

A wealthy seigneur under the old feudal system, holding the fiefs of Vitry, Mont-à-peine and Vincennes, he was at different times appointed mayor of Beaumont, and warden of the county of Bellechasse. In 1851, yielding to the solicitations of his friends, he sought the suffrages of the electors of Bellechasse, for a seat in the Legislative Assembly. He was beaten however, by a small majority, by Mr. Chabot, who subsequently became Minister of Public Works; but Mr. Faucher's address to the electors showed that he possessed true statesmanlike qualifications, advocating as he did a project of law to unite Halifax and Quebec by rail, as also a more lively interest than then taken in agricultural progress. To-day a minister of agriculture sits in the council of the nation and of this province, and it is to the honor of the deceased patriot that he was the first man to recommend such an important reform.

In 1852, fickle fortune who had hitherto smiled upon Mr. Faucher, began to frown upon her whilom favorite. A succession of misfortunes, such as the burning of the manorial house of Beaumont, the rising of the river waters which in one night carried off three mills, and the failure of business men in whom he had reposed confidence, undermined the basis of his success, and in consequence, he was obliged to accept a position in the public service. On the 5th of October, 1857, the magistracy of Quebec elected him high constable of Quebec, which charge he filled until forced by sickness to retire; and, as we have before stated, on the 22nd January, 1880, he resigned his soul into the hands of God.

The deceased gentleman was married in 1844, to Mademoiselle C. H. Mercier, daughter of the late Dr. Mercier, member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London. From this union eleven children were born, of whom but four sons remain.

In the Basilica of Quebec, two days after death his obsequies were chanted, and from that ancient shrine of French-Canadian piety, his mortal remains were removed to the cemetery of Belmont. There amongst thousands of those whose fathers, like unto his, adventured from old France, and by patriotism, devotion, industry and faith planted the cross and civilization upon our shores, he sleeps the sleep which knows no waking; there he awaits the angel's call to the grand, the final resurrection.

LOUIS H. FRECHETTE,

MONTREAL.

LOUIS HONORE FRECHETTE, the poet, is descended from one of the oldest families in the Province of Quebec, the progenitor of the family in this country being from the island of Rhé, France, and an officer under the government of Lower Canada. His immediate ascendants were agriculturists. Louis Fréchet, the father of the poet, was a wharf and bridge builder, and a contractor of public works, and who is still living at Hochelaga. His mother was Marguerite Martineau de l'Ormière, whose father was a captain in the war of 1812-14.