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BY-PATHS IN OUR BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Extracts from a paper read before the Society for Historical Studies, Montreal, on the 27th March, 1889, by Mr. HENRY MOTT.

There is a broad and well-beaten path along which students of Canadian history are accustomed to travel, and only here and there will one be found courageous enough to turn aside to less recognized ways.

The lapse of years has so swelled our list of authors that, to some extent, a selection must be made, but this may safely be asserted that in many so-called "obscure" and "minor" writers there may be much more than at first we are inclined to assume.

I desire to call attention to the profusion of pamphlets and booklets that are scattered broadcast in our path; and amongst the pamphleteers are many whose work is not to be estimated by its quantity nor by comparisons with performances of greater pretensions, but by the circumstances under which they produced them. It is profitable, too, occasionally to study writers whom we feel we can boldly criticize as well as admire.

"A little chink may let in much light."

Much information may be gleaned from our pamphlet