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ALBERT AZRO AYER.

Albert Azro Ayer, like so many others who have attained to positions of responsibility and eminence in the great cities, was a country boy. He was born in the parish of St. Armand, near Frelighsburg, P.Q., on the 6th of February, 1845; his father, the late Geo. W. Ayer, was a farmer and his boyhood was spent on the farm. His mother was of good old Puritan stock, a descendant of the Rogers, and to her early lessons and example is due not a little of the sturdy vigor and fearless advocacy of the right which so eminently characterizes the subject of this sketch.

After receiving a moderate amount of education at the village Academy, he for a time attended the New Hampton Institute at Fairfax, Vt., a school similar to our own school at Woodstock, which he left in the spring of 1863, being then about eighteen years of age.

The following two winters he taught school and then spent a summer in a Commercial college at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., after which he came to Montreal in 1865; there he obtained a situation and later, in March 1867, began business on his own account, thus becoming identified with the cheese industry in Canada at its commencement, and the present position of immense importance which the trade in butter and cheese occupies in Canada.