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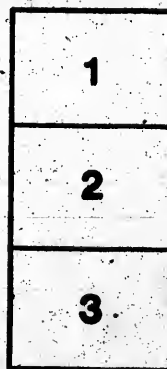
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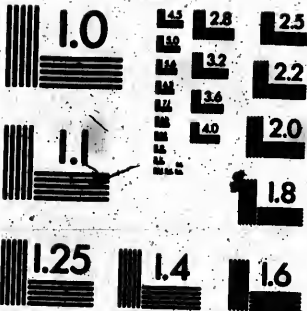
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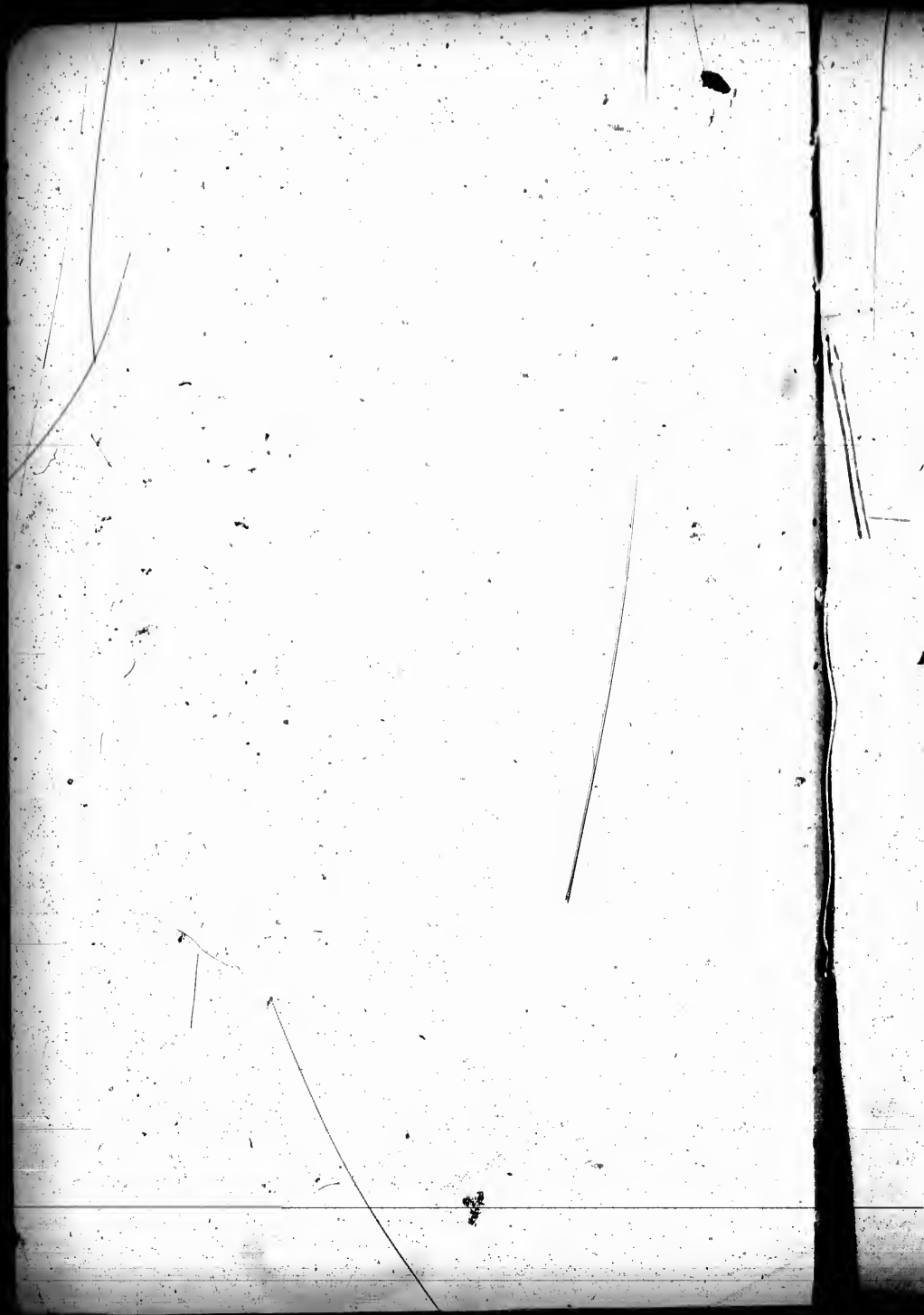
OBITUARY NOTICES

OF THE LATE

HON. HORATIO GATES.

Extracted from the Newspapers of the Day.

Re-printed at the solicitation of several friends for private circulation.



