

FRANKLIN VERSUS ALLAN.

Fort Howe Built.—Fort Hughes at Oro-mocto.—Post Houses on the St. John. Arrival of Father Bourg.—James White's Important Services.—Treaty at Fort Howe.—Lieut. Gilman at Meductic.

(31.)

The Nova Scotia authorities were aroused by Allan's expedition to see the necessity of establishing a fortified post at the mouth of the river St. John. Accordingly Fort Howe was constructed and garrisoned by about 50 men of the Royal Fencible Americans under Major Studholme. The illustration which is here given of Fort Howe is taken from a sketch made in 1781 by Benjamin Marston from the deck of his vessel Britannia, which was then lying at anchor in the harbor. (Benjamin Marston, it may be observed, was a cousin of Judge Edward Winslow. His diary and other papers are now in the hands of Miss Winslow of Woodstock.) Major Studholme was a very capable officer and filled a difficult position during the war, with honor to himself and advantage to his country. He managed amongst other things to establish rapid and excellent communication with Quebec by way of the St. John river. For the purpose of facilitating this communication a small fort or block house was built at the mouth of the Oromocto and named Fort Hughes. Here a few soldiers were stationed under the command of Lieutenant Constant Connor. Above this point post houses were established at intervals along the route to the St. Lawrence; their positions as shown in an old map in the Crown Land office were as follows: 1, opposite Bear Island in Prince William; 2, just below Sullivan's creek; 3, at the Meductic village; 4 below the upper Guisguet; 5, just above the Aroostook; 6, Grand Falls; 7, mouth of Grand river; 8, mouth of Green river; 9, Indian village at mouth of Madawaska; 10, half way up the river Madawaska; 11, Fort of Lake Temiscouata; 12, west side of Lake Temiscouata; 13, near head of Lake Temiscouata where portage road leaves it; 14, midway to river St. Francis; 15, at St. Francis (west side); 16, at Riviere du Loup.

Until this route by way of the St. John was established there was no means of communication between the commander in chief of the British forces at Philadelphia, and Sir Guy Carleton at Quebec, except by a long sea voyage. Indians were sometimes employed to carry messages, but more confidence was placed in the Acadians. The two most famous couriers were Louis Mitchell and Michel Mercure whose services were rewarded by grants of land after the war closed.

Major Studholme had under him at Fort Howe several officers who afterwards settled in New Brunswick, among the number were Dr. Ambrose Sherman, surgeon of the Royal Fencibles; Lieutenant Samuel Denny Street (whose youngest son was late rector of Woodstock), and Lieut. Peter Clinch.

The chief complaint hitherto urged against the English by the Indians of the river St. John had been the removal of their priest, Col. Franklin accordingly promised them in the autumn of the year 1777 to do his best to provide them with another. It was not, however, till a year later he succeeded in procuring the services of Father Bourg from Canada, whose loyalty was above suspicion. James White's memorandum book shows that £11.15.6 was paid three Indians, viz: Michael Neptune, Paul Neptune and Charles Nocout for going to the Bay of Chaleur after Father Bourg. The latter on his arrival received a gratuity of £50 and was voted a stipend of £100 per annum. Meanwhile matters on the St. John river were in an exceedingly critical situation. Only through the efforts of James White, who spent the greater part of his time, at considerable risk, in pacifying the Indians, were they restrained from actual hostilities. Mr. White's account book shows some rather amusing items which indicate the line of policy he was obliged to follow in his dealings with the natives at this time. The following will do as specimens:

"Paid Charles Nocout ten dollars to make up for an Englishman's beating him."

"Paid Ackmohish for 3 beaver traps stolen last year by the soldiers, £1.10."

Pierre Tomah was again on the St. John, and Major Studholme and James White made special efforts to gain his good will. In the memoranda kept by Mr. White is the following: "Paid Dr. Sherman, medicine and attendance to Pierre Thoma and four other sick Indians, £5.16.8."

In the months of August and September Mr. White was especially commissioned by Major Studholme to proceed to Aukpaque and effect there the preliminaries of a treaty. He also visited an Indian encampment near Grand Lake. Whilst he was thus engaged Col. Franklin and Father Bourg arrived at Fort Howe. Franklin wrote the following day, Sept. 14th, 1778, to Mr. White:

"I arrived last night from Annapolis in the Scarborough, and now send Lewis Mitchell and my own man up to you with this letter and another to Pierre Thoma to desire that he and two or three principal Indians will come down without loss of time to this place to speak to M. Bourg and myself, whom I have taken the pains to send for from the Bay de Chaleurs on purpose to serve them. You may assure them that they may come down in great safety and I would have you come down with them."

Franklin's letter to the Indians is a model in its way, and it is a little remarkable that it has never before appeared in print.

