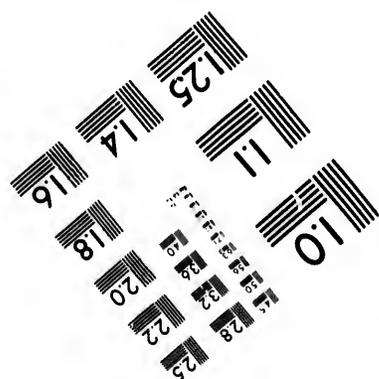
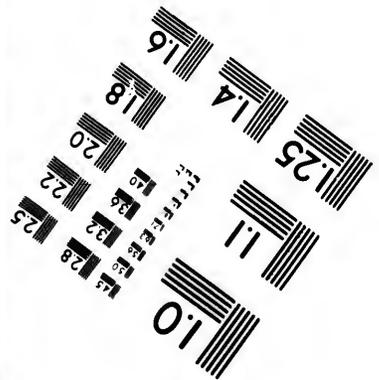
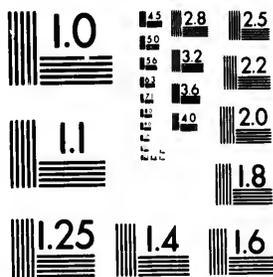


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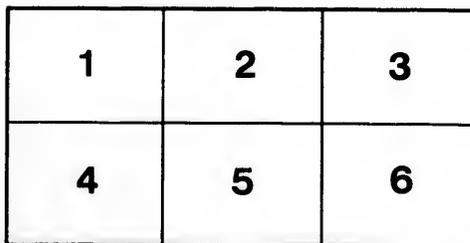
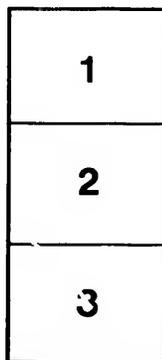
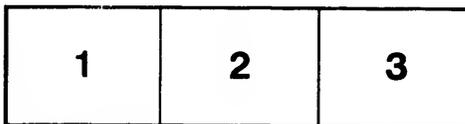
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THE
CATHOLIC
RELIGIOUS CORPORATIONS

