

Irritated feelings led to acts of violence on both sides, culminating in "the Red River Massacre."

The Government appointed two commissioners to hold an inquiry. Their report was bitterly inveighed against by both parties, and it was not until the Home Government had intervened that peace was finally restored. But the North-West Company had lost heavily in the struggle; their posts had been pillaged and destroyed; their trade had been materially reduced; and though, owing to higher prices in England, these losses had been in part recouped, the English agents who controlled the larger portion of the shares, deemed themselves constrained to form a union with their old adversary, the Hudson's Bay Company.

In 1821 the North-West Company ceased to exist. The trade of the west, which had been with such difficulty diverted from Hudson's Bay to Montreal, resumed its former sluggish course. The hospitable magnates of Montreal beheld their fortunes diminished and their prestige gone. "The lords of the lakes and the forests had passed away."

M. Masson writes with full knowledge of his subject. Connected by marriage with one of the most adventurous partners of the company, the Hon. Roderick Mackenzie, Seigneur de Terrebonne, whose "reminiscences" cover nearly the whole period of the North-West Company's existence—he is as conversant with the history of the Company as he is in full sympathy with its aspirations.

Canadians will thank M. Masson for rescuing from oblivion these records of the travels, labors and dangers of at least some of the brave men who did so much to develop the commerce, and to extend the sway of the British Empire in North America.

A large map of the North-West Territories accompanies the work.

R. G. SUTHERLAND.

MATERIALS FOR CANADIAN HISTORY.

BY J. M. LE MOINE, F. R. S. C.

To those conversant with the literary movement—shall I say—intellectual awakening, attributable as one of the results of the political upheaval in 1837-38, it must be a gratifying spectacle to witness its progress, as evinced by the constant accessions of works in every department of Canadian literature, especially history.

French literature—unlike English letters in the Province of Quebec—has but slightly benefited by the importations in our midst of writers from old France. With the exception of a few brilliant French journalists (and some of them wisely expatriated themselves for their country's good)—with the exception of a very learned historian—the Sulpician Tailon, the province has had mainly in the pursuits of letters to depend on its indigenous or native talent.

However interesting this inquiry into the past might prove, the subject would take one much further than the scope of this communication would permit—if properly treated.

Whilst wafting across the ocean a grateful remembrance to the distinguished nobleman, the Marquis of Lorne, for the impulse communicated to Canadian letters, by the creation of the association which he placed under the special patronage of his sovereign through the privilege he obtained of calling it the Royal Society of Canada, I shall confine myself to noting a few very useful contributions to the annals of the French province of Quebec, issued of late years.

How much more easy it will be hereafter to compile a reliable and circumstantial chronicle of the eight provinces of the Dominion of Canada, when it is borne in mind that each of them has active, loving, indefatigable delvers in the rich mine of its past history; that the confederated Parliament, as well as the Provincial Legislatures, consider it a duty—nay, a crowning glory—to show the deep interest they each feel in Canadian annals, by substantial grants to unearth and

"Sidney," a new serial story by Margaret Deland, will be a prominent feature of the *Atlantic Monthly* for 1890.