

Supplement to the Journal of Education.

LOVELL'S SERIES OF SCHOOL BOOKS.

OPINIONS ON LOVELL'S GENERAL GEOGRAPHY.

IN view of the promises held out in the Prospectus of this Work and of its pretensions as a standard Educational Text-Book, it appeared to the Publisher desirable that, before actual publication, the Author's labours might have the benefit of the independent opinion of those best qualified to judge how far the object had been attained.

Actuated by these considerations, the Publisher, with the Author's consent, sent out advance or proof sheets to competent persons in various parts of the Provinces, who responded by enclosing in many cases some very valuable suggestions, which were forwarded to the Author, and for which the Publisher tenders his thanks. Attention is requested to the appended Opinions upon the Work which the Publisher has had the satisfaction of receiving from many of those to whom the advance sheets were sent.*

From the Honorable and Right Reverend John Strachan, D.D., LL.D., Lord Bishop of Toronto.

TORONTO, 26th February, 1861.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge a copy of your General Geography for the use of Schools, and have read it with profit and increasing satisfaction.

As an elementary work on a subject so extensive, I consider the plan excellent, the matter judiciously selected, and for a text-book surprisingly full and complete. And what in the present times is no small recommendation, it is beautifully got up, and reflects great credit on the press of Canada.

I would farther add, that the book is well adapted to the wants and circumstances of the youth of British North America, and will be far more acceptable from the absence of those political allusions, which so frequently deform elementary school books imported from the United States.

I anticipate for "Lovell's General Geography," with its valuable maps and illustrations, a wide circulation; and were it followed by a series of school books in all respects equally well prepared, importation from abroad would be checked if not superseded.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,

JOHN TORONTO.

Mr. John Lovell, Montreal.

From the Right Reverend George Jehoshaphat Mountain, D.D., D.O.L., Lord Bishop of Quebec.

QUEBEC, 1st March, 1861.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have been so incessantly pressed by occupation since my return from the visitation of the Eastern Townships, that it has been impossible for me to do more than glance my eye, a few times, through the two specimen portions of your publication on Geography, which you did me the favor to send for my inspection. I have, however, seen enough to form a very advantageous opinion of the plan and execution of the work; and I am impressed with the belief that it is calculated to be eminently useful in the Schools of the Province, comprising, as it does, a great amount of varied information which appears to be made accessible and attractive to the youthful mind, and exhibiting a happy and well methodized arrangement of the materials of which it is composed.

I am, dear Sir,
Faithfully yours,

G. J. QUEBEC.

Mr. John Lovell, Montreal.

From the Right Reverend Ignace Bourget, D.D., Bishop of Montreal.

MONT ST. JOSEPH,
MONTREAL, le 25 Mars, 1861.

MONSIEUR,—Je profite du premier moment libre, qui se présente, pour accuser la réception de votre traité sur la *Géographie Générale* dont vous avez bien voulu m'adresser un exemplaire.

C'est un travail précieux qui fera honneur à votre presse, et rendra un vrai service à l'éducation primaire de nos enfants, qui y trouveront un excellent moyen de s'instruire en s'amusant.

Ce sera donc de grand cœur que je verrai ce livre d'éducation primaire entrer dans toutes nos écoles Anglaises; et pour ma part je me fais un devoir de vous remercier des peines, que vous avez prises, pour enrichir cet ouvrage de tant de recherches vraiment intéressantes.

Je suis bien véritablement, Monsieur
Votre très humble serviteur,

Mr. John Lovell.

+ IG., EV. DE MONTREAL.

From the Right Reverend Charles François Baillargeon, D.D., Bishop of Tloa, and Administrator of the Diocese of Quebec.

ARCHEVÊCHÉ DE QUÉBEC, 5 Mars, 1861.

MONSIEUR,—J'accuse avec reconnaissance, la réception du traité sur la "Géographie Générale," accompagné d'un Atlas, à l'usage des écoles, que vous venez de publier.

J'ai parcouru cet ouvrage avec un véritable intérêt. Il remplit bien son titre. Il me semble même qu'il nous donne plus que son titre ne promet. Il renferme en effet, outre les notions générales sur la Géographie, des tables, des statistiques, et d'excellentes gravures, utiles à tout le monde, mais surtout bien propres à intéresser et à instruire les enfants.

A mon avis donc, comme à celui de personnes capables d'en juger, par qui je l'ai fait examiner, en donnant cet ouvrage au public, vous avez rendu un vrai service à nos institutions d'éducation.

Votre dévoué serviteur,

M. John Lovell, Montréal.

+ C. F., EV. DE TLOA.

From the Right Reverend Joseph Eugene Bruno Guigues, Bishop of Ottawa.
OTTAWA, le 26 Avril, 1861.

MONSIEUR,—Je vous remercie de la copie que vous m'avez envoyée de la *Géographie Générale* que vous allez publier. Autant qu'il m'a été permis d'en juger par l'aperçu rapide que j'en ai fait, elle m'a paru pleine de connaissances variées, intéressantes, et très utiles à la jeunesse pour laquelle elle a été faite. On ne peut que vous louer de l'avoir conçu en dehors de toute prévention religieuse. Le coloris que vous vous proposez de donner aux cartes, y répandra plus de clarté, et en rendra l'étude plus facile et plus attrayante. Les amis de l'instruction vous seront reconnaissants de cette nouvelle preuve de dévouement aux intérêts de l'éducation, et aux progrès du Canada.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, Monsieur,

Votre très-humble serviteur,

M. John Lovell, Montréal.

+ JOS. EUGENE, EV. D'OTTAWA.

From the Honorable Mr. Justice Mondelet.

MONTREAL, 26th February, 1861.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have given to the perusal of the "General Geography for the use of Schools, with numerous Maps, Illustrations, and Brief Tabular Views," which you have done me the honour to request my opinion upon, as much attention as my multiplied judicial engagements have permitted. I am happy to have it in my power to say, as far as my limited experience goes, that the system Mr. Hodgins has adopted is one which, of all others, is altogether efficient, and no doubt conducive to a clear, easy, and practical teaching of Geography, and in all probability will in most cases ensure success. The definitions indicate a perfect knowledge of the matter; the arrangement throughout shews how proficient Mr. Hodgins is in the science of Geography; the questions without answers to them are a means of working upon the judgment and memory, instead of only calling into action the latter; and the accentuation is a prominent feature in this admirable work. The numerous maps and illustrations will much interest the youth, and greatly facilitate the working out of the system.

I am of opinion that the country owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Hodgins. As to yourself, Mr. Lovell, the mention of your name is equivalent to whatever might be said in praise of your intelligent public spirit, and industry, in all things connected with the advancement of learning.

Should this humble expression of my estimation of the work you are about to publish be of any use to you, you are at liberty to avail yourself of it.

I remain, my dear Sir,

Respectfully yours,

Mr. John Lovell, Publisher.

CHARLES MONDELET.

* The absence of any opinions from the Right Rev. Dr. FULFORD, Lord Bishop of Montreal, the PRINCIPAL OF LAVAL UNIVERSITY, Rev. Dr. COOK, C. S. CHARRIER, Esq., Q. C., C. DUNKIN, Esq., M. P. P., and other gentlemen, will be noted, but their official position as Members of the Board of Education must of necessity preclude any expression on their part unofficially.