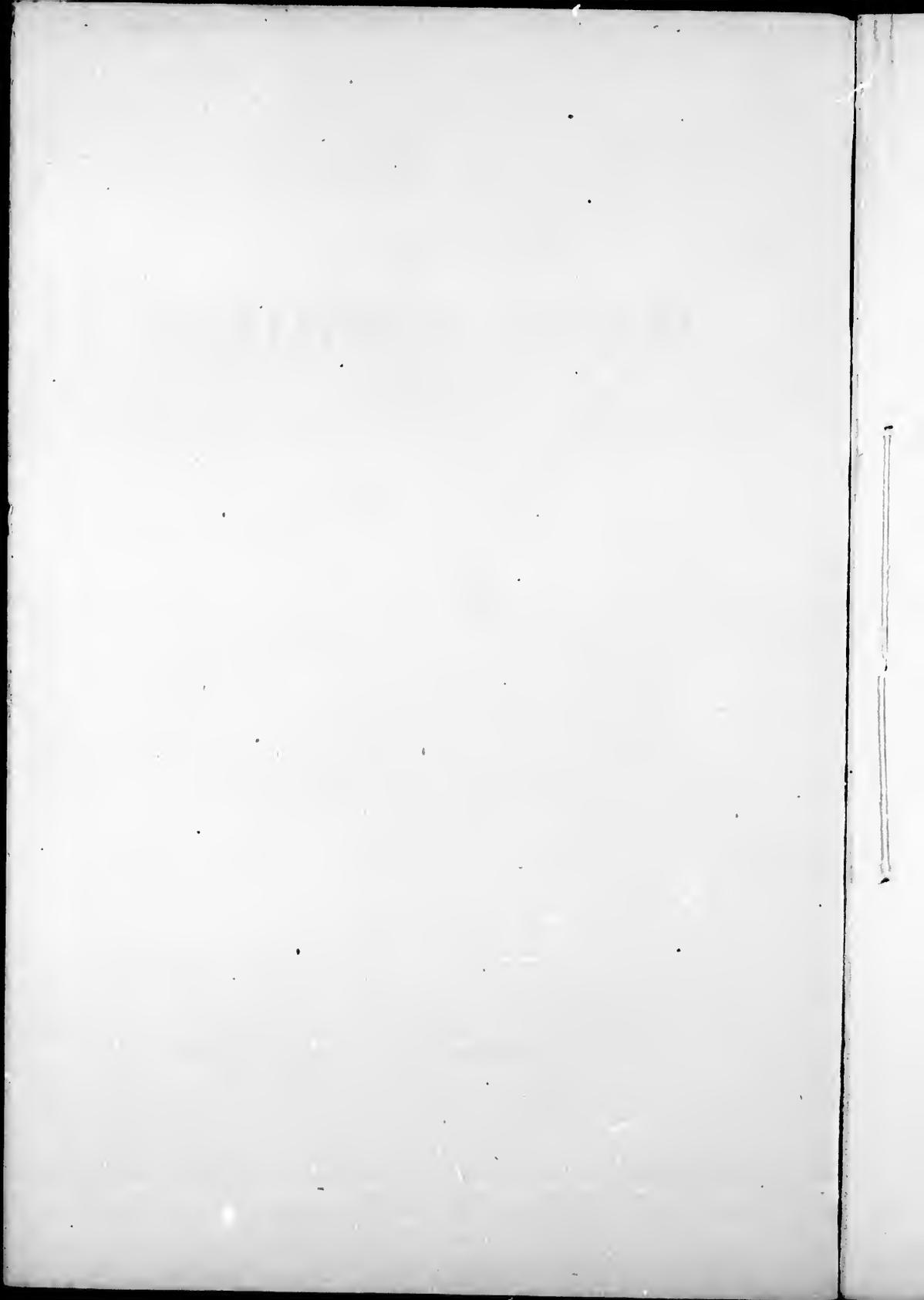
OF THE
CITY OF QUEBEC,

BY
HUBERT LARUE.

(Translated from the French.)

QUEBEC:
PRINTED BY GEORGE THOMAS CARY, FABRIQUE STREET.
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THE
CATHOLIC
RELIGIOUS CORPORATIONS
OF THE CITY OF QUEBEC.

The following statistical summary, now published for the first time in this city, is based upon figures taken from the best sources, and which, consequently, offer all the guarantees desirable of their authenticity.

I shall not dissemble the fact that this study has exacted much care and labour. Some of the Communities yielded to my demands with good grace; others, on the contrary, only acceded to my wishes painfully and with repugnance.

I am well aware that it is foreign to Catholic charity to parade its sacrifices and its good works before the world; but sometimes circumstances present themselves, which, not only justify, but imperiously require the step I have taken.

The Catholic Religious Corporations of the City of Quebec may be classed as follows:—

1. Educational institutions; 2. Charitable institutions; 3. Institutions which are both educational and charitable.

The Educational institutions are:—

1. The Québec Seminary and Laval University.
2. The Ursulines.
3. The Congregation of Notre-Dame.
4. The Christian Brothers' Schools.

The Charitable institutions are:—

1. The Hotel-Dieu.
2. The General Hospital.
3. The St. Bridget's Asylum.
4. The Maternity of St. Joseph.
5. The Dispensary.

The mixed institutions, being both educational and charitable, are:—

1. The Sisters of Charity.
2. The Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

THE QUEBEC SEMINARY AND LAVAL UNIVERSITY.

I.

The Quebec Seminary was founded in 1663 by Mgr. de Laval-Montmorency, first Bishop of Quebec.

The different donations made to the Quebec Seminary by Mgr. de Laval were as follows:—

1. The seigniories of *Beaupré* and *Isle Jésus*.
2. The fief *Sault-au-Matlot*, situated in the city of Quebec.
3. A house at Château-Richer, and the seigniorship of *Petite-Nation*, near Montreal.
4. All the furniture, books, ornaments, and arrears of rents due to the Bishop, belonging to him at the date of his decease, May 6, 1708.

All the property, real as well as personal, given and bequeathed by Mgr. de Laval to the Quebec Seminary, had been acquired with the family wealth of that eminent prelate. It is proper to bear in mind, that Mgr. de Laval was allied to the royal family of France.

The Quebec Seminary has never received a single penny, either from the French government or that of England, or from any civil institution.

Monseigneur de Laval imposed but two obligations on the Quebec Seminary:—

1. To maintain the foundation of the Grand and the Minor Seminary ;
2. To give gratuitously board and education to twelve poor boys.

In 1663 the first house was erected, in wood, in the garden of the presbytery. Therein were lodged Mgr. de Laval and his Grand Seminary, composed of a few priests.

From the year 1668 the Minor Seminary was opened, in the house belonging to Madame Couillard. The foundations of this building were exposed to view some four years ago : they are situated at the entrance to the garden.

In the month of May, 1678, was laid the first stone of that portion of the building (150 feet by 30) which faces the Seminary garden and the play-ground of the junior scholars. This first block consisted, at that date, of but one storey on the side of the play-ground, surmounted with an attic storey. In 1701, after the first destruction of the building by fire, a second storey was added to this block. (In 1866, after the fire of 1865, which consumed nearly one half of this portion of the institution, a third storey was added.)

Dating from 1701, the Corporation of the Seminary continued to add new structures to the first building, so that in 1714 the total length of the Seminary was 350 feet.

