

CHAPTER IX.

UPPER CANADA A SEPARATE PROVINCE.

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| 1. 2. Social condition. | 5. London--York. |
| 3. First Parliament. | 6. Custom duties--Trade. |
| 4. Slavery. | 7. Sir Isaac Brock. |

1. When Upper Canada was first made a **separate province** in 1791, it had only a small and thinly scattered population of some twenty thousand people. These were to be found along the St. Lawrence, the Bay of Quinté, the Niagara frontier, and the Detroit river. Small villages were to be found at Kingston, Newark or Niagara, and Amherstburg. All the rest of the country was a **wilderness**, covered with forests of fine, large timber. The early settler went into the forest with very few goods, except the clothes on his back, a flint-lock musket, and an axe. Some had not even these, and all were more or less obliged to accept the help which the Government offered to them, when "drawing" their land. This help consisted of food and clothes for three years, or until the settlers were able to provide these for themselves. They were also given seeds to sow on their "clearings," and such tools as they might require. Each family received an axe, a hoe, and a spade; a plough and one cow were given to every two families; large saws to every fourth family, and even boats were furnished for their use, and placed at suitable points on the rivers. As there were no mills, even this want was supplied in part by the distribution of "portable corn-mills" made of steel plates, and turned by hand like a coffee-mill. Where the people had not these mills, they used to place the grain in the