

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters should be brief, and written on one side of the paper only. Those intended for insertion should be addressed to the Editor, 162 St. James Street, Montreal; those on matters of business to the Manager, at the same address.

"EUSEBIUS" AND THE NEW CHURCH.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR.

SIR,—Referring to a letter in your correspondence columns, signed "E. Gould," I regret if what I have written has seemed too severe. Of the sect, called Swedenborgian, as a *sect*, I do not think my criticism has been too stringent. It is doubtful if criticism of *any* sect, as such, can be too trenchant. That there are exceptions in all sects—men in whose lives the Lord's New Church is exemplified in action—is precisely the view I had laboured to show forth. It is in these, wherever found, in the so called New Church sect, or others who would scorn the title yet who "live the life," that the universal New Church now descending into the natural plane, or physical life, can be found and realized as a fact—not in forms of church worship, ecclesiasticism or ordinances of men's devising. These are but the outward manifestation of one form of the life within, and are not to be mistaken as conserving or constituting so *real* a thing as an actual living New Church which shall yet mould and re-form every phase of every-day life.

If there be any thing in such views to hurt or offend those who are students of Swedenborg's writings, I have failed to discover it. But those who read the publications of the sect, ably conducted as they are, can hardly fail to find frequently traces of a dictatorial ecclesiasticism and formalism clearly perceptible, and much to be deplored. Such, at least, is my opinion against this spirit, which is *not* that of the New Church, I write. If there be no truth in my accusation, it will quickly disprove itself.

Eusebius.

PRIZE QUESTIONS IN CANADIAN HISTORY.

[We now commence the replies to the Historical Questions. There are still some queries to be disposed of with reference to the replies to two or three of the questions, and we shall announce the successful competitors at the earliest moment possible.—ED.]

1. Who discovered America?

Ans.—By common consent the honour is accorded to Christopher Columbus. This, however, is scarcely correct, for he on his first voyage (1492) only landed at some of the islands lying off the coast, and it was on his third voyage, in 1498, that he actually landed on the mainland. Between these voyages, however, John and Sebastian Cabot had discovered the land. We have traditions that the continent was known to the Icelanders as early as the years A. D. 985–1000.

It must be admitted that navigators and fishermen had visited Greenland and other parts of North America, and that even long antecedent to these events the country was visited by strangers. In Mexico and Central America relics have been found which point to the Greeks and Egyptians as having been in the country, and in Canada also articles have been discovered which lead us to think that the Phœnicians had visited it. But all these visits had no effect in making the New World known earlier than the voyages of either the Cabots or Columbus.

2. Who discovered Canada?

Ans.—Jacques Cartier, of St. Malo, France, who led expeditions in 1534 and 1535 to the coast of Labrador, Gaspé, &c.; and up the River St. Lawrence in the last-named year.

Although Cartier's name is popularly associated with the discovery of the River St. Lawrence, it can scarcely be questioned that the Gulf was entered by Gaspard Cortereal in 1500, and the Cabots a little earlier (1497–99) may have visited Canada. There are traces which point to earlier discoveries even than these.

The first exploration of Upper Canada was under Champlain, in 1615.

3. Who is the first person on record who sailed up the St. Lawrence, and from what did the river derive its name?

Ans.—Jacques Cartier. He gave the name of St. Laurent from his having entered the Gulf on the 10th of August, 1535, the fête day of that Saint.

4. Under the reign of what French King was Canada first settled?

Ans.—The first settlement in Canada was attempted in the reign of Francis I., but a permanent settlement was not effected until the reign of Henry IV., who was King of France from A. D. 1589 to 1610.

5. What denomination of Christians first attempted to colonise Canada?

Ans.—In 1562 Ribault attempted to plant a Huguenot colony at Port Royal, N.S. In 1604 DeMonts (a Huguenot) tried to settle in Acadia. Champlain and Pontgravé (Roman Catholics) effected a permanent settlement in 1608; the colonists who accompanied them were a mixed company of Calvinists, or Huguenots, and Roman Catholics. Four members of the Franciscan Order, called *Recollets*, were the first who came out to teach the doctrines of Christianity in Canada; and as they also endeavoured to instruct the natives in clearing and cultivating the land, they may be styled the first Christians who attempted to colonise Canada. These Recollet Fathers were brought out by Champlain in 1615; their names were Jamay, D'Oliveau, Le Caron and Du Plessis. The first mass celebrated was performed by Pères Jamay and Le Caron at Rivière des Prairies in June 1615, and by Pères D'Oliveau and Du Plessis at Quebec.

6. What Europeans first wintered in Canada?

Ans.—Jacques Cartier and the crews of his three vessels wintered at the mouth of the River St. Charles (called by Cartier Rivière Ste. Croix) near an Indian village, Stadacona

(Quebec) in the winter of 1535–36. "Having reached Hochelaga and finding it impossible to ascend further on account of the rapids, they returned to Cap Rouge, where they spent the winter, suffering greatly from lack of food and from the severity of the climate."

7. Who first settled in Canada?

Ans.—A little settlement was formed by Cartier, called Charlesbourg Royal, in 1541, and abandoned. Roberval left some thirty persons at the same place, about whom history is almost silent. Another unsuccessful attempt at settlement was that of Roberval's landing a number of convicts on Sable Island. Next in order was the settlement of Acadia under De Monts in 1604, and the settlement by colonists brought out by Champlain and Pontgravé in 1608. The merchants of St. Malo and Rouen had established a fur trade with Tadousac as early as 1599–1602; but Champlain's arrival at Quebec, July 3rd 1608, is regarded as the first *permanent settlement* in Canada.