At present the whole length of the edifices known as the "Quebec Seminary," is 684 feet. If to this figure be added the length of the Laval University buildings, erected by the same Corporation, we have a total extent of 1260 feet in length of buildings.

The various donations of Mgr. de Laval were not of great value at the epoch when they were given. The country was still a wilderness, and the revenues of all the seigniories, taken together, made up but a modest sum. The holy Bishop, however, gave all that he possessed.

The personal staff of the Seminary,—that is to say, all those living in the institution, servants as well as the body of directors, teachers, ecclesiastics in minor orders, and pupils, in 1704, was only 54; in 1750, the same number; in 1810, the number was 110; and in 1870, the total is 429, not including the Laval University.

During this period of more than two centuries, the Quebec Seminary suffered numerous losses, consequent upon the interminable wars which desolated the country and the memorable sieges that the city underwent, apart from the losses by the three great fires which happened in 1701, 1705 and 1865.

Thanks to a daily economy, and to privations of every kind, not only was the Corporation of the Seminary enabled to rise anew after each disaster and maintain its establishment, but it was also able to make new acquisitions of property, though of slight value, it is true, at the time when they were made.

With the development of the country these properties have increased in importance; and in 1852 the Quebec Seminary, faithful to the wishes of its illustrious founder, laid the foundations of the Laval University.

II.

The total cost of constructing the University buildings attained the figure of \$238,787.72; and from this amount are excluded the expenses of enlarging the museums, libraries, &c.

The Seminary was enabled to meet this enormous outlay, first, by the aid of its savings, and next, owing to generous loans made it by the Fabriques, by certain religious Corporations, and by Priests devoted to the cause of superior education.

During the academical year just finished (1869-70,) the total receipts accruing from the fees for boarding and educating pupils, tickets to the University lectures, &c., &c., for the Grand and Minor Seminary and for the Laval University,

attained the sum of.....	\$20,481 21
The total outlay during the same period for the maintenance of these divers establishments, attained the sum of.....	
	49,621 21

Leaving a deficit on the year of.....: \$29,140 00

This deficit of \$29,140 is met in the following manner:—

1. Rents drawn by the Seminary for five houses which it owns in the city of Quebec.....	\$3,380 77
2. Rents of <i>Sault-au-Matelot</i>	2,873 70

\$6,254 47

This brings the deficit down to \$22,885 53, which balance is defrayed by the revenues arising from properties which the Seminary possesses outside of the city of Quebec,—notably its seigniories of Isle-Jésus and the Côte Beaupré, and its farms of St. Joachim, the Canardière, Beauport, &c.

III.

The number of Priests who constitute the Quebec Seminary is fourteen.

These fourteen Priests, designated as “aggregates,” are assisted by nine Priests who take the title of “auxiliaries.”

Eleven Ecclesiastics in minor orders are, besides, attached to the institution as masters of the classes, masters in recreation, &c.

Of these 34 Priests and Ecclesiastics, 9 are University professors in the Faculties of Theology and Arts.

The salaries of these 34 Priests and Ecclesiastics are distributed as follows:—

1. Aggregates' salary, \$20 each.....	\$280 00
2. Auxiliaries' salary, \$100 each.....	900 00
3. Ecclesiastics' salary, \$55 each.....	605 00

Total salaries..... \$1785 00

That is to say, that the total salaries of the 14 Aggregates, united, equals about the wages of a servant in a first class family.

* And that the sum of the salaries paid to the 34 Priests and Ecclesiastics, who do the work of the Seminary, amounts to about the sum paid to the clerk of a first class commercial house.

Let us continue the calculation :

Over and above the salary of \$20 per annum, each Aggregate receives his boarding and clothing from the institution. Say, for board, \$120 each.....	\$1680 00
Clothing, \$80 each.....	1120 00
To which add the salaries.....	280 00
	<hr/>
Making a total of.....	\$3,080 00

From which it will be seen that the total cost for salaries, boarding, clothing, &c., of these 14 Aggregates, does not equal the salary paid to a Judge of the Superior Court.

IV.

Gentlemen who receive such remuneration, and who are content with such salaries, must have something to compensate them. Their mode of life must be an easy one,—must offer some special attractions! Let us see what is the “Daily Rule for Aggregated Priests and Auxiliaries of the Quebec Seminary.”

Rising: from 4.30 to 6 a.m.

Breakfast: 7 a.m. The interval between rising and breakfast is spent at mass, at study, &c.

From 8 to 10 a.m.: teaching in class or other duties and occupations.

From 10 to 11.30 a.m.: studies and religious exercises.

