



GERALD E. HART, ESQ., EX-PRESIDENT SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL STUDIES, AUTHOR OF "THE FALL OF NEW FRANCE," ETC.—We have pleasure in presenting our readers with a portrait of Mr. Gerald E. Hart, of Montreal, author of "The Fall of New France." Coming of old English-Canadian stock (his ancestors being among the earliest settlers in Canada under the English flag), Mr. Hart has naturally taken special interest in the history of his native land. He was born in the city of Montreal, March 26, 1849. His father, Adolphus M. Hart, was a well-known member of the legal profession. His paternal grandfather, Aaron Hart, was a commissariat officer on the staff of General Amherst, at the time of the conquest of Canada by the English in 1760, finally settling at Three Rivers, and becoming a large landed proprietor in that vicinity. Mr. Hart obtained his earliest schooling in Montreal. The family removed to the United States, he received further tuition at the excellent public schools of New York. Returning to Canada, he finished his education at Lawlor's English Academy at Three Rivers, sitting at the same desk with George T. Lanigan, the poet and humorous writer, subsequently chief editor of the *New York World* until his untimely death. Having been actively engaged in business since leaving school, Mr. Hart has not had much leisure to devote to literature; nevertheless he has written and studied to some purpose. The most of his leisure time, however, has been devoted to society work, especially that of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal, of which he was secretary for many years; later its vice-president, and was at length elected an honorary life member. This society is, to-day, in a very flourishing state, and next to the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, is the oldest society in the country. In 1877, under the auspices and with the hearty co-operation of a few other members, Mr. Hart originated and successfully carried through a Caxton Exhibition—the only one of the kind ever held in Canada—devoted to old and rare books, early Canadian imprints, etc. He has delivered several public lectures before the Montreal Society of Historical Studies (of which he is a past president), notably one upon Bibliography, with exhibits of rare volumes from his own library, including the second and fourth folio Shakspeare; quarto Shaksperes; first, second, third and fourth editions of Milton; first (Kilmarnock), second, third and fourth editions of Burns; MS. books before the art of printing; missals; books printed by Schæffer, one of the inventors of the art, etc., also books bound by some of the most celebrated binders of this and past ages. This lecture was much appreciated and has greatly stimulated the taste for rare and fine books in Montreal. Among the Canadian books he produced most of the original authorities, such as Ramusio, Thevet, Lescarbot, Sagard, Champlain, Denys, Creuxius, Boucher, Relations des Jésuites, Lettres de Marie Mère de l'Incarnation, etc. Mr. Hart had (until its sale at Boston in April last) the finest library in Canada of original Canadian works prior to 1820, even surpassing the collection in the Government Library at Ottawa, and having few superiors among the libraries of the United States. Mr. Hart has read papers of value on the Geographical Names of Canada, the Canadiad Rebellion of 1837, etc. The work, however, which has given him a national reputation is his "Fall of New France," published in 1888, which has been favourably noticed in various literary and historical journals on both sides of the Atlantic. The book itself is an excellent specimen of book-making—a credit to author and publisher alike—and the attention it has attracted abroad has proved of great benefit to Canada. All this literary work has been done in the midst of an active business life, Mr. Hart having for several years held the responsible position of general manager of the Citizens Insurance Company of Canada, and at present holds the same position in connection with the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn.

SKETCHES FROM "THE CANUCK."—In this issue our artist gives some scenes from "The Canuck," a serio-comic domestic drama, which was played in the Academy of Music in this city before crowded audiences during the week ending on the 18th inst. It takes its name from the central character, a French-Canadian *habitant* of means, to whose home circle we are introduced. The interest turns mainly on that bane of American society, the divorce court, the resort to which cast a shadow on the moral and well-to-do farmer's household. But "all's well that ends well" and happiness ultimately succeeds anxiety and threatened disgrace. Mr. McKee Rankin took the chief rôle, a part which he has made his own by innate gifts, rare sympathy and careful training. The play, though faulty in some details, was, on the whole, a fine success, and the act-

ing of Mr. Rankin and his associates met with ample applause.

UNITED STATES TROOPS AT FORT NIAGARA, N.Y.—The scene in our engraving has been famous under three successive dispensations. The first structure erected on this spot was La Salle's palisaded storehouse, built in 1678, when the unfortunate explorer was supervising the construction of the Griffin—the first craft that, under the direction of civilized man, ever ventured forth on the bosom of Lake Erie. Later, La Salle's stockade being destroyed by Indians, the French raised a stronger one, and about the middle of last century a fort of stone was built here by the Marquis de la Jonquière. This fort was taken by Sir William Johnson in 1759 and remained in possession of the British until 1783, when it was ceded to the newly constituted Republic. In the war of 1812 it was retaken by the British and Canadian troops, who held it to the close of hostilities. Its white walls form a conspicuous spectacle from the Canadian side of the river. The uniforms of the figures in our engraving suggest memories of the struggles with which the eventful history of Fort Niagara is associated.

SCENES AROUND QUEBEC.—These scenes, familiar, we doubt not, to many of our readers, are supplementary to the copious list of views of points of interest in and around the Ancient Capital which we have already published.

VIEWS OF THE JACQUES CARTIER RIVER.—The view



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in our engraving is in continuation of the series begun some time ago, and is a characteristic illustration of the natural beauties of the Jacques Cartier.