The first permanent settler whose name is recorded was Louis Hebert, who came out in 1617 with his family, consisting of his wife and three children, to settle on Canadian soil. The importance ascribed to his advent by Champlain himself, and the fact that Hebert and his family succeeded in deriving their subsistence almost wholly from agriculture, justify us in considering him as the first actual settler or immigrant. The first concession was made in his favour by Marechal de Montmorenci, in 1623.

[NOTE.—In accepting Louis Hebert as the representative of the first actual settlement of Canada, almost every one of the competitors have contradicted their answer to Question No. 4, Hebert having come to Canada in the early part of the reign of Louis XIII.]

8. Who was the first Governor of Canada?

Ans.—Roberval the first nominal Governor; Champlain the first actual Governor.

Jean François de La Rocque, Sieur de Roberval, in a commission dated January 15th 1540, was named Viceroy and Lieutenant-Governor over Newfoundland, Labrador and Canada; but his attempt to colonise the new country was unsuccessful, and after having endured great hardships he returned to France.

Samuel de Champlain, founded Quebec in 1608, and from that time was chief-agent of the company authorized by charter to carry on the fur trade in Canada. In 1720–21 royal letters signed by Louis XIII. confirmed his appointment as Lieutenant of the Viceroy (the Duc de Montmorenci) of New France, which title, although not expressly acknowledged by the King, he had held since 1612, from which year his position as the first Governor of Canada is usually assumed to date.

9. Who was the first person who discovered the river called the Great River, Fine River or Mississippi?

Ans.—(1) Ferdinand de Soto, a Spaniard, crossed the river at its southern extremity, 1539–41, and died there, but his discovery led to no result. An engraving of his arrival on the banks of the river may be seen on one of the American greenbacks. (2) From a passage in "Relations des Jésuits" for 1640, Parkman in his "Jésuits in North America," p. 166, writes: "As early as 1639 Nicolet ascended Green Bay of Michigan, and crossed the waters of the Mississippi"; and from records in the Library of the State of Wisconsin at Madison, there is good reason for awarding this honour to Nicolet. (3) Louis Joliet, a trader, accompanied by Père Marquette, starting from Canada, discovered and explored the Mississippi in 1673. (4) In 1678–80, La Salle explored the river from its source to its mouth. Another authority says that its real source was not discovered until 1833, when Henry R. Schoolcraft traced it to Lake Itaska.

10. What is the origin of the name Bay of Fundy?

Ans.—It is a corruption of the French "*Fond de la Baie*," by which a part of "La Baie Française" was formerly known. (See Genest's Map.) It was so called, as the name would signify, from the fact that the tide, when at full ebb, leaves a large tract of sand in the bottom of the bay exposed; over these flats the flood tide sweeps at a rapid pace.

11. Name the first of the series of victories which led to the Conquest of Canada by the British, and who commanded?

Ans.—The first collision between the French and English troops in the struggle for the supremacy on this continent was the battle at Great Meadows, in Pennsylvania, fought May 28th, 1754, at which the British troops were commanded by George Washington, and the French by Jumonville.

The first decisive victory gained by the British was the capture of Louisburg, Cape Breton, on June 26th, 1758. The land forces were commanded by General Jeffery Amherst, having under him, as Brigadier-General, James Wolfe; the fleet was commanded by Boscawen, and the French garrison by M. de Drucor.

12. Name the two most heroic acts in Canadian History.

Ans.—This question is debatable, as the *most* heroic acts may be a matter of opinion; but those acknowledged by common consent will probably be: (1) The fight of the French under Dollard des Ormeaux (sometimes called Daulac) against the Iroquois in 1660. (The account may be found in "Relations des Jésuits" for 1660; Ferland, book iii., chap. 12; also in Garneau's History of Canada, and in Lemoine's "Maple Leaves," 1873, under the heading "The Canadian Leonidas.") (2) The bravery of Mdlle. Marie de Verchères in 1690 and 1692, from which she has been called "The Heroine of Verchères." (See De La Potherie, vol. iii., p. 152.)

13. What is the origin of the name Labrador?

Ans.—It is said that the Spaniards called it "Tierra Labrador," being less barren than Greenland. It is also alleged that Cortereal, a Portuguese, in 1501, gave it the name "Terra de Laborador," because of the fertility of the southern coast, and on account of the admirable qualities of the natives as labourers. In a map published in 1508 it is called "Terra Corterealis." The name is also said to have been derived from "Le bras d'or," the arm of gold. In a paper entitled "Notes on Labrador," read before the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec in 1841, it was claimed that the origin of the name was as follows: "About the middle of the fifteenth century, and therefore prior to Jacques Cartier's discovery, a Basque whaler, named Labrador, belonging to the Kingdom of Navarre, penetrated through the Straits of Belleisle as far as a bay and harbour situated a few miles beyond where Blanc Sablon is marked on the old maps, which bay and harbour took from him the name of Labrador, and eventually the whole coast. This view is said to be supported by the universal tradition of the coast." (Transactions of the Lit. and Hist. Society of Quebec, 1843; art. v., p. 7.)