At 11.30: Dinner. This repast, as well as that of supper,

is eaten in silence. During the repast all hearken to a reader.
 From noon to 1 p.m.: recreation.
 From 1 to 2 p.m.: studies or religious exercises.
 From 2 to 4 p.m.: classes.
 From 4 to 4.30 p.m.: recreation.
 From 4.30 to 6 p.m.: study.
 From 6 to 7 p.m.: religious exercises, &c.
 From 7 to 8 p.m.: recreation.
 From 8 to 9, 10 or 11 p.m.: study and religious exercises.
 That is to say, two-and-a-half hours recreation and fourteen
 or fifteen hours work in the twenty-four.

V.

The Rector of the Laval University is at the same time the Superior of the Quebec Seminary.

His salary is the same as that of the other Aggregates, \$20.

Adding to the figure of his salary the cost of his boarding and clothing, we get a total of..... \$220 00

These are all the emoluments of this dignitary.

The present Rector of the University of Toronto, Rev. John McCaul, draws an annual salary of \$4000 00

Difference of cost..... \$3780 00

While the salary of the Rector of the University of Toronto is taken from the revenues of that institution, which is endowed by the government, the salary and expenses of the Rector of Laval University are paid by the Quebec Seminary.

The salary drawn by the Rector of the University of Toronto would more than defray all the expenses (salaries included) of the fourteen Aggregates of the Seminary. It would even leave a balance of \$920.

VI.

The number of young men who attend the classes of the Seminary and University is 531: this includes day scholars as well as boarders.

Of 213 boarders, 99 receive assistance from the Seminary to the extent of \$6,388 14.

Poor day scholars pay no class fee. The fee for those who can pay is \$1.25 per month.

The pupils of the High School of Quebec, who are, as regards that institution, on the same footing as the day scholars of the Quebec Seminary, pay \$50 per annum, that is to say, four times as much.

—
THE URSULINES.

I.

The Ursuline Convent is one of the most ancient in Canada. It was founded in 1639, by Madame de la Peltrie.

The properties possessed by the Ursulines are as follows:—

In the City: 1. Their Convent and the garden in which it is situated. 2. Nine houses, from which they derive a rental of \$4,530.

Beyond the City: The little fief of St. Ann, situated in the seigniory of Lauzon, and a farm of 8 *arpents* in extent, situated in the same seigniory;—The fief of St. Joseph, in the *banlieue*, and the seigniory of Ste. Croix;—Finally, a piece of land of 40 *arpents* in superficies, on the bank of the river St. Charles, in the *banlieue* of Quebec.

The village of Ste. Angèle is built on this last named property, but the revenue derived therefrom barely defrays the cost of agency.

This piece of land was a gift from the Government of France to the Ursulines,—the only endowment it ever received from that government, while from the other civil institutions of this country it has never received a penny of gr^t.

II.

The number of Sisters in this institution is at present 84.

The total number of their Pupils, including those of the Normal School, confided to their direction, is 715. Of this number 351 are boarders or half-boarders, and 364 day scholars.

The School Fee for day scholars is ninepence monthly: 40 pay but *half that price*, and 60 pay *nothing at all*.

The number of Servants employed by the house is 14; so that the whole *personnel* of the establishment attains the figure of 813.

The Receipts from pupils of the Convent, if all collected, would amount to.....	\$17022 00
The Expenses of the institution, not including the cost of maintaining the Sisters, is.....	19562 37
Leaving a deficit of.....	<u>\$ 2540 37</u>

As stated above, the Ursulines give instruction gratuitously to 364 young girls of the city. Neither the Government nor the Corporation of Quebec have ever given a single penny of reimbursement to the Ursulines for this work of charity.

Without entering into details of the Daily Rule of these good Sisters, I may merely state that they rise at 4 a.m., and retire to rest at 9 p.m., so that they devote fifteen hours out of the twenty-four to labour, teaching, and to the religious services; and that in this space of time they take but two hours of recreation.

—

THE CONGREGATION OF NOTRE-DAME.

I.

This Convent was erected in 1843 at the expense and charge of Mgr. Signaï and of the Rev. Mr. Charest, *curé* of St. Roch.

This Convent, apart from the buildings wherein its labours are carried on,—(one of which is situated in front of the

Parish Church of St. Roch ; the other on a site contiguous to the St. Sauveur Church,)—possesses a large store in St. Peter street, built on the site of a former Convent of the same Order, the rental of which yields \$2394.00

The citizens of St. Roch, by means of bazaars and subscriptions, aided in erecting the Convent in that district. One of these citizens, the Rev. Mr. Charest, *curé* of the Parish, has, in the course of thirty years, spent eight thousand pounds of his private means towards the support of this Convent and other public establishments of education and charity in his parish.

II.

