

The principal work of M. Taché, as a political writer, is the book entitled, "*Des Provinces de l'Amerique du Nord et d'une Union Fédérale*," which was written and first published, in series, in 1857, and subsequently in 1858, republished in a volume. It is in relation to that book, that the late Dean of the French Academy, the illustrious M. Biot, in a letter to the Honorable M. Chauveau, said: "Veuillez en faire mes compliments à M. Taché; son livre est plus qu'un bon livre, c'est une bonne action." The author was also complimented by the Count de Montalambert on the occasion of the publication of that book, and M. Rameau, the well known author of "*Acadiens et Canadiens*," and of other reputed productions, says of it: "c'est ce qu'il y a de mieux dit et de plus complet sur la matière." It is interesting to compare the project of Confederation, proposed in this book of M. Taché, ten years in advance of Confederation itself, with the general features, and even minute details, of our present constitution, as embodied in the "British North America Act." It is such comparison which prompted the Honorable M. Blanchet, the present Speaker in the House of Commons, to say, in his speech on the occasion of the Confederation debate, in Quebec: "M. Taché wrote a book which was almost prophetic on this question."

In the domain of purely literary compositions, the principal works of M. Taché are, "*Trois Légendes*," a kind of trilogy on the social and religious state of the Red Indians at three different periods of their history; "*Le Braillard de la Montagne*," a legend in verse; "*Forestiers et Voyageurs*," being a picture of the life, travels, ideas and habits of the French Canadian Lumbermen and Voyageurs, with landscape descriptions of Canadian nature and legends. That work, published in 1863, is very often republished, *en feuilleton*, in French newspapers and periodicals.

As a polemist, M. Taché has had several of the most lively contests which the French Press of Canada has experienced, and one writer of the liberal persuasion, who went under the *nom de plume* of Placide Lépine, says of him: "Quand on ne le lit pas de plaisir, on le lit de rage."

M. Taché has published a number of pamphlets, memoirs and papers on philosophical, medical, social, economical and scientific questions; his historical and archeological searches are quoted by M. Laverdière and Mr. Francis Parkman, in their works on Canadian History, and by Professor Wilson, in his papers on anthropology. M. Taché is the framer of our Quarantine, Patent, Trade Marks and Copyright Laws, the latter of which has been the first successful step toward the final settlement of a long standing and vexed question, and is regarded, in England, in such high estimation, that Mr. Daldy, a member of the "Royal Commission on Copyright," and one of the very best authorities on the subject at home, says of it (Report of 1878), "I have great hopes that before long, they (the Americans) will be prepared to accept an arrangement on the basis of the Canadian Act. \* \* \* In fact, I should be very glad to see our Government explain to them the basis of that Act, and tender that basis as the basis of a Treaty between the two countries."