

MARIA MONK.  
AFFIDAVIT  
OF  
Madame D. C. McDONNELL,  
*Matron of The Montreal Magdalen Asylum,  
Ste. Genevieve Street.*

“ Province of Lower Canada, district of Montreal.

“ Before me, Adam L. MacNider, one of His Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for the district of Montreal, appeared Agatha Henrietta Huguet Latour, widow of the late Duncan Cameron McDonnell, who after making an oath on the holy Evangelists, declared that for six years past she had conducted and managed an institution in the city of Montreal, commonly known and distinguished as the Magdalen Asylum ; that about the close of the month of November, 1834, Maria Monk, daughter of Mrs. W. Monk, housekeeper of the Government House in the city of Montreal, entered the Asylum and became an inmate thereof ; and she understood that the said Maria had for many years led the life of a stroller and prostitute, and that she received her into the Asylum with the hope of effecting her reformation ; that in the progress of her acquaintance with the character of the said Maria, she found her to be very uncertain and grossly deceitful ; but that she nevertheless did persevere in her efforts to reclaim her to the paths of virtue and morality.

“ And deponent further declared that having been informed that the said Maria held conversation with a man who had reached the yard of the Asylum by scaling the enclosures, she sent for the said Maria, and severely reprimanded her, pointing out that her conduct in holding such conversation was in direct violation of the rules of the institution, and did moreover indicate a disposition to relapse into her former vicious courses ; that the said Maria was not touched by the remonstrances addressed to her, but became more indecorous in her conduct every day and that finally, deponent was obliged to dismiss her from the Asylum ; that the said Maria before her dismissal did appear discontented with her residence there, but deponent would not consent to her withdrawal, without the consent of the said Mrs. Monk, who was accordingly informed of her daughter’s conduct, and her desire to withdraw from the Asylum. And deponent further declared that she had reason to believe that the man with whom the said Maria communicated during her stay at the Asylum was . . . . . having been informed thus by the said Maria herself.

“ And deponent further declared that she had reason to believe that the said Maria was in a state of pregnancy at the time she entered the Asylum ; and deponent further declared that the said Maria was dismissed from the Asylum at the beginning of the month of March, 1835, and withdrew, as this deponent has been informed, to her mother’s house.

. . . . .  
(Signed,)

“ AGATHA HENRIETTA HUGUET LATOUR,  
“ Widow of D. C. McDONNELL,

“ Sworn before me the 27th day of July, 1836.

(Signed,)

“ ADAM L. MACNIDER, J. P.

P.S.—Maria Monk was born in 1817, at St. Johns, Que., and died insane in Blackwell’s Island Prison, (N.Y.) in 1849.