

## History of the Manuscript and Pewter Plate.



ONE twenty years ago, while examining miscellaneous papers in my grand father's library, I found a slip of paper with the following lines in the hand-writing of my uncle, Samuel Neilson<sup>1</sup> :

" This pewter plate and spoon and the Prayer Book in the  
" language of the Illinois are relics of Père Marquette, the mis-  
" sionary. They were for many years kept at the Mackinack  
" Mission, then brought to the Quebec College. Père Cazot,  
" the last Jesuit, gave them to my father, thirty years ago, for having sent him the  
" *Gazette* so long." — S. N. Aug. 1828."

The slip evidently referred to the prayer book now reproduced in facsimile, and to the plate and spoon of which exact illustrations are also given. Our family traditions corroborate the written testimony of my uncle's memorandum.

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1.—Samuel Neilson succeeded his father, in 1823, as proprietor, editor and printer of the *Quebec Gazette*, the official journal of the colony.