

Barthe's poems are very imperfect, thought is lost sight of in a deluge of words. Among the best are "A mon ami," "La Prière d'une jeune Fille" "Le Sommeil." Lavolette's descriptions of Canadian scenes exhibit sensibility and facility of expression. Aubin was a Parisian journalist who came to Canada in 1834. About 1837, he commenced the publication of the "Fantasque," a paper whose wit and originality were highly appreciated. During the political troubles, both editor and printer of the "Fantasque" were thrown into prison. Later, M. Aubin started the "Castor." The highest perfection of this writer's talent appears in his journalistic work, which always possesses a naive and original character. His bright wit, expressed in incisive, epigrammatic phrases, his French gaiety, lightness of touch and neatness of finish, quite sustain the reputation he enjoyed. His best poems are "Souvenirs," "A Jenny," "Quarante ans," "Les Français aux Canadiens," "Le Suisse Libre," "Le Juste Milieu."

William Fitz-Hawley is known by two volumes of verse. "Quebec, the Harp and other poems" which gained a prize offered by the Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Sciences of Quebec, and "The Unknown, or Lays of the Forest" which contains a really beautiful description of the River St. Maurice. Miss Vining's name also belongs to Canadian literature, though most of her writings appeared in American journals. Her verses are tender, soothing, plaintive, though they can scarcely be said to soar above the common-place. The best are "Under the Snow," "The Earth's Complaint" and "Canada." Isidore Bédard's promising career was cut short by an early death. Notwithstanding carelessness and negligence of style, this young poet excelled any of his contemporaries in deep feeling and genuine fervor of sentiment. His quick, impulsive ardor vitalizes every sentence. His poem "Sol Canadien" has earned a well merited reputation as one of our best known Canadian national songs.