The French-Canadians possess such a large stock of songs—partly of their own creation and partly borrowed from France—that it is hardly possible for any group or nation of the same number to show such a long list belonging to that class of literary productions. Of all of them, Le Canadien Errant is without a rival in its claim to popularity.



Our portrait was taken by Notman January 29th, 1867, when Lanigan was hardly over twenty-one years-old. Born 10th December, 1846, he died 5th February, 1886. His physical appearance, his face especially, are very true in the Notman photograph of 1867.

I was acquainted with his family and saw the boy from the cradle to the tomb. The first strokes of his pen brought the attention of many people upon him. He was then eighteen years old. From this moment he surveyed the horizon and calculated that Canada, literary speaking, was a too small country for the exercise of his ability.

He wrote for the New York papers—Wilke's Spirit, Porter's Spirit of the Time, The Western Journal, The Albion with marked success, and derived a fine income from his lines. His wouderful adaptability to all subjects caused a number of readers to believe that he was a man of long experience who had kept the fire of his younger days and wished to express his views with regard to current literature, for he had a way to combine old as well as recent material of thoughts so that nobody could tell where he found the whole of his observation... and he is now forgotten...

BENJAMIN SULTE.