

### Notices of Books and Recent Publications.

**THE METROPOLITAN FOURTH READER.**—*Arranged expressly for the Catholic Schools in Canada.* Montreal; 1866.—8vo, vi-180 pp. D. & J. Sadlier & Co.

When it was officially announced that the Metropolitan series of Readers had been approved by the Council of Public Instruction, on the recommendation of the Roman Catholic members of the Committee on Books, it was also stated "that the Fourth Reader was only approved on the condition that certain specified changes would be made therein." The changes referred to, as will be seen by the new edition recently issued, consisted in substituting lessons on Canadian History for matter better suited to the schools on the other side of the line than to those of Canada. As regards the articles which may be objected to from a Protestant point of view, it was not intended that the book should be forced upon the Protestant children, any more than the teaching of *Goldsmith's Catechism of the History of England*, which has been approved on the recommendation of the Protestant members of the Committee, should be made compulsory in Catholic schools. As we have frequently had occasion to explain, the object which the Council had in view in classifying the books into several categories, was to apprise parents, teachers and local School Boards of the religious tendencies by which each is characterised.

There are several series of Readers intended for Protestant schools which are now under the consideration of the Council. We must also call the attention of our readers to a very excellent book approved on the recommendation of the whole Committee, and which will suit equally well Protestant and Catholic children—we mean Rev. Mr. Borthwick's *British American Reader*.

**BORTHWICK.**—*The Harp of Canada; or Selections from the Poets on Bible Historical Incidents.* Arranged chronologically; By Rev. J. Douglas Borthwick. Worthington, Montreal; 1866.—8vo, 269 pp.

The compiler, Rev. Mr. Borthwick, has collected in a pretty volume, a selection of poetry on Scriptural subjects, which he has arranged in the order of the sacred narrative, from the Creation to the Last Judgment. Interspersed with the British and American poets represented, we find such names as McGee, Reade, and Darnell maintaining the honor of Canada. Mrs. Leprohon, who, for two years past, has been an esteemed contributor to this journal, also occupies a large space.

**MONTREAL GAZETTE ILLUSTRATED SUPPLEMENT.**—4to, 18 pp., triple columns.

The MONTREAL GAZETTE, the oldest newspaper published in Montreal, presents its subscribers with a New Year's Day Gift of which the above is the title. It contains many interesting extracts taken from a work now rather difficult to obtain—we mean *Hochelega Depicta*. Among the curiosities is a plan of the city, borrowed from a work published by Jeffrey in 1760. Views of churches, banks and other edifices recently erected are also given, and point to the flourishing condition now attained by the old town of Hochelega.

**LA REVUE CANADIENNE.**—(Montreal).

The numbers for September, October, November and December, contain the continuation of the tale entitled *Jacques et Marie*, by Mr. Bourassa; *Le Cœur et l'Esprit*, by Mr. Hector Fabre; an article by Rev. Mr. Raymond, G. V., on Church and State; the commencement of an historical essay on the commercial relations between Canada and the United States, by Mr. Gerin; a review of books and a monthly summary of events, by Messrs. Senecal, DeBeilefeuille, and Royal. We are glad to see that this review is ably maintaining the position which it has already earned for itself.

**L'ECHO DU CABINET DE LECTURE PAROISSIAL.**—(Montreal).

We have received the first number for 1866. It is illustrated with woodcuts. This useful periodical presented its subscribers during the year with three portraits on steel, representing Jacques Cartier, la Sœur Bourgeois, and DeSalaberry, the hero of Châteauguay.

**TAYLOR.**—*Portraits of British Americans.* (Montreal).

The fourth and fifth numbers contain biographies and photographs of Sir Richard Graves McDonnell, late Governor of Nova Scotia; Hon. Mr. Howe, the well-known statesman and author, of the same Province; Chief Justice Bowen; Judge Caron, Chairman of the Commission for the Codification of the Laws; Mr. Talbot, one of the founders of the colony of Upper Canada; Dr. Leitch, botanist, and Rector of Queen's College; Hon. Mr. Campbell, ex-Speaker of the Legislative Council; Hon. Mr. Dorion, member of the Legislative Assembly; Col. Irvine, and Mr. Hodges, the engineer who superin-

tended the building of the Victoria Bridge. We learn from the letter-press which accompanies the last mentioned portrait, that Mr. Hodges is working a peat bog on the banks of the river Bécancour, which will no doubt prove of great advantage to the country.

