

CHAPTER XIV.

THE PROVINCE OF CANADA—(Continued).

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| 1. Reciprocity Treaty. | 9. Census. |
| 2. Seigniorial Tenure Act. | 10. American Civil War. |
| 3. Clergy Reserves settled. | 11. Union Convention. |
| 4. Crimean War. | 12, 13. Fenians. |
| 5. Legislative Council elective. | 14. Trade relations. |
| 6. Ottawa the capital. | 15. Confederation. |
| 7. Atlantic Cable. | 16. Dominion Day. |
| 8. Prince of Wales. | |

1. The year 1854 was marked by three important Acts of Legislation. The first was the conclusion of a **Reciprocity Treaty** with the United States. It was to continue for ten years, after which time it could be terminated by either of the parties to it giving one year's notice. It provided for the mutual exchange of, or trade in, numerous articles, the **natural products** of the farm, forest, and the mine—free of duty. It permitted the Americans the use of the St. Lawrence and other Canadian canals, in exchange for the concession to Canada of the right to sail through Lake Michigan. The people of the New England States were also allowed the privilege of the in-shore **fisheries** of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, under certain restrictions. This treaty came into operation in March of the following year, and furnished the **first instance** of Great Britain recognizing the right of her colonies to assist in the negotiations of a treaty where their interests were involved.

2. The second work of Parliament was the **Seigniorial Tenure Act**, which was earnestly demanded by the French Canadian section of the House. The difficulties in connection with this question arose out of the peculiar