

## ABBE DOLLIER DE CASSION.

## BISHOP HEALY'S CORRECTIONS.

He was an Educated Polished French Gentleman.

When Mr. W. W. Ogilvie purchased Somerville farm at Lachine, he came into possession of a deed that would make an antiquarian's eyes glisten with delight. It is written in the quaint, crabbed hand of the seventeenth century, in a curious old French that puzzles many of our archaeologists. The parchment is deep yellow with age and the ink is faint and indistinct, for it is 210 years old.

It was on the 4th of July, 1682, thirty years after the landing of Maisonneuve, and nearly a century before the formation of the United States made that day a famous one, that Francois Dollard de Casson, Pretre Supérieur of St. Sulpice, acting as Procureur for M. de Croussay, also of the Seminary, who were then seigneurs, and proprietors of the Island of Montreal appeared before Claude Mangue, Sheriff of the Island, to deed eighty arpents of land, of what we know as Lachine, but which it is curious to note, was then known as Sault St. Louis. Francois Dollard de Casson was not an educated man, though he was a priest high in authority. In fact he frankly made oath that he could not read or write, but then, neither could any of the witnesses. He signed his name, Claude Mangue, in a clear, bold hand and even put singular little flourishes after it.—*Sunday Times*.

To the Editor of the Argus.

Dear Sir—My attention was called to this paragraph republished in our papers from the Montreal Gazette, and upon it allow me to offer a few remarks. There are mistakes about the names, but the libel on the priest, the Abbe Francois Dollier de Cassion is too gross to pass uncorrected. I could have answered the writer, who accuses him of being unable to read and write, that he was a priest—if that was not enough, that he was a priest of the best days of Louis XIV., that he was a member of a society founded for the education of the clergy, most probably a doctor of the famous Sorbonne Faculty of Theology in Paris that he was the representative of the Abbe Tronson (not de Croussay) who was a friend of Bossuet and Fenelon and the arbiter of the oral discussion of quietism; that he was universally respected in Canada and his memory is in benediction in Montreal to this day. Moreover he was the author of the first history of Canada.

All this I could have said as being perfectly well known to me, and to all who know anything of the early history of Montreal. But what would that be in reply to a writer, presumably a respectable man, who says "I have seen and read his declaration that he could not read or write?" Having business in Montreal about the first of October I resolved to see the document in question. I did see it. It was shown to me by Mr. W. W. Ogilvie, a wealthy cultivated and courteous merchant of Montreal. He laughed heartily over the matter, declaring it too ridiculous to deserve a denial in Montreal, adding that the writer had not been able to decipher the manuscript; moreover, that he himself had told the writer that his assertion as to Abbe Francois Dollier de Cassion was ridiculous and untrue, and now for the facts:

1—It is not the original deed, but a notary's certificate of the deed. In Canada, according to the old French law, still in vigor, the notary keeps the original; his certificate is good in law.

2—Neither Abbe Tronson, who was never in Canada, nor Dollier de Cassion appeared in the matter, by presence or signature.

3—Claude Mangue was not the sheriff, but simply the notary. No wonder he could write.

4—The witness to the original deed who could not read or write was the "commissionnaire" or land agent of the Sulpicians, who then owned by purchase the whole Island of Montreal.

Such are the facts as evident to my eyes and corroborated by Mr. W. W. Ogilvie, the owner of the deed. After all, this ridiculous story is not more ridiculous than the old, old story of the priest, who had never seen the Bible. A priest whose studies and daily prayers are almost entirely taken from the Bible, and who in these prayers of strict obli-

gation is compelled to read the principal parts of every book in the Bible in the course of each year. Both stories are left to the common sense of the public by

Yours respectfully,  
JAMES AUG. HEALY,  
Bp. of Portland.  
—Portland, Me., Daily Eastern Argus.

## "Arcadia."

The number for Nov. 1 is of the usual order, which is equivalent to saying that it will be read with interest and pleasure. A short article on the fixed and the movable Do opens the musical department of the magazine, and is followed by a brief notice of the Musical Instrument Exhibition at Vienna, and entertaining letters from London, New York, Boston and Toronto, that from New York being chiefly devoted to the debut of Antonin Dvorak, the eminent composer, who has lately assumed the direction of the National Conservatory of Music in that city. Music at Home also receives its full share of attention. The Art department is replete with interesting matter, including one of Mr. Hale's breezy epistles, and in Literature appears the beginning of an article on Wordsworth. A French story, translated by Mr. George Murray, is quite realistic enough to suit the most radical modern palate, and entertaining reviews of the first volume of Dr. A.H.K. Boyd's recent book, "Twenty-five years of St. Andrews" and Dr. Kingsford's "Bibliography," with a short article on Renan, will all be welcome reading to the lovers of the more serious side of the magazine. The number contains, among other poems, a sonnet, "Columbus," by Barry Dane, a ballad by Miss Helen Fairbairn, and in the Art division a longer one by Mr. George Murray entitled, "The Empty Saddle."

## DOUBLY COMMENDED.

Sirs,—I had a very bad cold and was cured by two bottles of Haggard's Pectoral Balsam. I cannot do without it. E. S. W. C. H. Ferry, Sea Gull, Ont.

