

BANK OF MONTREAL, QUEBEC.

The history of the Quebec Branch of the Bank of Montreal is practically that of the commercial development of the city from 1818—when the branch was established there—up to the present, when renewed progress and the requirements of an increased business have called for the erection of the handsome new bank edifice recently constructed in the heart of the business centre of Lower Town.

It was within a year of the opening of the head office of the Bank in Montreal that the Quebec Branch was opened under the management of Mr. David Sutherland. Through the disastrous financial storms of the following years, the Bank held its own, its assistance enabling many reputable business houses, whose descendants are still amongst the leaders of Canadian trade, to weather the various periods of financial disaster which strewn the paths of the world's commerce with financial wrecks.

Amongst the Bank's customers in the old capital of Canada have always been representatives of the great merchant princes of French as well as of English origin, for French enterprise and brains have as successfully counted upon the Bank's support as the same qualities in others.

During its 90 years of existence the Bank has proved itself upon many occasions to have been one of the most effective agencies in the progress and development of the Dominion at large, as well as of the cities of Montreal and Quebec.

It was in 1890, during the regime of Mr. Clouston as General Manager, that the Bank was appointed as financial agent of the Dominion in Great Britain, having already been the Government bankers in Canada since 1863.

The handsome and imposing new premises of the Quebec Branch of the Bank occupy the historic site of the former Hudson Bay Company post. A hundred years ago, the Company's bateaux loaded supplies at its door, or discharged their valuable cargoes of furs from various points in the far north. Here, too, on the 31st December, 1775, was witnessed the famous repulse of the American invading army under Benedict Arnold.

The present Manager of the Quebec Branch is Mr. F. J. Cockburn, whose appointment dates from 1902, after 24 years of previous service.

THE BANK OF MONTREAL'S NEW BUILDING, QUEBEC.

The new building which the bank have erected at the corner of St. Peter and St. James streets is, architecturally speaking, one of the most inspiring banks in the whole district, and stands as a magnificent tribute to the stability and prestige of the institution itself, as well as proving a striking and handsome addition to Quebec's modern structures.

The building is designed in the Greek Ionic style. The main Banking Room is raised from the sidewalk with steps to give easy access for the public, the chief entrance being in the centre of the new facade on

St. Peter street. On entering the building, the large open space affords unobstructed view of all the clerks. The manager's room occupies the left hand, or west corner, connecting with the stenographers' private room and adjacent to the chief accountant and cash vault. On the right or eastern end is the book vault and clerks' staircase, etc. The building is of the one storey type with the classic attic storey, the latter used as apartments for the bank messenger, etc. The construction is fireproof throughout, the vaults of a specially designed construction being absolutely burglar and fire-proof.

It is no exaggeration to say, as regards the Bank of Montreal that (without engaging in sensational methods of competition or indulging in unprofitable expansion out of keeping with sound and conservative banking), during its eighty-nine years existence in Quebec it has been one of the most effective agencies in the development of that city, and the universal confidence which it enjoys throughout the whole district is well merited.

C. A. PARADIS.

Mr. C. A. Paradis, wholesale flour grain and provision merchant, No. 81 Dalhousie street, Quebec, was born in 1875 and received his education in Quebec. Beginning business in 1897 under the name of Potras & Paradis the firm had considerable success, but since 1904 Mr. Paradis has conducted business alone as a commission merchant and wholesale dealer in flour, grain, seeds, provisions and general produce.

Mr. Paradis has established a very paying business as a buyer and seller of all qualities of flour from Ontario and the great West millers, and whatever relates to the Canadian grain and cereal trade. Another branch of his extensive business is devoted to groceries; pork in barrels; pure and compound lard; salt, fish, &c.

Mr. Paradis married Miss Elia Ruel of St. Joseph, Levis, and is prominent in commercial circles as one of the younger and progressive business men of Quebec. As a member of the Board of Trade he takes a keen delight in promoting whatever tends to the welfare of his native Province and the good of the city of Quebec as a commercial power.

LECLERC & LETELLIER.

Messrs. Leclerc & Letellier, wholesale grocers and provision merchants, have their business premises and warehouse at Nos. 104-106 St. Paul street, and the firm is known as one of the very successful, and continues to expand.

Mr. Alphonse Letellier who is the controlling power of the business, is a member of the Board of Trade and active in all that relates to the commercial development of Quebec.

Considering that he assumed the duties of the business within a comparatively short period of time, Mr. Letellier has been successful in making it one of the substantial commercial houses of Quebec.

J. M. MCCARTHY.

Mr. J. M. McCarthy, the president of the Frontenac Gas Company of Quebec, was born in Sorel, and is the descendant of one of the old pioneers and wealthiest residents of that section of the Province.

In the field of Civil Engineering, Mr. McCarthy is a recognized leader and authority, and dates his progress in the science from his graduating days when he left McGill University in 1887 and put into practical effect the substantial training received within the walls of his Alma Mater.

Mr. McCarthy has practiced his profession during many years and built many bridges, prominent among which is the Hawkesbury Bridge over the Ottawa river and the Sorel bridge over the Richelieu.

Of the many important offices filled by him we name the following:—

Elected president and general manager of the Jacques Cartier Electric Company in 1907;

Elected president Frontenac Gas Company at organization in the Spring of 1907;

Vice-President of the American Light and Traction Co., head office, 40 Wall Street, New York.

President of St. Croix Water Power Company of St. Paul, Minn.

From the foregoing it will be seen that Mr. McCarthy is a gentleman of wide experience, and one who has been entrusted with important duties. In his present sphere of action he is exercising his best abilities, not only as a citizen of Quebec and a member of its Board of Trade, but as one who foresees the reality of great commercial expansion within a short period of time.

JOHN E. WALSH.

Mr. John E. Walsh, 11 St. John street, Quebec, received his education at the Commercial Academy in this city, but in his younger days went to the Western States. Returning to Quebec in 1878, he opened up what is now admitted to be the largest book and stationery business in the Ancient Capital, the various departments being divided into general lines such as printing, engraving, embossing, book-binding, fancy goods and fancy stationery.

The splendid premises occupied by him are situated on the finest part of St. John street, and are very spacious both in height and depth. This fine building is the property of Mr. Walsh, and his splendidly stocked store is at all times the mecca of tourists and the better class of Quebec's citizens.

Mr. Walsh is a member of the Board of Trade; was for many years president of St. Patrick's Literary Institute and is an ex-member of the city council for Montcalm Ward.

As one who has travelled extensively in Europe and seen the wonders of its chief cities, Mr. Walsh is always an entertaining and interesting conversationalist, a man of much courtesy, who, by his will power and urbanity, has won his way well in his chosen sphere of industry.