

The Better Part.

Dedicated to friends who are about to embrace the religious life. Silent at the feet of Jesus, The sainted Mary Magdalene kneels...

ABBE TANGUAY AND HIS GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY.

As the Dominion of Canada advances in age, influence and prosperity so do the people feel more ambitious that their country should become renowned...

Therefore, the following, which is a translation of an article which appeared some time ago in a French Canadian journal, written by B. Sulte Esq., with a few introductory and concluding comments by the translator...

A poem composed by Mr. Louis Honore Fréchette, Poet Laureate, French Academy, Paris, and dedicated to Abbe Tanguay...

These verses, says Mr. Sulte, "are, no doubt, familiar to many. On reading them some, perhaps, have exclaimed, 'how well poets understand the secret of ennobling every subject which they take up'..."

In our limited world of Canadian historians, archeologists, annalists, and annotators, there is no more conspicuous character and more worthy of a high rank in it than Abbe Tanguay.

There was a period when French Canadians had no books to inform them about the history of their forefathers, and when the past was almost forgotten...

Verreau has made important discoveries embracing that period of twenty-one years which followed the conquest. Chauveau has succeeded in finding out old works, of whose existence no one had any idea.

(Alfred) in his historical and literary researches has come across many observations most important in the history of Canada and several original manuscripts...

Malouin has collected historical souvenirs and secrets which were passing away with the old men of the preceding generation, which he sometimes publishes."

The translator here takes the liberty of adding to the list of literary French Canadians, the name of Mr. B. Sulte, who has recently published a book entitled 'L'Histoire des Trois Rivières...'

Imagine a man awakening one fine morning with the resolve to produce a genealogical tree of all the families of a country, beginning three centuries back from the present time...

When a nation becomes deeply interested in her history during a particular epoch, her historians and artists search diligently through dusty old books, sealed manuscripts and documents...

There arrived such a time in our case, when, as a new nation, we were seized with the longing to gather information about ourselves, our infancy, our youthful days, and about the traditions of our forefathers.

In the whole history of Canada there has never prevailed a greater spirit of research, a more ardent love of historic studies, a deeper interest in compiling books from the archives than exists at the present time.

By persevering study and research true history begins to send forth here and there, slowly but steadily, its luminous rays, throwing light at last on this corner or part of the picture which had faded or been obscured.

Did not the Abbe Verreau discover while at London about three hundred documents which strangely comprise papers on the administration of Haldimand. Has there not been recently discovered in France certain documents which prove that in 1775 England was willing to give up Canada again to France...

To accomplish tasks of this kind, those who engage in them must be learned, active, patriotic and provided with special qualifications and pecuniary resources.

There are those who have these qualities combined in them and others who have even more than these. The devotion of oneself in this manner to the good of the country is characteristic of the age.

Abbe Tanguay was born in Quebec in 1819, is not old in appearance, nor is he the thin, yellow-complexioned or dried up little man, such as one would imagine a student to be who has been pouring over old dusty papers during many years of his life...

Natural history was a subject which had great attractions for him; he obtained many interesting things from different parts of the world bearing upon this science. One of his curiosities in this respect was the fossil of a sea-elephant, which he presented to the University of Laval.

There are many memorials of the activity and patriotism of Abbe Tanguay at Rimouski, of which we may particularly mention the magnificent church there, today used as the Cathedral of the diocese.

also the College established there was founded by him, which, since 1855 has received a government subsidy; as well as the Convent of the Ladies of the Congregation at that place.

One might naturally ask, when and how did the idea of a Genealogical Dictionary come to enter his mind? It was an idea which, we might say, was stamped in his mind when his existence began...

He was regarded by his family in the light of a walking dictionary, and he had the same reputation at college among his fellow-students. He was sent to the College of St. Anne de la Pocatiere at the age of nine years, and was the youngest pupil there.

This peculiar characteristic was also observed in him whilst he was a student in the Seminary of Quebec, and developed itself more and more in one way and another as he approached manhood.

The dictionary, which he is compiling, is based upon the following circumstances: There were four distinct groups constituting the French population found in Canada during the 17th century...

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reading the newspapers. On the contrary, they were attended with many difficulties, for registers are oftentimes composed of writings peculiar and quaint in style, faded and obscure, with leaves mutilated and soiled, with names illegibly written and improperly spelt.

