

(From the *Morning Chronicle, Quebec, 19th November, 1878.*)

TO THE EDITOR :

SIR,—I notice with pleasure in your columns the frank and loyal letter of Monsieur l'Abbe Casgrain, one of the most distinguished of our French Canadian litterateurs. He indignantly repels the charge of plagiarism in connection with his own works, made in a certain *brochure* against Mr. J. M. LeMoine, his fellow laborer, in illustrating the beautiful history of our common country. Permit me to state, that when honored by the Quebec *Literary and Historical Society* with the collection of material for the historical celebration of the defence of our city in 1775, (a task for which I was unprepared,) Mr. LeMoine, with the generosity of his character, collected for me and put in my hands the material of his own researches, which alone enabled me, a comparative stranger, to place before the Society the records they desired. He refused the public acknowledgment which myself and the Society were eager to make. So far from wishing to engross literary honors during his long connection with the institution, it may safely be asserted, that though the highest recognition the Society could confer, its presidency, was more than once within his reach, yet for one year only, (during the twenty of his labors,) did he reluctantly consent to accept it.

I am pained to believe that the source of Mr. LeMoine's offence lies in that very gentleness and generosity which has made him to some extent, the historical peace-maker, the Washington Irving of Canada, seeking ever and always to portray (but never at the expense of truth,) the noblest historical features of the two chivalrous races composing the Canadian nationality, instead of sowing seeds of bitterness for future sons of Canada, by wickedly exaggerating the few stains that may alas! always be found on the noblest of national escutcheons.

Your obedient servant,

T. BLAND STRANGE, Lt.-Col., R. A.,
Vice-President, *Literary and Historical Society*,
Quebec.

Quebec, 16th November, 1878.

Subjoined are a few of the notices published by some of the leading Reviews and Periodicals in the United States and Canada:

(From the Boston "ATLANTIC MONTHLY" Magazine for September, 1878.)

"In his *Chronicles of the St. Lawrence* Mr. LeMoine has done for the region adjoining the lower part of that river, and for some coasts of the Maritime Provinces, what he has already so pleasantly done for Quebec in his "Maple Leaves," and his "Quebec: Past and Present." In those books or collection of essays he preserved a body of tradition and anecdote nowhere else accessible to the travelling reader, or indeed to the stationary general reader. History, too, wherever it could lend interest to localities mentioned, was intelligently and skilfully adduced, and there was a vein of agreeable and sympathetic comment running through the work. The present volume has the same characteristics, and the same desultory form. It is the record of three excursions from Quebec—one reaching as far as Halifax,—and including the Saguenay and all other tributary regions of interest. Whoever has travelled in French Canada—the real Canada—has had provoked at every turn a curiosity which this book is admirably adapted to satisfy; and it is charming to find that every picturesque and romantic spot, which looks as if it ought to have its legend, really has it. The sportsman, also, who resorts to Canadian waters, will be glad of what Mr. LeMoine has to tell him; and we can honestly commend the book to people who cannot visit the region of which it treats, as a treasury of curious reminiscence and tradition very interesting to turn over."