OBITUARY NOTICES

OF THE LATE

HON. HORATIO GATES,

Extracted from the Newspapers of the day.

Re-printed at the solicitation of several friends for private circulation.

DIED.

At Montreal, on the 11th April, 1834, after a short but severe illness, the Honorable Horatio Gates, Member of the Legislative Council of the Province of Lower Canada, in the 57th year of his age.

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The Hon. Horatio Gates.

THE deep feeling of sorrow which the death of Mr. GATES has produced in this city; the sympathy for his surviving relatives, who have been called unexpectedly to mourn under one of the most afflicting bereavements; and the important station in which he stood as respects the commercial interests of this country, call upon us to dwell for a few moments on the loss we have sustained. The removal of a member of society distinguished for his powers of usefulness and beneficence; his sound political principles; his wealth and extended dealings, is an event of common magnitude in a Colony just emerging from its commercial and political infancy. When a country is beginning to put forth its first energies to tread on the path of experiment and enterprise, to open channels and establish resources for extensive commercial and agricultural pursuits, an energetic and comprehensive mind, which can sustain an elevated position, is absolutely requisite in order to ensure ultimate and speedy success. In HORATIO GATES, CANADA possessed an individual capable of these high and valuable responsibilities, and we flatter ourselves that none of his brother merchants who survive him, will consider it as intended to derogate from their influential and useful standing, when we say that the place of the deceased cannot at present be filled by his survivors. He not only conducted the business of an extensive and onerous mercantile establishment in which he was individually interested; but, giving full scope to the energies of an active and intelligent mind, he seemed to soar beyond the limits of individuality, and by a very extensive correspondence, of itself

almost enough to absorb the efforts of an individual of more than ordinary elasticity of exertion, he seemed to live for the benefit and information of all who participated in the cares and responsibilities of commerce. Distinguished as his name was wherever the trade of BRITISH NORTH AMERICA had spread, for honorable dealing, for candour and a high sense of moral rectitude, for vigilance, activity, discrimination and decision, he was no less eminent for the valuable nature of his correspondence. To the review of the prospects of the merchant, the fluctuations of markets, the causes and effects operating upon trade and agriculture, he brought a comprehensive mind and sound judgment which were rendered the more valuable by a prudent and cautious conduct, supported and enhanced by a firmness and equanimity, which prevented him from being too much affected by depressed markets, or too much elevated by sudden advances in price or demand. This moral stability generally enabled him to manage his extensive business so as to avoid those extremes which too often tend to unprofitable speculations. His large capital and extensive resources enabled him to sustain his consignors in the depressed market and to await the return of an improved demand and advancing prices, whilst his well known promptitude, his honorable treatment of customers and correspondents, and his liberality towards all concerned in his extensive business, secured him general confidence. All will readily admit that the loss of such a man at any time would be generally regretted; how much more then should it be felt at a period like the present, when commerce has been embarrassed, confidence affected, and changes in our trade of the most momentous nature, are talked of and expected with more than ordinary apprehensions. Perhaps no individual has been called away from among us, since CANADA became a BRITISH Colony, whose demise involves such important consequences.

His political career was brief, but honorable and consistent. Honored by his Sovereign with one of the most distinguished marks of Royal favor, by being called to a seat in the Legisla-

tive Council of the Colony, his utility as a representative of the commercial interests of the country was fully appreciated. On the leading subjects which at present agitate our political circles, he was faithful to a Constitution, of the happy results of which he had so long an opportunity of forming a correct estimate, and he opposed the wild theories of Revolutionary visionaries with a firmness and effect which was felt to such an extent that he had become the object of unsparring rancour to the enemies of order and security, and of which his last speech on the floor of the Upper House remains an honourable proof; whilst at the same time it establishes for him a fair claim as a speaker. It is a sincere and powerful censure on the utopian theories and personal invectives of the enemies of our institutions. His life has established the fact, that whilst a great mind can ever look with veneration on the institutions of the land in which it first came into action, it can appreciate those of the land of its adoption, and hold them in an estimation proportionate to their advantages and utility. To every BRITISH subject, who looks with esteem and respect on the defenders of the venerable structure of our political rights and privileges, and who respects loyalty and fidelity, his memory will long be cherished with feelings of no ordinary description.

