lowest class of people. The former, no doubt, will

have great difficulty to reconcile themselves to us, but most drop off by degree. Few of the latter are very clever, however, if the ecclesiastical state was once composed entirely of natives, they would soon become easy and satisfied. Their influence over the people was and is still very great, but though we have been so short a time in the country, a difference is to be perceived, they do not submit so tamely to the yoke, and under sanction of the capitulation they every day take an opportunity to dispute the tithes with their curés. These were moved from their respective parishes at the Bishop's pleasure, who thereby always kept them in awe. It may not be perhaps improper to adopt the same method in case His Majesty should think right, for the sake of keeping them in proper subjection, to nominate them himself or by those who act under his authority.

“It is not improbable that the Jesuits warned by their late disgraces in the dominions of those potentates who seem to favour them the most, and apprehending the like or worst treatments from those they style heretics will choose to dispose of their estates and retire.* As they may possibly find some difficulties to get purchasers the government might buy their lands at an easy rate and dispose of the same to many good purposes.

“The traders of this colony under the French were either dealers in gross or retailers; the former were mostly French and the latter in general natives of this country, all of whom are deeply concerned in the letters of exchange. Many are already gone to solicit payment and few of those who have any funds of any consequence in France will remain there.

“The Canadians are formed into a militia for the better regulation of which, each parish in proportion to its extent and number of inhabitants, is divided into one, two or more companies, who have their proper officers, captains, lieutenants, ensigns, majors, aide majors, sergeants, etc., and all orders and public regulations are addressed to the captains or commanding officers, who are to see the same put in execution. From these companies detachments are formed and sent to any distance, and in 1759 and 1760 the whole were in arms for the defence of their country.

“The Peasantry.—These are a strong healthy race, plain in their dress, virtuous in their morals and temperate in their living. They are in general

*They remained in Canada. The last one of the Order died in 1800.

extremely ignorant, for the former government would never suffer a printing press in the country. Few can read or write, and all receive implicitly for truth the many arrant falsehoods and atrocious lies industriously handed among them by those who were in power. They took particular pains to persuade them that the English were worse than brutes, and that if they prevailed, the Canadians would be ruled with a rod of iron, and be exposed to every outrage. This most certainly did not a little contribute to make them so obstinate in their defence. However, ever since the conquest, I can with the greatest truth assert that the troops have lived with the inhabitants in an harmony unexampled even at home. I must here in justice to those under my command observe that in the winter which immediately followed the reduction of this province, when from the calamities of war, and a bad harvest, the inhabitants of those lower parts were exposed to all the horrors of a famine, the officers of every rank, even in the lowest, generously contributed towards alleviating the distresses of the unfortunate Canadians by a large subscription; the British merchants and traders readily and cheerfully assisted in this good work, even the poor soldiers threw in their mite and gave a day's provisions, or a day's pay in the month toward the fund. By this means a quantity of provisions was purchased and distributed with great care and assiduity to numbers of poor families, who, without this charitable support, must have inevitably perished. Such an instance of uncommon generosity towards the conquered did the highest honour to their conquerors and convinced these poor deluded people how grossly they had been imposed upon. The daily instances of lenity, the impartial justice which has been administered, so far beyond what they had formerly experienced, have so altered their opinion with regard to us, I may safely venture to affirm for this most useful order of the state, that far from having the least design to emigrate from their present habitations into any other of the French colonies, their greatest dread is lest they should meet the fate of the Acadians and be torn from their native country. Convinced that this is not to be their case and that the free exercise of their religion will be continued to them when Canada is irrevocably ceded by a peace, the people will soon become faithful and good subjects to His Majesty, and the country they inhabit within a short time prove a rich and most useful colony to Great Britain."

On the subject of the paper money, orders and letters of exchange that were due to be paid by the French Government, he made a calculation based on the knowledge at his command, and announced that at the lowest estimate they amounted to eighty million francs. I believe that the holders were divided as follows: French, thirty-eight to forty millions; Canadians, forty-two millions.

Murray valued the furs exported yearly, at the end of the French regime, at a million and a half francs, but he said that, at an earlier date, the value of these exports amounted to two or three millions.

