

One of his sons, Jacques, possessed himself (1683) of the lordship which still bears his name: the Bay Du Fevre, Lefebvre, Le Fevre et Lefebvre are all variations of the same name. Rene Robineau de Becancour, a son of an army paymaster and a member of the Hundred Associates, was in the country not long after 1615, at any rate. The manor of Becancour was granted him in 1647. He married Mademoiselle Le Neuf de la Poterie who brought him the fief of Portneuf, where he made his residence. Towards 1682 this fief was erected into a barony. Up to the conquest (1760) the head of the Robineaus bore the title of Baron de Portneuf. Rene established himself first at Portneuf, then at Becancour. Four or five of Rene's sons commanded in Acadia, and they and their descendants have furnished Canada with half a score of officers.

Pierre Le Gardeur de Repentigny arrived in 1636 and was one of those who engaged actively in commerce, making common cause with the colonists. He was a descendant of Jean Le Gardeur de Croisilles, ennobled in 1510. His manors Cournoyer and Repentigny, granted in 1647, passed after his death, in 1648, to his family who colonized them. The Les Gardeurs gave splendid officers to the colony up to the time of the conquest.

A piece of land of a league's breadth fronting on the river, and of five leagues in depth, commonly known as the Precinct of Three Rivers, was given in 1649 to Michel Le Neuf du Herrisson, the elder brother of Jacques Le Neuf de la Poterie, and later passed to the Godefroys who allowed it to be settled by squatters whose titles were recognized about 1720. It is said that this manor was created apart from the management of the lord and thus constitutes an exception in our narration. The manor Dufort, on the south of the river appears to have been granted in 1649 to Le Neuf du Herisson who left it to his nephew Michel Godefroy.

Madame Anne Gagnier, the widow of Jean Clement du Vault, Knight, lord of Monceaux and commander of a regiment of light horse, lived at Quebec (1649) at the time that the company of the Hundred Associates granted him the manor which took the name of Monceaux and later that of Jacques Cartier, on the river of that name. The same year his daughter married Denis Joseph Ruelle d'Auteuil, who had been Master of the Household to the King, and who lived in the colony and for many years took an active part in its administration as a councillor and in other offices. Madame de Monceaux married, in 1665, the engineer Jean Bourdon, one of the ablest men of his time in this country.

Jean Bourdon was granted Sainte Jean de Neuville in 1653. This was one of those beautiful parishes of the first epoch of the setting out of manors.

The Lauson family held land in every part of the country. They only colonized one; that of Lauson on the shore, opposite to Quebec; and a little fief—Lirec—on the Isle of Orleans. The remainder was sold about 1690 for a few francs.

The Lauson family was at that time deceased, or had gone back to France.

For purposes of fishery or trade more than for that of colonization Dr. Robert Giffard obtained, in 1653, the manor of Milles-Yaches, near the Saguenay. Giffard had just

previously extended the limits of Beauport, and now found himself at the head of the finest parish in Lower Canada.

The first deed of the estate of Longueuil dates 1657, in favor of Charles Le Moyne who had then been in the colony sixteen years. His own long service, and the military exploits of his sons, have made the name of Le Moyne a splendid one in our history. It is only necessary to name d'Iberville, Maricour, Sainte Helene, Chateauguay, Bienville to recall to the reader's mind a thousand memories of glory and triumph.

S. A. C.

SWEDISH YOUTH'S SONG.

[From the Swedish of Wallin.]

Sword-belts we buckle and armor on gird we,
And gaily as lovers to battle we go;
Spirits of heroes—the voice but now heard
ye!

Marshal us onward with our face to the foe.

Join we in hand-grasp as hasten we hither,
Like cloud-tearing winds at the Thund'rer's
behest;

Live here the spirit that never shall wither—
The soul of the hero in young Northman's
breast!

Lightnings that flashed from the swords that
were wielded

By hands of our fathers in lands strange and
far,

Flames that through ages our country have
shielded,

Dart ever from Gothic sword brandish'd in
war.