The *personnel* of this House is 1160, distributed as follows:

Sisters.....	26
Boarders, half-boarders and quarter-boarders.....	322
Day Scholars.....	800
Servants.....	12
	<hr/>
	1160

This Community has a branch at St. Sauveur, composed of,

Sisters.....	9
Pupils.....	500

Of the 1300 day scholars who attend the classes of these two Convents, 1000 pay no fee—30 pay one shilling per month—170 pay sixpence monthly—100 threepence.

The annual outlay of the St. Roch's Convent is...\$11,341.51

The School Commissioners contribute towards
this..... 100.00

Balance.....\$11,241.51

The labour of the Good Sisters, their savings, their privations, and the private means of the Curé of St. Roch, make up this balance.

Not one of these Sisters receives a penny of salary ; the community provides their maintenance and necessaries.

Once for all let it be told, that not a single one of the 374 Sisters who live in the six Communities of Religious Women in Quebec, receives a single penny of salary !

All the gain which may accrue from the education which they impart, all the profit resulting from the manual labour of these Sisters, is employed in the relief of the sick and infirm of the City of Quebec, and for the education of the children of that city.

BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE.

There are in Quebec three communities of "Brothers," designated as follows :--1. The Glacis ; 2. The Coves ; 3. St. Sauveur.

The Community of the Glacis directs the four following schools :--The Glacis, St. John's, St. Roch's, and the Commercial Academy. The number of Children who receive instruction in these various schools is 2,278.

The Brothers employed in the schools at the Glacis, St. Roch's, the Coves, and St. Sauveur, receive their remuneration from the "School Commissioners." This remuneration consists solely in the cost of their maintenance,—the Brothers receiving no salary. The Society of Education provides the maintenance of the Brothers who direct the St. John's school. Those who direct the Commercial Academy receive their remuneration out of the fees paid by the pupils. These divers Schools of the Christian Brothers have no endowment whatever.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

THE HOTEL-DIEU.

I.

The *Hotel-Dieu* was founded by the Duchess D'Aiguillon, with the concurrence of Cardinal Richelieu, in 1639. The

mission of this hospital is to receive and tend the sick. The *Hotel-Dieu* received from its founders a capital of 20,000 francs, yielding an income of 1500 francs at the time of the endowment. Later, the Duchess D'Aiguillon and the Cardinal Richelieu doubled this donation.

The ground on which the *Hotel-Dieu* is situated was conceded to the Duchess D'Aiguillon by the Company of the Hundred-Associates.

The properties which the *Hotel-Dieu* now possesses are :—

1. In the City : twelve houses.
2. Beyond the City : their farm at St. Sauveur—their interest in the emphyteutic leases of St. John Suburbs—their concession of the St. Vallier Suburbs—a small farm at the Canardiere—and the *Isle-aux-Oies*.

All these properties, excepting the donations of the Duchess D'Aiguillon, were acquired with the fruits accruing from the savings of the Sisters of the *Hotel-Dieu*, and by means of the dower brought to the house by each Sister. The French Government, no more than the English Government, never donated the house a single acre of land.

II.

The number of beds in the hospital is 80,—of which 70 at least are occupied daily. It will be seen that not less than 70 sick persons receive each day, from the Sisters of the *Hotel-Dieu*, the nourishment, care, and medicaments &c., necessary to their condition.

The total Expenditure for the sick amounts in each year to an average of \$5,000. This sum, as well as that required for the maintenance of 55 Sisters who reside in the house, and six serving men employed in the ruder labours of the institution, are all defrayed from the revenues of the *Hotel-Dieu*, with the exception of \$640 allowed annually by Government. The Corporation of Quebec does not contribute a single penny to succour these 8 or 900 sick persons !

It is well to remark, that for the whole of this large establishment there are but six servants—all the work of the hospital, household work, and care of the patients, &c., being performed by the Sisters themselves.

These Sisters have for all earthly reward their boarding and clothing.

According to their "Rule" the Religious of the *Hotel-Dieu* devote fifteen hours out of the twenty-four to duty: religious exercises, tending the sick, and manual labour. They take two hours recreation daily.

All those whose health will permit, watch the sick during the night, two by two in turn. Five physicians are attached to the establishment, to which they give their services gratuitously.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

I.

This asylum was founded in 1693 by Mgr. de St. Valier, second Bishop of Canada.

The property whereon the asylum is situated was acquired by Mgr. de St. Valier, out of his private revenues. In 1695 the worthy Bishop endowed the institution with a constituted rent of 1500 francs, representing a capital of 20,000 francs. The same prelate donated to the institution at successive periods two seigniories, which the Sisters were obliged to sell at a later date.

An interesting fact to note here is, that one of these seigniories, that of *de la Durantaye*, was sold in 1767 to pay a debt which the institution had contracted to enable them to assist the wounded of the French army in 1759.

Down to the autumn of 1868, this house was at once both an educational and charitable institution. Since that date the General Hospital has relinquished the work of teaching, to confine itself in future to the care of the infirm and incurable.