Fort Howe, 14 Sep., 1778.

Brethren:—According to my promise last fall I have brought with me M. Bourg, your priest, to instruct you and to take care of your eternal welfare.

Brethren:—I am come to heal and adjust every difference that may subsist between you and your brethren the faithful subjects of King George your father, my master.

Brethren:—As my heart is good, my hands clean and my intentions as white as snow, I desire Pierre Thoma and two or three other principal Indians to immediately come down to Fort Howe with Mr. White, my deputy, to speak to me and to M. Bourg that we may settle in what manner to proceed to accomplish my good intentions towards you, and I do hereby pledge myself that no harm shall happen to you from any of the king's troops or others His Majesty's dutiful subjects.

I am, your affectionate brother,
MICH. FRANKLIN, SVP. I. A.,
To Pierre Thoma and others the
Indians of the River St. John.

The Indians promptly responded to the invitation, a large delegation coming down the river and pitching their encampment somewhere within the limits of the present city of St. John probably at or near market square. They were escorted by James White, Gervas Say, and Capt. Hugh Quinton who were allowed £7 for the expenses of the trip. This was but a preliminary, for Indians treaties were always expensive things. The cost of presents made on the occasion of the negotiations at Fort Howe was £537.2.9 besides £40 spent by Col. Franklin in keeping a table while the Indians remained with him. Mr. White's memorandum book contains Mr. Hazen's account rendered Michael Franklin "for supplies to Indians assembled at Menaquashe, near Fort Howe, from 13 Sept to 19 Oct. 1778," also the item "To cash paid to James White for his services among and with the Indians from the 2nd April 1778 to 20th, October inclusive (part of which time he ran great risks both of his life and being made prisoner) £50."

The treaty with the Indians was concluded and ratified on the 24th day of September the chiefs and other principal Indians in solemn manner upon their knees taking the oath of allegiance to the British sovereign. They also presented a belt of wampum to Col. Franklin in confirmation of their promises and good intentions and performed all the Indian ceremonies customary on the proclamation of peace.

Lieut. Governor Hughes of Nova Scotia writing to the Secretary of State says "We were really fortunate in this business for these savages had actually sent in a formal declaration of war to Major Studholme and returned the British flag to him at Fort Howe." He adds, "the Indian chiefs returned into the hands of Col. Franklin the presents which they had received from the rebel General Washington."

It appears by letters written by Allan to the Massachusetts government on the 9th and 17th August respectively that hearing of the Indians assembling on the river St. John and of their determination of doing something one side or other he had dispatched Capt. Nicholas Hawawes to take the command enjoining him to send peremptory orders to return the English colours sent the previous summer to the Indians by Major Studholme which were then in the keeping of Pierre Tomah. Allan further instructed them to destroy cattle, etc, round Fort Howe, to take prisoners and encourage the soldiers of the garrison to desert and come to Machias, he adds in his letter "I earnestly and sincerely wish I had a hundred or two good troops at this juncture to go in boats along the shore to act in concert with the Indians."

The rival efforts made by the British and Americans to secure the support of the Indians seems to have suggested to them the idea of living at the joint expense of the contending parties throughout the war, and this in point of fact is about what they did.

To create another diversion Allan ordered Lieut Gilman and some Penobscot Indians to proceed by way of the Mattawamkeag to the Meductic village at the same time sending another party by way of the Magaguadavic and Oromocto to a point farther down the river St. John; but this attempt to promote an Indian uprising was a failure although at the time it created a good deal of alarm amongst the white settlers. Allan on learning that Pierre Tomah and other Indians had taken the oath of allegiance, wrote one of his characteristic letters using both threats and inducements to detach them from the British interests. About the 10th November he received a reply from Pierre Tomah which he says "appears deceitful and flattering."

Meanwhile Col. Franklin and Father Bourg were active in their efforts to restrain the savages. On the 8th Dec 1778 Franklin wrote to James White from Windsor. "I am very glad to find Gilman and the Penobscot Indians made no impression on our Indians and their withdrawing so quietly I hope proceeded from hints given them by the St. John people who were with us at Fort Howe. The coming in of Joseph (Pierre Tomah's son) looks well and Nicholas Hawawes with seven families separating from Ambrose has also a good appearance. It appears to me Pierre Tomah's encamping on the bank of Manguerville with so many Indians indicates he is afraid he shall be insulted by Allan's people. If they do insult him they will pay for it in a way they little think of."

Many of the Meductic Indians at this time were with Allan at Machias, our next article will deal with the great defection and the close of the revolutionary struggle.

