

French Canadian *littérateurs*, however, produce upon the whole better romances and novelettes than the English. "Charles Guérin," "Jacques et Marie," "Jean Rivard," possess style as well as plot; and the stories of our associate, M. Faucher de St. Maurice, are picturesque, and so well constructed that the interest of the narrative rises in intensity to the climax.

A good poem is the product of an age, and it is, therefore, no disgrace if Canada has not been the fortunate home of its author. The only work of importance which has issued from the Canadian press is Heavyside's "Saul," a dramatic poem, which, despite the dowdy dress in which it appeared, called forth loud praises from the organs of criticism in England. Many other poets, notably Mr. Sangster, have written harmonious verse. In such compositions, however, our French Canadian writers excel, and to one or two of them is due the high honour of adding to the *répertoire* of Old France.

But it is in the domain of history and political economy that we might have expected much work would have been done; but even here comparatively little has been effected. Garneau's "Histoire du Canada," as a comprehensive history of the country, from its discovery to the date of the Union, is a work beyond all praise; for, although written with strong party and national feeling, it displays immense research and a philosophical spirit: but a first attempt must necessarily be faulty. Dr. Miles's compilations are excellent manuals; and Mr. Lemoine's sketches of history and topography are not only graphic but add largely to our store of facts; and from both French and English pens have proceeded many good historical essays. But what we might have looked for are extended monographs on different epochs in our history, in which the whole of the rich material, even now at the disposal of the student, would have been digested, and a

rational connection of the period with the past, and its bearing on the future explained. Short as our history is, it teems with dramatic incidents and complications, any one of which is a worthy theme for a historical treatise. Every one will be glad to hear that Mr. Lemoine is now engaged on a more elaborate work than he has yet undertaken. What we want are vivid, and, at the same time, full descriptions of the past, not merely lofty eulogies on people or periods, about which the panegyrist generally tells too little for us to form an opinion for ourselves. Political economy likewise is a subject, on which, had there been much intellectual life among us, treatises would have been written; for, by a people trying to create a new nationality and to avoid the errors of the old, the subjects of the tenure of land, the treatment of poverty, and the regulation of the currency deserve much attention.

Good work has been done in Canada, and by Canadians, in science. Mr. Bouchette's topographical works are models of accuracy and completeness. Sir William Logan was born in Montreal, and, though he studied geology in England, it is on Canadian rocks that he exercised the skill which has made him one of the most eminent stratigraphical geologists living. Aided by his *collaborateur*, Dr. Hunt, he won for the survey of Canada and for Canada through its survey, fame, when Canadian politicians were doing their best to bestow on her only an unenviable notoriety. Dr. Hunt was born in the United States, and to the United States he has, to our disgrace, been allowed to return; but Canada can never repay the debt she owes him, not only for the faithful services of twenty-five years, but for allowing her to share in the honour which foreign nations have bestowed on his genius and labours. Then, again, Dawson is a name known wherever and in whatever language geology is studied; and Billings, and Murray, and Bell, and Bailey are men who