Dear Sirs,—I can highly recommend Haggard's Pectoral Balsam as the best remedy for coughs and colds I have ever used. Miss F. Stephenson, Oakland, Ont.

"I think," said the man who saw the distortions of his ready-made clothes reflected in a mirror, "that this would unquestionably be a suit for libel."—*Washington Star*.

## INDIGESTION CURED.

Gentlemen,—I was thoroughly cured of indigestion by using only three bottles of B. B. B., and truthfully recommend it to all suffering from the same malady. Mrs. Davidson, Winnipeg, Man.

The man who first said that talk was cheap never paid \$2 for attempting to talk over the telephone line from London to Paris for the space of three minutes.—*Utica Observer*.

## RACKED WITH RHEUMATISM.

"Dear Sirs,—For ten years I suffered with rheumatism in spring and fall. I have been confined to bed for months at a time, but since using B. B. B. I have not suffered from it at all. I also suffered from the dyspepsia, which has not troubled me since using the B. B. B., and I therefore think it a splendid medicine. Mrs. Amelia Brennan, Hayesland, Ont.

Judas was not the last man who professed sympathy for the poor to hide his own meanness.

Robert W. Latham, Lapanza, Cal. U. S. A., says: "I consider Diamond Vera-Cura the best medicine ever invented for indigestion. It puts the digestive organs in order, heals the stomach, regulates the bowels, strengthens the nervous system." At druggist or sent on receipt of price, 25 cents. Address E. A. Wilson, Toronto.

The Notre Dame Club, a society in New York composed of young Catholic women who have organized themselves for mutual benefit and improvement, is proving very successful. There are 500 names on the roll of membership.

## ALWAYS TRUE.



**RHEUMATISM.**—Col. DAVID WYLIE, Brockville, Ont., says: "I suffered intensely with rheumatism in my ankles. Could not stand; rubbed them with

**ST. JACOBS OIL.**

In the morning I walked without pain."

**NEURALGIA.**—Mr. JAMES BONNER, 158 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont., writes: "St. Jacobs Oil is the only remedy that relieved me of neuralgia, and it effectually cured me."

## IT IS THE BEST.

## AN ANGLO-CANADIAN MIRACLE

## AN INTERESTING LETTER FROM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

Mr. James Ingram Relates the Story of His Sufferings and Release—Restored After the Best Doctors had Failed.

The fame of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is not confined to Canada and the United States, but extends also across the Ocean, and from the mother land comes a letter from one who learned the value of this great remedy while in Canada and who now, although thousands of miles away gratefully acknowledges what Pink Pills have done for him after medical aid and all other remedies had failed. His letter cannot fail to bring hope to other sufferers as it assures them that in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills they may look for a cure even in cases pronounced by the most eminent medical specialists as incurable.

Rhiorderen Momouthshire, Eng.

Nov 20th, 1891.

To the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Canada.

Gentlemen,—It may surprise you to received this letter from across the Ocean, but I would not be doing my duty did I not write to thank you for the noble medicine called Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and to let you know what they had done for me after four years suffering, and when all other medical aid had failed. My trouble occurred while in Canada, and I was treated by several doctors and in the Montreal General Hospital by Drs. Smith, Molson and Macdonnell. I first felt the effects of the disease, which the doctors pronounced diabetes, in January, 1886. I used many remedies and tried numerous doctors, with the only result that I grew poorer in both health and pocket. At last in despair I went to the General Hospital for treatment, but the result was no better, and on the 30th of April, 1891, I left that institution a poor broken-hearted, down-cast man, Dr. Macdonnell having informed me that they had done all they could for me. I continued to live on in misery until about the middle of August, when I saw in the Montreal Star an article telling the story of a man who, after spending hundreds of dollars, had tried Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and found a cure. Drowning men, they say, will catch at a straw, and it would be impossible for me to express the gratitude I feel for the hope that man's story gave me. I at once bought a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills from Mr. R. Birks, druggist, on McGill street. Before I had finished it I felt that Pink Pills were helping me, and I procured four more boxes. These almost restored me to health, and through the kindness of Mr. O'Brien of the harbor works, I was given a light job on the harbor wharf, and was again able to earn my living. I made up my mind, however, to return to the land of my birth, and on the 5th of November, sailed for England. The passage was rough, and I caught cold, which set me back somewhat, but I am again regaining strength. I find that I cannot get the Pink Pills here and I want you to send me a supply, as under no circumstances would I be without them, and you may be sure I will gladly recommend them to my friends both here and elsewhere.

Yours gratefully,

JAMES INGRAM.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a perfect blood builder and nerve restorer, curing such diseases as rheumatism, neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, St. Vitus' dance, nervous headache, nervous prostration and the tired feeling therefrom, the after-effects of la grippe, diseases depending on humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. Pink Pills give a healthy glow to pale

and sallow complexions, and are a specific for the troubles peculiar to the female system, and in the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, over-work or excesses of any nature.

These Pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., and Schenectady, N.Y., and are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade mark and wrapper, at 50 cts. a box, or six boxes for \$2.50. Bear in mind that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are never sold in bulk, or by the dozen or hundred, and any dealer who offers substitutes in this form is trying to defraud you and should be avoided. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company from either address. The price at which these pills are sold is once a course of treatment comparable in expense as compared with other pills or medical treatment.

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