

**THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO; CANADA AND
THE UNITED STATES 1815-
1830. A DISSERTATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649408245

The University of Chicago; Canada and the United States 1815-1830. A Dissertation by David R. Moore

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DAVID R. MOORE

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The University of Chicago

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES 1815-1830

A DISSERTATION

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY
OF THE

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND LITERATURE

IN CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

BY

DAVID R. MOORE

CHICAGO

1910

Press of
JENNINGS & GRAHAM
57 Washington St.
Chicago

To My Wife
ETHEL HALLAM MOORE
this little monograph is affectionately dedicated.

Science. 5-23-32 A I A.

P R E F A C E.

Students of Canadian history must ever be thankful for the extensive accumulation, careful preservation, and systematic arrangement, so far as the cataloguing has progressed, of the historical manuscripts in the archive department at Ottawa, Canada. In the Ontario archives much collecting and arranging remains unfinished. I am very much indebted to the directors and librarians in these archives, especially to those in Ottawa where most of my work was done, for their courteous treatment and assistance. I am also very grateful to Professor A. C. McLaughlin and his associates in the history department of the University of Chicago for their patient reading of this monograph and for their helpful suggestions.

University of Chicago,
December, 1910.

DAVID R. MOORE.

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Canada and the United States—1815-1830

I.

THE GENERAL CONDITION OF AFFAIRS IN 1815.

The experience derived from the days of the American Revolution must have taught European nations wholesome lessons in the management of colonies. Nevertheless, for over half a century after the British lost the United States, England still compelled her American possessions to endure a slowly dying system of navigation laws and similar irritating and obnoxious restrictions. It was apparently with the greatest reluctance that the average European statesman could accept the theory that colonies do not exist solely for the benefit of the mother country, that they are not places for mere exploitation, and that local autonomy must be given in due season.

The Canadas were peculiarly and dangerously situated for the continuance of any antiquated and nonprogressive system. Common laws, language, customs, and descent, common commercial and industrial interests, similar local conditions and the lack of any geographical barrier tended to bring the Canadians into very close touch with the people in the United States. The very presence of the youthful, vigorous, enterprising, liberty-loving American Republic was a menace to anything that abridged "natural rights." In addition to this, American proclamations issued during the war of 1812 convinced many Englishmen that the American Republic was to be feared not merely from the example that it set, but from the fact that its citizens were ambitiously eager to carry their flag and institutions over all the continent. A few enlightened British statesmen accordingly endeavored to retain the loyalty of their colonists by loosening the shackles which bound colonial trade and commerce and by strenuously opposing any arbitrary imperial domination in local affairs. But until the rebellion of 1837 the prevailing British policy was to maintain the old system, and as far as the Canadas were concerned, prevent the loyal inhabitants there from being exposed to the contaminating influence of the expanding democracy to the south of them.

The Treaty of Ghent in 1814 was gladly welcomed because it brought about the cessation of active hostilities, and yet it did not usher in a period of perfect peace, harmony and confidence. In