II.

The total number of invalids and infirm sheltered by the General Hospital, at the present date, is 158, of which number 143 are French Canadians, 12 Irish, 2 French and 1 German.

The Government assists this Asylum to the extent of \$1876 annually; being the provision made by the State for boarding and keeping 18 invalids at \$67 each.

The institution provides from its own revenues for the keeping, &c., of 130 others, besides the maintenance and wants of 60 Sisters who live in the house.

ST. BRIDGET'S ASYLUM.

This Asylum has not yet been placed under religious rule, but I am told that it is on the point of being regularized.

It was founded in 1856, by means of subscriptions and generous donations from Irish inhabitants of this city.

The *personnel* of this institution is 60. Its annual expense amounts to \$2475 85. The Government grant in its favour is \$500,—that of the School Commissioners \$60. The total outlay of the Asylum since its foundation is said to aggregate not less than seven or eight thousand pounds.

INSTITUTIONS EDUCATIONAL AND CHARITABLE.

THE SISTERS OF CHARITY.

This Asylum was founded in 1848 by Mgr. Turgeon, by means of a general collection made throughout the Diocese.

66 Sisters and 24 novices are enrolled in the institution, which gives shelter to 136 orphans and infirm persons.

The Sisters of Charity give, besides, instruction to 720 young girls, of whom 403 are French speaking, and 317 of English speaking origin.

530 of these young girls pay ten cents per month,—190 pay nothing.

Total receipts	\$366 00
Total annual expenditure of the Asylum, for school purposes, for maintenance of the poor, and for support of the Sisters.....	\$13,000 00
Annual Government grant.....	600 00
School Commissioners grant.....	840 00
Their annual deficit, which is \$11,560, has to be made up by the labours of the Sisters.	

ASYLUM OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

I.

This Asylum was founded in 1850: during the first year of its existence the Society of St. Vincent de Paul provided for its maintenance. In 1851 that Society purchased the house situated at the corner of Lachevrotière and St. Ambroise streets, St. Louis suburbs. This house was the first property owned by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

Through subscriptions, bazaars, collections, and the labour of the Sisters, this institution has grown up little by little; to-day it possesses a fine establishment in the St. Louis Suburb.

II.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd at present give education to 425 young girls. Of this number 200 pay ten cents per month.—Total receipt \$240. 225 children pay nothing.

There are now in the Asylum 89 penitents; and 30 young girls are placed in the Reformatory.

The number of Sisters is 74;—of novices 19.

The total of the *personnel* is 637.

Total expenses of the institution,.....	\$17,292 00
Government allowance of \$5 per month for each young girl in the Reformatory.....	1,800 00
School Commissioner's grant.....	800 00
	<hr/>
Deficit.....	\$14,692 00

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd have to make good this deficit, which they do by holding bazaars and by devoting themselves to manual labour without restriction,—such as sewing and washing,—and even, when the wants of the house are too pressing, they are to be found begging from house to house.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOUSE OF MATERNITY.

This hospital was founded in 1852, by the Rev. Mr. Auclair, Curé of Quebec, and by Miss Marie Methivier.

At first a house was rented in the St. John Suburb, at \$24 per annum.

It was necessary to furnish this house, and Miss Methivier assumed the task.

Miss Methivier had in her possession the sum of twenty pence! With this sum she bought a crucifix, which she nailed to the naked wall of a room in the house.

A few days later a pious lady of this city gave two chairs to the institution. Until this donation was received, Miss Methivier had to sit on the sills of the windows to rest herself.

The first mattress given to the institution was purchased for it by a priest of the Seminary,—that holy priest Leon Gingras.

The religious communities of the city, the Archbishopric, and the Curé of Quebec, lent a strong hand to the institution, while Miss Methivier solicited alms to meet the most pressing wants of the new house.

The subscription of the Archbishopric amounted to ten pounds per annum; that of the Curé of Quebec, Rev. Mr. Auclair, was also ten pounds.

An act of incorporation was applied for. The names of the pious ladies of Quebec who appear in this statute are: Miss Methivier, Mesdames Justice Panet, Taschereau, Taschereau, Tetu, Tetu, Pelletier, Carrier, Langevin and Bilodeau.

Since then the institution has been maintained by means of bazaars and collections, and with the trifling revenue paid for patients.

The Provincial Legislature generously allows at present \$480 per annum to the institution.

Miss Methivier does not receive a single penny of salary.

All the time which she can spare from her numerous occupations is employed in manual labor, sewing, &c. The proceeds of this work serves to defray the costs of the house.

THE DISPENSARY.

The Dispensary was established in 1866. The Quebec Seminary and the Revd. Mr. Auclair, Curé of Quebec, defray all the cost of this establishment.

