of Papineau to inspire his countrymen, and more especially the members of the legislative assembly, with courage to insist upon their rights and powers. Before he came on the scene the members of the elected body could discuss, deliberate and vote, but their decisions amounted practically to nothing, for the Governor, on the advice of councillors of his own selection, could veto every act of the assembly. The only redress was an appeal to the Colonial office in London, from which a satisfactory judgment was very seldom obtained. Thus Papineau became the leader of the people in their struggle against an autocratic bureaucracy, and the champion of representative institutions in Canada.

While Papineau was Speaker, he was, in fact as well as in name, "The First Commoner." He was not merely the chairman of the assembly, and the protector of the rights of its members, but he would frequently call another member to the chair and descend to the floor to take part in the debate. He was in fact leader of the majority party.

The war of 1812-15 between Canada and the United States had induced Sir George Prevost, the Governor of the time, to adopt a policy of conciliation towards the French-Canadians, with the view of securing their fealty. This allayed political asperities somewhat, and the French-Canadians assisted in repelling the American invaders during that period. Among the volunteers enrolled under the British flag was Mr. Papineau, who was given a commission as a captain of militia. As an evidence of his generous spirit, it is related that while the British forces were conducting a portion of Hull's army from Lachine to Montreal as prisoners of war, a regimental band of the regulars struck up "Yankee Doodle" to annoy the Americans who had surrendered their arms; whereupon Captain Papineau wheeled his company out of line, declaring he would not countenance such an insult

to helpless men. Instead of being court-martialed and reprimanded, he was commended by the Governor for his conduct. It was in 1815 that Mr. Papineau succeeded Mr. Panet as Speaker of the Lower Canadian Assembly and leader of the French Canadian party. He was then but 29 years old, but his every thought was devoted to public affairs. Venerable officials still living, who served as officers of parliament under Papineau, describe him as one who always showed great consideration towards them. It was his habit when parliament met to visit every employé thereof, and on leaving at the end of each session he would bid each man a formal farewell.

For nearly ten years Papineau continued, in and out of Parliament, his constitutional struggle for responsible government, and both in public and private life he stood irreproachable. In 1818 he married Mlle. Julie Bruneau, daughter of Pierre Bruneau, of Quebec, a merchant and member of parliament Madame Papineau was a superior woman in intellect and education as well as in personal attractions, and was also a devoted wife and mother. She followed her husband cheerfully into exile, and shared all his privations. Mr Papineau's marriage was in every respect a happy one. Madame Papineau died at Monte Bello on the 18th of August, 1862, nine years before her husband.

Soon after the arrival in Canada, in 1820, of the Earl of Dalhousie, the Lower Canadian legislature was called upon to provide for the whole civil list of the colony, an undertaking to that effect having been made two years before. Though the public accounts showed an excess of expenditure over revenue, Dalhousie insisted that the money for the support of himself and his government should be voted *en bloc*, payable annually during the life of the king. To this proposition Papineau and his friends objected, holding that the money should be voted in detail, and that all expenditure ac-

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