

1830 a work on large and small agricultural pursuits; in 1831 a plan of general education; then closed his career by a history of Canada from the discovery.

François Joseph Cugnet, the best French legist from 1760 to 1789, published five or six treatises concerning law matters; Justin McCarthy, a French lawyer, gave an excellent dictionary of the old civil code of Canada (1809); William Vondenvelden, a French engineer, and Louis Charland, issued a compilation, being a sequel to Cugnet; same year, Jean Antoine Bouthillier published an arithmetic for the schools. Several other names must be omitted here for want of space.

The *Quebec Gazette*, as a rule, refrained from attacking the French Canadians, and this was considered a lack of patriotic energy on the part of that paper by parties who wished to keep up a lively skirmishing against that population. The *Mercury* came to light in January, 1805, ready to open fire on the whole line. It soon found an occasion to satisfy its desire. Pierre Bedard, the leader of the French Canadian party in the Legislative Assembly, laid a motion before the speaker to inquire as to the author, printer, &c., of the *Montreal Gazette*, who had published, April 1st, 1805, a "false, scandalous and malicious libel, highly and unjustly reflecting upon His Majesty's representatives in this province." The editor and the printer were accordingly ordered to be taken into the custody of the sergeant-at-arms, but not being found by those who went to Montreal in quest of them, the matter was dropped. The *Mercury* then came to the front trying to throw upside down the party forming the majority of the Legislative Assembly, but the sergeant-at-arms being sent to the editor, this gentleman apologized and was released. Later on, the House objected to another article from the same source, and Mr. Thomas Cary could not be found, because he had concealed himself in a secret room in his own house, from where he continued the fight in each number of the *Mercury*. Mr. Bedard finally saw that his action was against the liberty of the press, and abandoned the proceedings.

A new political organ was launched at Quebec in November, 1806, under the title *Le Canadien*, with a full programme for a constitutional government. This paper contained a series of historical documents referring to Canada, which was a new phase in the journalism of the province, and also numerous original literary productions. The *Mercury* went for its neighbour, and they had a long spell of cross-firing on the administration of public affairs.

In literature *Le Canadien* did very well. It is visible that its contributors were men of knowledge gifted with talent. From that moment the French writers of Canada have always formed a group in regular activity, and their development has been a constant fact until the present day.

The *Mercury* had adopted against *Le Canadien* a policy of insinuation. When the latter, for instance, entered into a criticism of the