**CALDWELL.**—*The Invasion of Canada in 1775.* Mercury Office, Quebec, December, 1865.—19 pp.

This is a short account of the Siege of Quebec by the army commanded by Arnold and Montgomery, written in the year following that event. According to Mr. LeMoine, who has favored us with a copy of this pamphlet, the author is Major Henry Caldwell, father of the late Sir John Caldwell.

**PETITCLAIR.**—*Une partie de Campagne, comédie en deux actes.* By Mr. Pierre Petitclair. Joseph Savard, Publisher; Quebec, Dec., 1865.—8vo, 61 pp.

Mr. Savard, the friend and relative of the late Mr. Pierre Petitclair, has published this light comedy as a mark of respect to the memory of its author. It has been performed on several occasions with success, and is not without vivacity and wit.

**LE FOYER CANADIEN.**—(Quebec).

The number for December contains an article by Mr. De Gaspé on the Recollet Friars; an episode of the War of 1775 by Mr. Valère Guillet; poetry by Messrs. Benjamin Sulte and James Donnelly. In consequence of the removal of Mr. Desbarat's printing establishment to Ottawa, this periodical will in future be published by Mr. Darveau, Quebec. Some changes in the editorial staff and the form of the work, are also intended; and the subscription will in future be \$2.00 per annum.

**SUZOR.**—*Traité d'Art et d'Histoire Militaires, suivi d'un Traité de Fortifications de Campagne.* Par L. T. Suzor. Desbarats, Publisher; Quebec.—8vo, 472 pp.

Besides the above *Treatise*, Col. Suzor is the author of the following works in the same special branch of literature; viz., *L'Aide-Memoire du Carabinier; Exercices et Manœuvres d'Infanterie; Code Militaire; and Guide Théorique et Pratique des Manœuvres d'Infanterie*, all of which reflect credit, both on the author and the enterprising publishers who have given them to the public. The present treatise is compiled from the works of Vial, Villiaumé, Bannantyne, Blot and others. It is embellished with a portrait of the late Sir Etienne P. Taché, to whom the Colonel had intended to dedicate his labors.

**LESCARBOT.**—*Histoire de la Nouvelle-France, contenant les navigations, découvertes et habitations faites par les Français des Indes Occidentales et Nouvelle France, avec les Muses de la Nouvelle France, par Marc Lescarbot.* New edition, fac-simile of the edition of 1612. Tross, Paris; 1865.—8vo, first vol., 287 pp.; with a map.

It is with pleasure that we are called upon to add the above fac-simile reprint to the similar reproductions of Sagard's works and the Voyages of Jacques-Cartier, noticed in these columns some time ago. Retaining all the peculiar merit of the originals, which are now so scarce, these faithful copies will supply a want long felt. The new edition will contain all the maps which accompanied the first, and will be in three volumes, the last of which was to have been issued at the end of this month.

**BRUNET.**—*La France Littéraire au XVIIe Siècle.*—Frank, Paris; 1865.—8vo, viii-260 pp.—15 francs.

A synoptical catalogue of all the works printed in France, in the French language, before the year 1500.

**CHASLES.**—*Michel de Cervantès, sa vie, son temps, son œuvre politique et littéraire,* par Emile Chasles, professeur de littérature étrangère à la faculté des lettres de Nancy, in-8, 466 p. Paris, Didier, 7 fr. 50 c.

**MAINTENON.**—*Correspondance Générale de Mme de Maintenon, publiée, pour la première fois, sur les autographes et les manuscrits authentiques avec des notes et commentaires,* par Théophile Lavallée, précédée d'une étude sur les lettres de Mme de Maintenon, publiées par La Beaumelle, tomes 1 et 2, in-18, 828 p. Charpentier, Paris. Chaque volume, 3 fr. 50 c.

**BÖCHER.**—*Otto's French Conversation Grammar.* Thoroughly revised by Ferdinand Böcher, Instructor in French at Harvard College. Fourth edition. Urbino, Boston; 1865.—12mo, 396 pp. \$1.75. Dr. Emile Otto's French grammar was first published at Heidelberg