

## P R E F A C E .

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THE People of the City and District of Montreal cannot all have forgotten me ; yet it may not be generally known that I repaired suddenly, hurriedly, and without leave-taking, to the neighborhood of Quebec to protect my property.\* I arrived in October 1852, hoping that a year or two would suffice to vindicate my right, after which I proposed to have returned to live in Montreal.

This is, however, the twentieth winter, the twentieth year, during which I have devoted myself to the task. It is not, however, yet accomplished, and from present appearances, described *in part* in the episode which follows, will not, cannot be, during my life or that of Chief Justice Duval. Without ascribing motives, I submit the facts; and having played a part which is yet, I hope, remembered, out of the depths of affliction, I appeal to the citizens of Montreal for sympathy and moral support.

A. GUGY.

\* It was by turning the current of a river against it that I was injured. Now it should be noted that the injury was continuous, by night as well as by day, on Sundays and holidays, when, had my adversary employed laborers, some intermission could not have been avoided.