In 1868 the Abbe published a work entitled 'Repertoire Général du Clergé Canadien,' it was a prelude to the Genealogical Dictionary. It displayed very forcibly the Abbe's powers of research and classification...

The Abbe appropriately dedicated it 'A l'Eglise et a mon Pays.' 'To the Church and my Country.' He thereby expresses his gratitude to the Catholic Church, from whose carefully preserved registers at all times, throughout this continent and Europe, the learned Abbe had drawn his information...

The dictionary is not intended to be a biography; it is entirely genealogical, containing reliable information in this respect. It is universal in its object, that is, it associates itself with all classes of people.

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guished countryman, it will be appropriate to refer to some expressions by literary men in the United States of America, of Abbe Tanguay's labors.

The Abbe had occasion to visit certain parts of that country where there was to be found traces of families of French origin or Canadian emigrants. He, therefore, went to St. Louis, Missouri State, in 1874, where he received much sympathy and encouragement in the prosecution of his work.

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DOM BOSCO.

THERE WAS METHOD IN HIS MADNESS.

The name of Dom Bosco, the Vincent de Paul of the present century, which is a familiar sound on the Continent, is little known amongst us Catholics at home. Yet thousands already venerate Dom Bosco as a saint, the splendid success of whose undertakings in the cause of charity has forced him into a notoriety from which his natural simplicity and humility would shrink.

A comparison between him and St. Vincent de Paul has just been suggested; and, indeed a curious similarity does exist in many details of their lives and vocations. Both were of humble birth, their early years had been passed as shepherds—a peaceful pursuit, well calculated to foster the spirit of piety and contemplation, which, in so many instances in the lives of the saints we know to have accompanied the most vigorous and generous dispositions.

Dom Bosco was at one time supposed to be deranged. He planned the building of an Oratory, capable of accommodating an immense number of children, with workshops of all kinds, study-rooms, large courts, a chapel, etc.

Some of his friends deserted him; others were of opinion that he ought to be placed under a doctor's care, and it seemed to them most advisable that he should be placed for a short time in an insane retreat. He might compromise the clergy, or at least expose himself to ridicule; then hesitation was no longer possible.

It only remained to bring him to the retreat, and this is the way it was accomplished.

Two ecclesiastics procured a closed carriage, and sought Dom Bosco in his little room, where they found him.

Dom Bosco had no objection to speak to them of his projects, and of the good which he hoped would be realized.

In a few minutes the two ecclesiastics exchanged significant glances, which plainly said, "There is no longer any doubt of it; he is really crazy."

Dom Bosco appeared not to have the least suspicion of their intention, and when they repeated their invitation he finally accepted. The carriage was at the door.

The coachman had his instructions, and safely deposited Dom Bosco's victims where they intended to put him, and whence, after much rage, they were with difficulty rescued.

Twenty-five Per Cent. Stronger than any other Butter Color.

I hereby certify that I have examined the Butter Color prepared by Wells, Richardson & Co., and that the same is free from alkali or any other substance injurious to health; that I have compared it with some of the best of the other Butter Colors in the market and find it to be more than twenty-five per cent. stronger in color than the best of the others.

I am satisfied that it is not liable to become rancid, or in any way to injure the butter. I have examined it after two months' free exposure to the air in a place liable to large changes of temperature, and found no trace of rancidity, while other kinds similarly exposed became rancid.

Neglected colds are the fatal traps that ensnare many a victim beyond possibility of rescue. Take a cold or cough in time and it is easily conquered by that safe and pleasant vegetable remedy, Hagar's Pectoral Balm. Asthma, Bronchitis and pulmonary complaints generally soon yield to its healing influence.

Health is Wealth.

It is worth more than riches, for without it riches cannot be enjoyed. How many people are without health who might regain it by using Kidney-Wort. It acts upon the Liver, Bowels and Kidneys, cleansing and stimulating them to healthy action.

A Double Benefit.

James Moore, a prominent resident of Leamington, writes that he cured himself of Dyspepsia of a year's duration by one bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters, and two bottles cured his wife who had been for years a sufferer from the same disease.

Danger Traps.

Dr. W. Armstrong, Toronto, writes: 'I have been using Northrop & Lyman's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda for Chronic Bronchitis with the best results. I believe it is the best Emulsion in the market. Having tested the different kinds, I unhesitatingly give it the preference when prescribing for my consumptive patients, or for Throat and Lung affections.'