FORT GEORGE.—Of the forts on the Canadian side of the River Niagara, where it enters Lake Ontario, we, of course, hear nothing prior to the year 1791. In that year the town of Niagara-on-the-Lake was projected, and the lines of Fort George were laid down. The fort was constructed the following year to command the shipping and the harbour at the mouth of the river. The ruined remains of the old fort are easily accessible, and, notwithstanding the levelling and disintegrating processes to which they have been subjected by "decay's effacing finger," the outlines of the solid embankments of earth which constituted its principal strength are still distinctly visible and may be followed with the utmost ease by any one who wishes to study the form and structure of the old historic landmark. The ruins of Fort George lie a short distance up the river, a little way back from the bank and between it and the wide open common on which the Canadian volunteers are wont to encamp. Time has worn down the sharp edges of the earthworks, has partly filled up the moat and covered ways, and has reduced the sharp outlines of the gateway, or main entrance, to a mere gap in the embankment. The only two of the old buildings still remaining, and one is in ruins, are, or rather were, brick structures covered with an arched brick roof, and probably used in former days as a subsidiary magazine or storehouse. Another stone building is still standing in the vicinity, and in a much better state of preservation, commonly spoken of as the magazine of the old French fort. This was a sort of outwork of Fort

George, consisting of lines of earthworks to the south side of the fort, but though the stone building is comparatively well preserved, the bastions and embankments have in places yielded to the influences of storm and time, and are hardly to be distinguished from the surrounding surface of the earth. Standing on the eastern bastion of Fort George and looking across the meadows, and the river which intervenes between it and Fort Niagara, a Canadian can hardly avoid asking himself why it is that we have allowed these old historic forts, in and around which so many gallant deeds of daring were achieved by our heroic predecessors, "in the brave days of old," to go to ruin and decay, while there across the river the Stars and Stripes float proudly every day, and all day long, proclaiming to the world that our American cousins have set sufficient store by their old fort and the hallowed memories that cluster round its earthen ramparts to induce them to protect the embankments and the buildings they contained against the devastating encroachments of time and exposure to the elements.

Chateaugay.—The Canadian Marathon.

Following the good example of Col. Denison and other loyal Canadians in Ontario in celebrating the anniversary of Queenston Heights, patriots of the Province of Quebec will recall that Sunday, October 26th, 1890, will be the seventy-seventh anniversary of the day of Chateaugay, the Canadian Marathon—like the immortal Athenian fight in point of numbers—about 5,500 Americans and less than 300 Canadians actually engaged, but the Marathon in our history because it saved Canada against a similar disparity of odds. Had Hampton been victorious there was nothing to stop his advance on Montreal, ill-garrisoned and unprepared, and, with Montreal fallen, Canada would have had her back broken, her upper and lower forces cut off from each other.

The story of the war of 1812 is recalled by the situation of to-day. The best and most respected people throughout the United States having achieved what they fought for—in the years following 1783 as in the years following 1865, desired nothing better than to live in a neighbourly way with the Canadians and the British. But the Major McKinleys and General Porters of that day coveted the Naboth's vineyard across the St. Lawrence and thought that while England was maintaining, almost single-handed, the struggle against Napoleon, was a good time to jump upon her back and strip her of her possessions. President Madison shared or yielded to their opinions, not remembering how the Switzers met Charles the Bold, and Leopold of Austria, or foreseeing his own capital in flames.

The war was in vain. It was declared to abrogate the right of search and concluded without obtaining its abrogation. The best Americans protested against its declaration as they deprecate commercial hostilities now.

In 1813 General Wilkinson was commissioned to capture Montreal in the hope that its capture would lead to the fall of Canada, as had the capture of Quebec from the French in 1759.

He and General Hampton were concentrating on Montreal by different lines of march, when that autumn morning of October 25, 1813, the army of the latter tried to force the lines held by de Salaberry with his few hundred Voltigeurs and Sedentary Militia—the last defence between them and their prey—with such disastrous results.

The sequel is well known. Every true Canadian should have pictured in his heart the romantic figure of the knightly de Salaberry, almost by his single exertions defeating the overwhelming numbers of the alien; the touching spectacle of Captain Longtin and his handful of Beauharnois militia rising from their knees, fortified by prayer, and his memorable saying "that now they had fulfilled their duty to their God they would fulfil that to their King"; de Salaberry's self-depreciatory letter to his father, "I have won a victory on a wooden horse," and the bugling that routed an army. He and his men had actually won it barefoot.

As time goes on people may forget the individual exploits of his officers—of Daly, with but seventy men, hurling himself into the heart of the foe, of Fergusson and the Dalchessnays, and of the faithful Indians; but in every loyal Canadian heart de Salaberry's bugles will go on sounding to the end of time, waking such echoes as they woke in the heart of the Canadian poet, Lighthall, delivering the inaugural lecture before the Society of Chateaugay, when he concluded his address with: "The meaning of it all is this—that, given a good cause, and the defence of our homes against wanton aggression, we can dare odds that otherwise would seem hopeless; that it is in the future, as in the past, the spirits of men, and not their material resources, which count for success; that we need only be brave, and just, and ready to die, and our country can never be conquered; and that we shall always be able to preserve ourselves free in our own course of development towards our own idea of a nation."

DOUGLAS SLADEN.