

us how much we have yet to do to fill up our territory. Even Russia has ten times as many inhabitants to the square mile as British America. It is true that much of our country possesses a climate severe in winter, but we have a rich Great West, as yet not opened up to the husbandman, while the mineral wealth even of the far North is alluring. We cannot better conclude this article than by transcribing some words of the Right Rev. Dr. Mullock, Bishop of Newfoundland:—"Suppose America to be the old country and Europe the new, and that the tide of emigration set Eastward, it would naturally be directed to the banks of the Garonne, the Tagus, the Guadalquivir, or to the shores of Italy or Sicily, not to the Elbe or the Baltic. Such is the case with us at present—the tide of European emigration sets towards the broad rich lands of the Unite States. But let these get filled in * * * it will be as difficult to get a living there as now in the crowded countries of Europe. When taxation will be increased, perhaps large standing armies kept on foot; then the people of these northern regions, increasing and multiplying, will cultivate their now waste lands as do the Swedes, the Danes, the Prussians. Let us consider what British America was fifty years ago, what it is now, and what it may be a century hence"

OUR BOUNDARIES.

The Dominion of Canada is the legitimate heir to the old French Empire in North America, and although the inheritance has come down to us sadly diminished in extent, we may indulge ourselves in a condensed review of its ancient limits.

In 1540, Roberval was declared by Francis I. to be Lord of Norembéque, i.e., of the lands on the Penobscot. In 1603, De Monts received letters patent to trade from Cape DeRoze to the 40th degree N. latitude. Under this authority he wintered on St. Croix Island in 1604, sailing, in 1605, to Norembéque, Kennebec, Casco, Saco, and even Cape Cod. In 1627, "La Nouvelle France, called Canada," is declared in the charter of the Hundred Associates to extend from Florida to the Arctic Circle, and from Newfoundland to the furthest affluent of the St. Lawrence, but this excessive claim was never seriously maintained, and when Acadia was divided from Canada, it was defined as being bounded N. by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, E. by the Atlantic, S. by the River Kennebec, W. by the Province of Canada. Even this boundary was indeed disputed. In 1613, Capt. Argal came northwards from Virginia, conveying fishing craft, and finding the French clearing lands on the Penobscot, attacked them, saying the territory was part of Virginia, which owned all to 46° N. lat. In 1655, by the treaty of Westminster, the conflicting claims were referred to a commission, but though the commissaries were appointed in 1662, nothing was done. In 1656, Cromwell's grant of Acadie to Latour, Temple and Crowne, defined the territory to be "along the Bay to Fort St. John, and thence following all the coast as far as Pentagoet and the River St. George in Mescourus, situate on the borders of New England, and further on to the first habitation." The treaty of Breda, 1667, restored Acadia to France, and the French commission to Grand Fontaine, 1670, set the Quinebequi as the boundary of his government—a boundary asserted by Villebon, the French Governor of Acadia, against Lieut.-Governor Stoughton, of Massachusetts, in 1698. Charlevoix, pp. 348, 349, says that about this time the River St. George, about half-way between Pentagoet and the Kennebec, began to be spoken of as the boundary. In 1700, after the peace of Ryswick, it appears by a letter from de Beauharnois and Hocquart, respectively Governor and Intendant of Canada, "a post was planted on an island at the mouth of the St. George, with the arms of England on the west side and those of France on the east side, to serve as bounds to the lands of the two crowns, and to distinguish them;" and in 1703 a judgment of the King's Council of State grants to le Borgne "Pentagoet, &c., with ten leagues on each side of the river, to the River St. George, the boundary of New England." Just after the treaty of Paris, 1712, the French king offered numerous concessions if the English would give him back Acadia, and "in this case his Majesty would consent that the River of St. George should be the limit of Acadia, as England desired." In 1720, Col. Philipps, Governor of Nova Scotia, complained that "the bounds between the government of Nova Scotia and New England are not declared," and enclosed to the Lords of Trade a petition from persons who had lands between the Kennebec and St. George, for confirmation of title. In 1762, Governor Bernard, of Massachusetts, and Governor Belcher, of Nova Scotia, had a correspondence which was ended by Mr. Belcher as follows: "I must, nevertheless, with much satisfaction, accept the assurances you give me that you shall not make any grants of any of the lands westward of the River St. Croix * * * and I shall on my part not consent to any further grants from this Province until the question is determined at home." It was not determined until settled by treaty with the rebellious colonies, now the United States, and then the St. Croix was made the boundary. From all which it is clearly to be seen that the stronger British colonies, backed up by the stronger British power, forced back the weaker French from one boundary to another: from about Cape Cod to the Kennebec, from the Kennebec to the St. George, from the St. George to the Penobscot. While at the establishment of their independence they further encroached upon the territory of the parent country, from the Penobscot to the St. Croix.

In the interior of the continent, the French explorers had a magnificent field before them, which they cultivated with equal bravery and energy. The Edict of 1712, establishing Louisiana as a Lieut.-Governorship, dependent upon that of Quebec, recites that in 1683 the King had ordered the exploration of the regions between New France and New Mexico; that La Salle had sufficiently succeeded in the enterprise to make it certain that communication could be maintained between the St. Lawrence and the Gulf of Mexico by way of important rivers; that immediately after the peace of Ryswick, His Majesty had sent out a colony, but that in consequence of the wars he had done nothing more; * that now, however, he had decided to authorise the Sieur Crozart to trade in the country bounded by the English settlements in Carolina on one hand, and by New Mexico on the other, and principally in the port and harbour of Ile Dauphine, in the valleys of the Mississippi from the sea to the

* By an arrêt of 1690, the King endows Sieurs de la Forest and Toutry, with the establishment made at St. Louis by de la Salle.