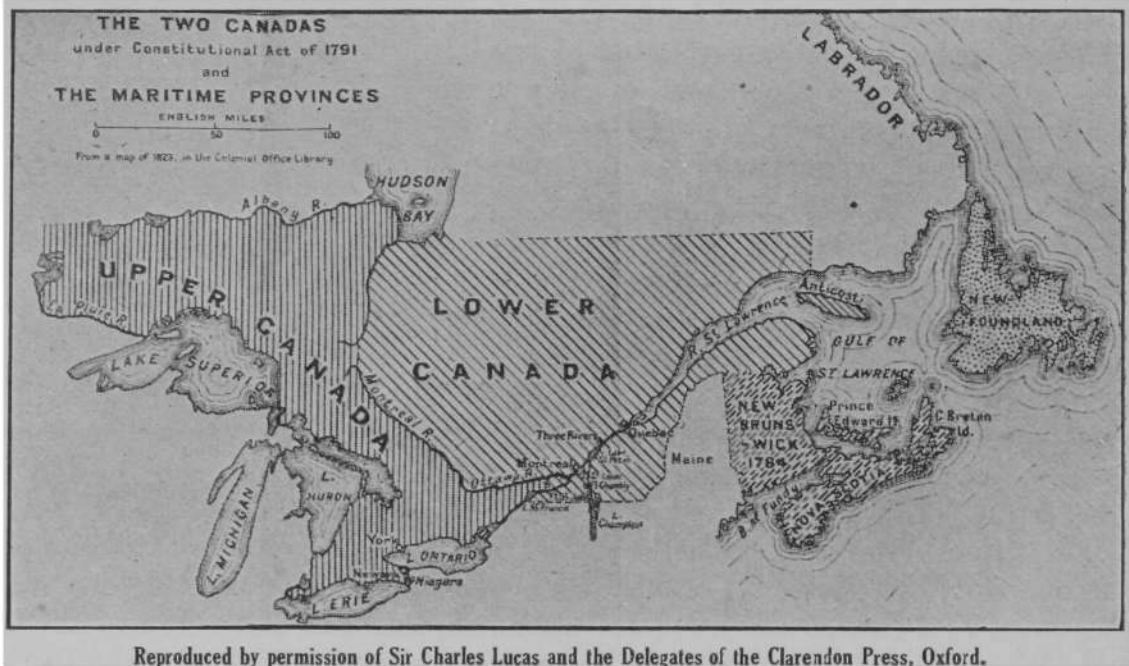


could not be undertaken on the scale which the public interest required. In Upper Canada antagonism grew up between the official party, to which the name of "Family Compact" was given, and those who desired more liberal institutions. In Lower Canada a similar condition developed, further embittered by racial feeling. The intentions of the home government were good, but the wants of the provinces were only imperfectly known, and the military governors who were sent out were not, as a rule, fitted to grapple with difficult political situations. The Governments of both Upper and Lower Canada had at their disposal certain revenues collected under an Imperial Customs Act passed in 1774 for the express purpose of providing a permanent means of carrying on the civil government. In both provinces the liberal party demanded that the revenue in question should be



THE TWO CANADAS IN 1791.

placed under the control of the local legislature. In Upper Canada the matter was amicably arranged; the legislature took over the revenue and in return voted a small permanent civil list. In Lower Canada the legislature took over the revenue as offered by the home government, but refused to vote a civil list. Several years of political conflict ensued, the legislature refusing supplies and the government being obliged to take money from the military chest in order to pay salaries to the public officers. Finally an imperial Act was passed (February 10, 1837) suspending the constitution of Lower Canada and authorizing the application of the provincial funds to necessary purposes.

The War of 1812-15.—In following the course of the internal political development of the country, the present narrative has been carried past a very serious crisis in its earlier history, the war of 1812-15. The causes of the conflict have no connection with Canadian history, but Canada was made the theatre of operations, and Canadian loyalty to the Mother Country was put to a crucial test. The war was opened brilliantly by General Brock in the capture of Detroit, held by an American force much superior to his own (August 16, 1812), and at the battle of Queenston Heights (October 13, 1812), in which an invading force was driven back with heavy loss, but in which the gallant Brock fell. The subsequent course of the struggle was marked by alternate victory and defeat. In two naval battles, lake