

assume a dictatorial role, but permit me, personally, to explain my share in a matter which should be regarded as of considerable importance; possibly, you are all aware that the late Mr. S. Jones Lyman suggested the offer of prizes for the highest number of correct answers to 100 Questions in Canadian History to be published in the *Canadian Spectator*. Mr. Lyman's death occurred after a very short illness before one-third of the questions had appeared, and his mantle descended upon my shoulders; at the time of his death Mr. Lyman had only the answers to six questions verified, and only about 50 to 60 questions in all prepared, the completion of the work fell to my share, especially the gratification of reading through over 750 pages of MSS. which were received, much of it highly instructive, and some of it stupid and irrelevant as it could well be.

Mr. Henry Miles, the winner of the first prize, exhibited an amount of patient research beyond all the other competitors, and the result of his labour, is before you in pamphlet shape. I do not intend to ask you to follow me through the mazes of the hundred replies, but I desire to call your attention to some few which are still obscure, and further to point to some mis-conceptions and erroneous theories which hang round some of them with a wonderful tenacity.

I have said that "a scrupulous attention to the minor details" is essential in the historian, indeed it is this patience which is the point of distinction between the historian and the mere gossip. As an illustration of my meaning, I would mention two strange errors which Mr. Lyman himself promulgated; errors into which, I submit, he could not have fallen, if he had taken the trouble to enquire into any authorities:—

1st. In a "*Guide to Montreal*" which he prepared, he stated that the "*Place D'Armes*" received its name from