Intendant Hocquart wrote in 1736: "All gentlemen and sons of officers wish to enter the service, which is laudable in itself, but as they are, for the most part, poor, many join the army for the sake of the pay, rather than from other motives. The Governor-General picks out the best men; it is hard to induce the others to cultivate the lands; perhaps it would be a good idea to send some of them to France, to serve in the marine there, in order to further unite the nobility with the people of the country."

A functionary of the French Government writes as follows, in 1758: "Nearly all the trading posts are 'privileged,' that is to say that those to whom they belong use them for their exclusive trade. These posts are given away, sold or leased and, in these three cases, commerce suffers equally from their administration. Those who have possession of them, commonly for three years, wish in this short space of time, to amass a large fortune; the method that they employ to accomplish this, is to sell the merchandise that they bring there at the highest possible price, and to buy the furs at the lowest possible price, even though it be necessary to intoxicate the savages in order to deceive them. . . . Canada, up to the present time, has been, so to speak, given over exclusively to a few people whom the great distance from the seat of authority has made despotic, whose only aim was to squeeze rapid wealth out of the new land with which to enjoy themselves in Europe, and whose every interest demanded that their methods be kept from investigation. The country has been despoiled, before being known. Its government is bad, or, more properly speaking, there is none. . . . It is the land of abuses, of ignorance, of prejudices, of all that is abominable in politics."

Trade was not more favoured. The merchandise exchanged for furs came in greater part from England, and the merchants were in a position to commit abuses of all sorts. Hocquart said in 1736: "England must get from Canada an even larger quantity of beaver skins than France. . . . The savages buy the articles they need at much lower prices from the English, and the English pay much higher prices for the beavers than do the French."

The policy adopted at the infancy of the colony was never changed; the habitants were called upon continually to supply the needs of the King, and they received nothing in exchange. Those who belonged to the monopoly became wealthy and returned to France. The fundamental principle was that France extort as much as possible from the colonists, leaving them only just enough to prevent them from dying of hunger. Politically, they were slaves.

Louisiana underwent the same treatment: "Monopoly and absolute rule. . . . It is evident that, if the colony did not grow and prosper it was because instead of saying to those who were sent there: 'Work for yourself,' they were told: 'Work for us.'"*

From 1729 to 1759, forty-five seigneuries were granted. A wise government would have thought of colonizing these lands in a manner tending to foster the growth of a large population, attached to their new country. Instead of this they were contented with titles to land, on paper.

M. Edme Rameau de Saint-Père wrote, in 1860: "The loss of Canada is due solely to the negligence of the French government and to the pernicious policy adopted by it in its colonies, as well as in the metropolis. To wish to be all-powerful, in order to have the right to be supremely careless—this seems to have been the motto of the French Government. It is the irritating policy of an all-powerful government, obstinately persisting in ruling in all things and unable to do anything, that is the real cause of the loss of nearly all the French colonies . . . it is to this that is due the overwhelming supremacy of the English colonies. This is the cause of their triumph and of our ruin."

On this subject we might fill a volume with quotations. Let us close

*Charles Gayarré: *History of Louisiana*, I., 159.

with the following one: "The secret of the prosperity of the English settlements, is none other than liberty. It is with surprise that one compares the progress made by New England, with the state of stagnation to be found in New France. While the English colonies were enjoying municipal government and trial by jury, the French colonists knew only martial rule and were even submitted to the rack, of unhappy memory. While the English colonists enjoyed a free press, the French colonists were living in complete ignorance, and did not know how to read. After near two centuries New France had been able to furnish only one learned man, Cugnet, and, even then, the King of France had to be entreated time upon time to allow him to enter the 'Conseil Supérieur' before he was admitted, when he was given, at first, only the position of assessor. It is not astonishing that Cugnet accepted the new régime with joy, because through it he foresaw a brighter and happier future for his country. Cugnet had only to glance at New England, marching ahead with giant strides and preparing to become a great country, to be convinced that the two centuries of French rule had produced in his country nothing but slavery and ignorance.'"

*Doutre: Le Droit Civil, Montreal, 1872, page 309.