

ON THE VALUE OF THE STUDY OF CANADIAN HISTORY TO  
THE YOUTH OF CANADA—*An Extract from an Educational  
Address of the Hon. T. D. McGee.*

Patriotism will increase in Canada as its history is read. No Province of any ancient or modern power—not even Gaul when it was a Province of Rome,—has had nobler imperial names interwoven with its local events. Under the French kings Canada was the theatre of action for a whole series of men of first-rate reputation,—men eminent for their energy, their fortitude, their courage, and their accomplishments; for all that constitutes and adorns civil and military reputations. Under our English sovereigns—from the days of Wolfe to those of the late lamented Earl of Elgin (to speak only of the dead), our great names are interwoven with some of the best and highest passages in the annals of the Empire. We have not therefore a history simply provincial, interesting only to the Provincials themselves; but a history which forms an inseparable and conspicuous part in the annals of the best ages of the two first Empires in the world, France and England. I must congratulate the fortunate youthhood of these Provinces on the above facts, and hope that they likewise in their turn, years hence when other dignitaries preside, may be enabled to tell their successors how, even within their own time, a great step was taken towards the consolidation and advancement of British America, in the good days when Lord Monck was Governor-General of Canada.