Fall we!—then gladly; yet never shall fail
thee

Heroes to answer our country's commands;
Motherland, Sweden, our Svea, we hail thee!

O trust to our love what thine honor de-
mands!

The blue-and-white banner O trust to our
keeping,

Thy freedom and laws under Oscar, our
king!

Ours be to guard thee with eye never sleeping,
Our life and our death Sweden's praises
shall ring.

DAVID SOLOAN.

New Glasgow, N.S.

DE MILLE'S "BEHIND THE VEIL."

An important work has just been issued by Messrs T. C. Allen & Co., of Halifax. It is a poem of about six hundred lines, the manuscript of which was found among the papers of the late Professor de Mille, of Dalhousie College.

The name of de Mille is all too little known among Canadians. The recent growth of interest in Canadian literature has called forth many articles on our native writers; but in these articles de Mille's name seldom appears. Yet both the quality and the bulk of James de Mille's work entitle him, I think, to be ranked as one of the most distinguished of Canadian writers. A year or two ago, before the sudden and brilliant advent of Mr. Gilbert Parker, the careful critic would have been compelled to acknowledge de Mille as the chief prose romancer of English-speaking Canada.

James de Mille was born in Carleton, New Brunswick, on the 23rd August, 1833. His parents were of United Empire Loyalist stock. After a course at Acadia College, Wolfville, he travelled in Europe for several years in company with his brother. On his return he went to Brown University, where he graduated in 1854. Returning

to St. John he went into business, but soon found that commercial life was not congenial to him. He was appointed Professor of Classics at Acadia College; and after holding this position about three years he was called to the Chair of Rhetoric, History and English at Dalhousie College. In the midst of his usefulness at Dalhousie, and in the ripest vigor of his power, he was stricken with pneumonia, and died on the twenty-eighth day of January, 1880.

De Mille was a man of varied and incessant activity. Besides the voluminous and fascinating series of boys' books known as the "B.O.W.C.," he wrote "The American Baron," "Cord and Crease," "The Cryptogram," "The Lady of the Ice," "The Dodge Club," "A strange Manuscript found in a Copper Cylinder,"—all stirring and ingenious tales; and out of his work in the lecture-room grew a serviceable textbook, "The Elements of Rhetoric." He wrote with speed, too often with a degree of haste which leaves its traces on his style, but with abounding impulse and out of a fertile fancy. And the salt of humour was not lacking to preserve his creations from decay. As a writer of verse, however, he was not known to the reading world until Professor Macmechan, who is making such generous efforts to win him a wider recognition, secured the publication of "Behind the Veil."

The poem is a philosophic vision cast in lyric form. In its cadences it seems to owe something to Poe's "Raven." It is written in stanzas of five lines each, which are occasionally expanded, unadvisedly I cannot but think, into six lines. The structure of the stanza is novel and interesting, as the following quotation will show. It is fairly representative of the music and movement of the whole poem.

On that lonely habitation,
On that night of all the years,
Waiting for my revelation,
I had prayed and I had wrestled with a thou-
sand doubts and fears.
With a longing without voice, and with a
sorrow more than tears.

The object of this brief note is not to claim for de Mille in any large degree the special distinction of a poet, but to urge him upon the attention of Canadian readers as one of our most eminent men-of-letters. "Behind the Veil" is interesting in design, elevated in conception, and measurably skilful in execution; but its importance seems to me not wholly intrinsic. It is important as showing an additional and attractive direction in which de Mille's activity found vent. Its emotion should perhaps be regarded as rhetorical rather than essentially poetical; and for all its wealth of fancy and its frequent brilliancy of expression, it impresses me as being less the native utterance of a poet than the *tour de force* of a gifted and well-equipped prose-writer.

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Experience is the name men give to their
foibles or their sorrows.—Alfred de Musset.

One man should conquer the world, not to
enthrone a man, but an idea; for ideas exist
forever.—Beaconsfield.

Rogues are always found out in some way.
Whoever is a wolf will act like a wolf, that is
most certain.—La Fontaine.

The most plain, short and lawful way to
any good end is more eligible than one directly
contrary in some or all of these qualities.—
Swift.