All the poor of the city, without distinction of faith or origin, receive gratuitously the assistance and medicaments called for by their condition. The Sisters of Charity look after the wards, and receive the patients.

Six physicians are attached to the Dispensary, who give their advice and prescriptions gratis, every day, from 1 p.m. till 2 or 3 p.m., according to necessity.

The number of sick persons treated by the Dispensary from the 19th February, 1866, date of the opening of this establishment, up to the 1st October, 1870, shews the very large figure of 11,751.

The number of prescriptions given during the same space of time is 13,854.

The City Corporation has not yet given a single penny for the support of the Dispensary, and it has not yet occurred to the mind of anyone of our rich citizens to make the gift of a few dollars to the Dispensary towards the purchase of the few instruments of which it stands greatly in need.

CLOSING REMARKS.

The following table contains a Summary of the preceding Statistics :—

	Staff.	Annual Expenses.	Grant from Government.	Grant from School Commissioners.
Quebec Seminary & Laval University.	579	\$ 49621 21	0 00	0 00
Ursulines	813	19562 37	0 00	0 00
Congregation of Notre-Dame.....	1669	11341 57	0 00	100 00
Hotel-Dieu.....	961	5000 00	640 00	0 00
General Hospital....	240	10128 00	1876 00	0 00
Sisters of Charity....	946	13000 00	600 00	840 00
Good Shepherd.....	637	17292 00	2600 00	820 00
Saint Bridget.....	60	2475 85	500 00	60 00
Maternity.....	124	1000 00	480 00	0 00
Christian Brothers..	2314	5900 00	0 00	2880 00
Dispensary.....	3000 sick annually.	400 00	50 00	0 00
Total.....	11343	\$135721 00	6746 00	4700 00

By referring to this table and to the foregoing figures we find:

1. That the number of young persons of both sexes who obtain their education in the religious houses of Quebec amounts to 6161 annually.

2. That the number of sick, infirm, &c., who are provided for by the religious houses of this city, is more than 3,974 annually.

3. That out of this number of sick 486 receive gratuitously each day, *and during the whole year*, care and nourishment from these same communities. (The 28 infirm and invalid patients of the General Hospital, and the 30 young girls of the Reformatory School, confided by Government to the care

of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, are not included in this figure.)

The 6161 children and young persons of both sexes who obtain their education in religious communities, receive that education gratuitously, or almost so. The threepences and the fivepences, &c., paid monthly by a certain number of the day-scholars who frequent the schools of the Sisters of Charity, of the Good Shepherd, and of the Ursulines, cannot be considered otherwise than equivalent to 0, if we compare the revenue derived from this source to the sum of the expenses incurred annually by these divers establishments.

So also the \$100, or the \$120, paid by the boarders of the Seminary, of the University, of the Ursulines, &c., does not suffice, or barely suffice, to defray the cost of boarding those pupils. The proof of this is visible in the large deficits of all these establishments, notwithstanding that their administration is conducted with the most strict economy.

We have therefore at Quebec a complete system of gratuitous education.

Between this system of gratuitous education and that followed in other countries, there are two points of capital difference,—that is to say:

1. Gratuitous education in other countries, where this system is in force, exists only in reference to elementary education. In Quebec, education of every kind, elementary and classical, is gratuitous.

2. Elsewhere the costs of this gratuitous education are borne by governments and municipalities; in Quebec the religious communities, unaided, bear the costs of this education, (the Normal Schools excepted.)

In fact the amount of assistance granted for this object by the Provincial Government, and by the School Commissioners, is so small, that, compared to the enormous sum expended by our religious houses, the public grants are barely equivalent to 0.

Thus, the amount of assistance granted by the School Commission, to all our religious houses which impart education, does not reach the insignificant sum of \$4,700 annually.

That which is true for schools and for education is equally true for the hospitals and for the care of the sick.

In all civilized countries of the world the governments and the municipalities are held to provide education for the people and care for the pauper sick, as a primary and imperative duty. Some of the municipalities of the large cities in Europe devote to these objects millions annually.

In Quebec the care of sick Catholic paupers, as well as the education of youth, falls almost entirely upon our religious communities; the total sum which they expend annually for these two objects attaining the enormous figure of almost \$136,000. In other words, that our religious communities completely rid the government and the municipalities of this annoying task and this enormous expense, by means of their own revenues.

Let us suppose for a moment that, for one reason or another, our religious houses should cease to exist, on whom would devolve the task of providing the costs of public education and the outlay demanded by the care of the sick, the invalid, and the orphan? Evidently on the Provincial Government and the Quebec Municipality.

Whence comes this enormous sum of \$136,000 spent annually by our religious houses?

