

the list of subscribers. On the 24th of September the *Gazette* consisted of a single page containing simply a letter in French from Fleury Mesplet addressed, "A Messieurs les Souscripteurs," which shows that the paper came near ceasing to be published. It states that, "You will be surprised at not receiving your *Gazette* this week, but I hope you will bear me no ill will, because it is not the result of my negligence. I owe it to myself as well as the public to be on time, and I believe that up till the present not one of you gentlemen can reproach me. A derangement in my affairs (the cause of which, I believe, you all know) has stopped my work and rendered it impossible to supply to-day what I have engaged to do. I flatter myself that next week I will be in a position to give such full satisfaction as lies within my power and to continue with the same zeal to give you proofs of my assiduity." This derangement, no doubt, arose out of the seizure of Mesplet's effects by Desautels.

In 1786 no extant publication appeared; but in 1787 there are three: A funeral sermon preached by the Rev. D. C. Delisle on the death of Joseph Frobisher,¹ who had acted two years before in settling the award between Berger and Mesplet. There was a medical work on how to combat a plague that had broken out at Baie St. Paul,² and his first English book—"The Manual Exercise,"³ which was printed on the order or approval of the military authorities. This shows that Mesplet had now secured the good will of the government.

1788 is again another year in which there are no extant imprints; but a lease was signed with J. B. Tabeau for a house on Notre Dame Street.⁴ The location of this house is given in one document as No. 44, and on the "Juge à Paix," as near as the Recollet fathers fix it about the corner of St. Helen Street. As there is no evidence that he moved before this time we conclude that the printing office of Mesplet continued at the first location in Capital Street from May 18th, 1776, until May 1st, 1788, a space of twelve years.

The only publication dated 1789 was "Le Juge à Paix,"⁵ a thick book, issued in parts, the first of which appeared in March. This book, which is comparatively common, is a translation of an English work by Richard Burn, and the parts were known as "Traduction de Burn's Justice." In the *Gazette* of that year there are advertised "Le Calendrier de Montréal pour l'année 1789," and "Tableau des rues et faubourgs de Montréal."

¹ See appendix A No. 30.

² See appendix A No. 31.

³ See appendix A No. 32.

⁴ See appendix F No. 62.

⁵ See appendix A No. 33.