W. O. RAYMOND.

The Worship of Wealth.
This golden image, high by measureless cubits, set up where your green fields of England are furnace-burnt into the likeness of the plain of Dura; this idol, forbidden to us, first of all idols, by our own Master and faith; forbidden to us also by every human lip that has ever, in any age or people, been accounted of as able to speak according to the purposes of God. Continue to make that forbidden duty your principal one, and soon no more art, no more science, no more pleasure, will be possible. Catastrophe will come, or worse than catastrophe, slow mouldering and withering into Hades. But if you can fix some conception of a true human state of life, to be striven for—life for all men as for yourselves—if you can determine some honest and simple order of existence, following those trodden ways of wisdom which are pleasantness, and seeking her quiet withdrawn paths, which are peace—then, so sanctifying wealth into the "commonwealth," all your art, literature, your daily labors, your domestic affection and citizen's duty, will join and increased into magnificent harmony. You will know then how to build well enough; you will build with stone well, but with flesh better, temples not made with hands, but riveted with hearts, and that kind of marble, crimson-veined is indeed eternal.—*Ruskin.*

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The Talking Dog.

There was once a ventriloquist so poor that he was obliged to travel on foot from town to town to save expense, much after the manner of the gentlemen of adventure in Grimm's tales. One day he was joined on the road by a dog as forsaken as himself, but who seemed desirous of becoming his companion.

They journeyed together to the next town, and entered the tavern tired, hungry and penniless. Not being troubled with the inconvenient refinement which comes from a long line of gentle ancestors, the man had developed the quality known as cheek, so he and the dog sat down to eat a supper for which they could not pay.

The room was full of loungers, and the stranger took a conspicuous seat. "What will you have?" asked the only waiter the place employed; and the order embraced nearly everything on the bill of fare.

"But I want something for my dog, too," he added. "Ask him what he will have." The waiter muttered something about "Whatever giving us," so the stranger said, "What, don't you like? Well, Bruno, will you have beef or fish?"

"Beef, every time," said Bruno, looking with mildbrown eyes at the waiter. "And what to drink?"

"Water, thank you," said Bruno. "By this time the landlord and everyone in the place were eager with suppressed wonder and gathered about to hear a dog talk.

The ventriloquist feigned indifference by eating with avidity, while the landlord was evidently considering something. His cogitation resulted in his offering the stranger three hundred dollars for his wonderful talking dog.

The ventriloquist appeared to hesitate a moment, then said, abruptly, "Yes, you may have him for three hundred dollars."

When the money was paid and the ventriloquist was about to leave, he turned to the dog, patted him affectionately, and said, "Good-bye, old fellow, you've been a good friend to me."

"You are no friend of mine," returned the dog, "to sell me to another master. As you were mean enough to serve me such a trick, I'll have revenge. I'll never speak another word as long as I live."

The ventriloquist then made off with all possible haste.—*Harper's Young People.*

Brains and Longevity.

When Bismarck and Gladstone, both beyond fourscore, are able to see the truth and tell it better than ever before in their lives; when Prof. Blackie, the greatest student of Great Britain, lives to 85, the question of whether hard thinking shortens life is presented in a striking way. It can be answered in one way at any rate from the tables of vital statistics, which show that those who think least are apt to die soonest. It would be easy, too, to fill a column with the names of great intellectual workers who have outlived two generations of ordinary men. If against these are offset the brilliant geniuses who have died young, it will be easy enough to answer that they need not have died at all as a result of genius. It was not genius that killed Byron or Pope or Burns or Chatterton. They died of lack of self-control, which is not a necessary concomitant of great intellect. But even if it were admitted that genius is a condition of high nervous tension, apt to result in fatal reaction, it is still true that the men who do the thinking for the rest of the world nearly always outlive those who have to have their thinking done for them. The thinker who is a man of slender physique and nervous organization, so sensitive that he is almost an invalid, may still outlast two generations of stalwart beefeaters, and survive into the third, as a living illustration of the fact that the use of brains which gives so many other things, gives long life also.—*New York World.*

Wilkes' House.

News from old London says,—The house in which John Wilkes, whose name is so closely associated with the liberty of the press, resided at the time of his arrest and removal to the tower had just disappeared, like so many other buildings in and about London which have been associated with historic events. Wilkes' house was one of a dingy row of red brick buildings in Prince's court, off Great George street, Westminster. As editor of the North Briton, Wilkes denounced the Bute Administration for unduly favouring the Scotch, and on April 23rd, 1763, the paper contained a charge of falsehood against the King. Three days later a "general warrant" was issued, and Wilkes was arrested. His committal to the Tower and the burning of the newspaper by the common hangman in Cheapside led to the well-known riots. Then the Lord Chief Justice awarded Wilkes \$5,000 damages for the seizure of his papers after his arrest, declaring general warrants to be illegal. After that Wilkes was chosen as Lord Mayor, and five times was he returned to Parliament, but only allowed to take his seat in 1775, after a great and prolonged fight for liberty.

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