This sum is raised at Isle-Jesus, situated 180 miles from Quebec, at the Cote Beaupré, at the Isle-aux-Oies, at St. Joachim, at the Canardiere, &c., and from the boarding fees of pupils, the majority of whom are from the rural districts.

And as the total revenues of the property, real and personal, possessed by the religious houses within this city, makes but a trifling sum, it appears that they contribute annually to the local capital and circulation a sum equal to \$136,000 annually

—almost every dollar of which comes from without.

Let those religious communities disappear—or let them settle elsewhere—and it is evident that, pecuniarily speaking, the loss to the city would be great. For \$136,000 added to the circulation is no bagatelle in the hard times through which we are passing.

Very strange too! the complete interversion of parts played here.

Whilst elsewhere we see the governments and the municipalities coming to the relief of charitable and educational institutions, here it is the latter which assists the municipalities and the government;—not only to do a work which properly belongs to government and the municipality, but also to contribute towards expenses which should fall on them of right—especially in the case of the municipality.

In fact, by consulting the table given above, it will be seen that the School Commission contributes to some of these institutions a sum which varies from \$60 to \$840. Portion of the School Commission fund is subscribed by the Quebec Corporation, but, on the other hand, this same Corporation by means of water taxes, chimney taxes, and other assessments, collects a very handsome sum from these various institutions. To cite but one example: The Quebec Seminary pays not less than \$600 per annum water tax, which, to say the least of it, is an exorbitant charge.

Let us cite another example:—The School Commission contributes to the Congregation N.-D. a sum equal to \$100, while the sum paid by that community to the Corporation of Quebec annually for taxes on water, vehicles and chimneys foots up \$93. Balance \$7!

It is, therefore, literally true to say that the Corporation of the city withdraws with one hand that which it gives with the other. In the cases before us it even receives more than it gives,—seeing that a large share of the \$100 granted by

the School Commission is furnished by the government.

This way of doing things at least shews that our municipal corporation understands its business. It is easy enough to be generous on such conditions!

The number of persons of both sexes belonging to the Catholic Institutions of Quebec is 495, of whom 70 are Priests and Brothers, and 425 are professed Nuns.

The 425 Sisters make a vow of poverty at their profession; and the 36 Brothers who serve the schools of the Christian Doctrine make the same vow. These 461 persons receive no salary whatever, and give their services to the public *gratis*!

The Priests of the Seminary belonging to the secular order of the clergy are not obliged to make the same vow of poverty, and therefore are not prevented from taking a salary.

But they get no salary;—for I presume no one will consider as salary the \$20 paid annually to the Rector of the Laval University and to the 14 aggregated priests of the Seminary; or the sum of \$55; or even that of \$100 paid to the ecclesiastics and auxiliaries of that institution.

And what reason exists, then, to prevent these 34 priests from receiving a salary proportionate to their merit and to the valuable services which they render society? None, absolutely; for the only formality which the Seminary would have to observe would be to vote such salary! Neither the civil authority nor those of the Church could object to such a proceeding if adopted.

Let us suppose the case that the Council of the Seminary desired to vote to each of its members the reasonable salary of \$1000 per annum; a sum which, assuredly, would not be exorbitant, and yet would give the 34 priests and ecclesiastics of this house a total of \$34,000.

And this sum which the priests of the Seminary might so justly appropriate, *they make a present of to the public!*

With this \$34,000 the Corporation of the Quebec Seminary pays the salaries of the lay professors of the Laval University,

the 20 annual half-boarding fees founded by itself to assist poor students of the University, the bursarships and half-bursarships which it grants to a large number of young scholars and poor ecclesiastics. And the balance is used to augment the museums and libraries of the two institutions; to establish new faculties in the University, the want of which is felt but cannot be overcome at present for the lack of means; and to meet the annual deficit in the revenues of the Seminary and University.

All things balanced then, we find we have, in the single city of Quebec, 495 persons who devote all their time, consecrate their whole lives, to the service of their fellow-beings without any personal remuneration!

And those religious communities, charitable and educational, of whom and how are they composed?—From the very flower of the French-Canadian population; in other words, from the very best population of the Dominion of Canada, from Manitoba to the Atlantic.

By their origin, by their birth, by kinship, these 444 persons belong to the first families of Lower Canada. Those priests are our brothers and our cousins;—those nuns are our sisters and our relatives in every degree of kindred.

And these facts are all of themselves so extraordinary that many Protestants, even those who live among us, will not believe them. When you enter into conversation with them on this subject, they either keep silent or receive your statements with a smile of incredulity. They suspect that underneath what you say lies some mystery—they imagine that the life of a priest or a nun offers some unknown charm.

And speaking with the higher truth they are right in so thinking; for the particular attraction presented in the lives of these 495 persons has its beautiful side, and may be summed up in these words: "To accomplish the good of Religion and of one's country, without reward or human compensation."





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