Mr. GATES was a native of BARRÉ, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS. He was born in 1778, and has been a resident of CANADA for the last thirty years. Descended from a highly respectable family, his whole course of life has shed a lustre on their fair name. He possessed all the nobler traits of AMERICAN character in an eminent degree. Liberality of sentiment, munificence, hospitality, urbanity and benevolence were prominent in his personal character. Our charitable institutions shared largely in his liberal support. His house was ever open to such of his respectable countrymen as visited this city. His example was looked up to with no ordinary degree of deference by his fellow citizens; and in all works of beneficence in which he lent a helping hand, his example secured the sanction of general support and approbation. Few, in his sphere of life, have allowed

their munificence to draw so largely on their means, and it is with pleasure we state, that the liberal hand was blessed in what it gave, and that he has been called from us in circumstances of apparent ease and affluence. Towards his employes, who shared with him in the labors of his business and merited his confidence, he manifested an unshaken freindship and attachment, and did not lose sight of the interests of a faithful clerk or domestic, when disengaged from his service, or embarked in business on his own account. Among his fellow citizens and brother-merchants he was beloved and respected in an eminent degree. The most convincing proof of which was given in the fact that his remains were followed to the grave by the largest concourse of persons of all ranks, that has perhaps ever been assembled in CANADA on a similar occasion.

With men absorbed in the momentous concerns of extensive business, it sometimes happens that in the domestic circle, their virtues are not seen and felt in a ratio proportionate, to their wealth and influence in public life. Such was not the case with the subject of this notice. The responsibilities of his public station never derogated from his value as a kind and indulgent husband and parent, an affectionate relative, and a firm friend. It was in this point of view that his memory has become endeared to all who shared in the affections of his heart, and this bright trait in his character will leave a lasting and deep sorrow to cloud the melancholy retrospect which love and freindship will long continue to pay to his respected memory, through a very numerous circle of highly respectable relatives and friends.

To the minute observer of the workings of the human mind, Mr. G. presented an interesting subject. His mental efforts were marked with elasticity and quickness, peculiarly rapid, clear and correct. He grasped within the compass of his perceptions, a full view of his subject, and with extraordinary judiciousness, spoke or wrote on it without hesitation. His consistency and correctness were supported and preserved by the total absence of duplicity or equivocation. He had marked

out for himself but one course, and that lay in the path of rectitude and honor. This left the faculties of his mind unembarrassed by the tortuosities of reservation or a double burthen on his memory. The path of honor was the only one in which he trod, and in the multifarious transactions which lay in his way, he brought as his beacon, moral rectitude, and followed its guiding way with unshaken firmness. His life was a continued series of mental effort, ever on the spring of action, ever calling into requisition the judgment and the memory. Yet such were the powers of his faculties, that few errors in decision or in acting, obstructed his course. The activity of the mind induced as a natural consequence, activity of the body, and in this respect it may truly be said, he was one of the most industrious business-men in this city. The whole current of his efforts seemed to flow in the channels of business with unceasing velocity, and it was only when turned aside by the calls of the public good, of benevolence or charity, that he appeared to lay aside for a moment his arduous duties. To such calls he was ever prompt, active and munificent.

Among the commercial community the deceased was esteemed and respected in an eminent degree. The length to which this notice has already extended will oblige us to be brief on this point, and perhaps we should not better embody it in a lengthened detail, than by merely noticing, that all the stores, offices and shops, (with a very few insignificant exceptions) in the city, were closed during the time of the funeral ceremonies. The concourse of citizens assembled on this occasion, was large beyond all precedent; and the sympathy, the regret for his loss which prevailed almost universally on every lip, bespoke how deeply his death was felt and lamented. We doubt not that the public will join with us most cordially in wishing, that many years may pass before they are called to pay the last tribute of respect to the remains of a fellow-citizen so beloved, so respected and so useful as the late HORATIO GATES.

— *Montreal Gazette.*

HORATIO GATES is no more. He is gone to his long home. There is a blank, a void in our society, that will never be filled but the memory of him who once occupied the niche, will go down to generations.

Whoever has heard of Canada, it has been lately remarked, has heard of HORATIO GATES, and wherever his name has been heard, whether in the distant cities of Europe, or through the various States and Provinces of America, it has been connected with every thing honorable and upright, enterprising and generous, that can dignify or ennoble the name of merchant.

We are not of those who merely to gratify the vanity of mourning friends, would indulge in idle encomiums upon an ordinary individual at the moment of his translation from the works of life, but we speak because we feel that a mighty spirit has departed—such a one as seldom moves in the ranks of commercial men, and such a one as we fear we shall not again see adorning our commercial order.

Horatio Gates was not a common man,—not one of those mere forms of animated clay that fill unmarked a little place in creation during life, and die unhonored and unwept to be immediately forgotten; but he was of the chosen and distinguished of earth's children, who dwell among men like beings of superior intelligence, and who be it their lot to rule the destinies of nations, command armies or control the affairs of commerce, appear always to move above and in an atmosphere superior to their brethren of kindred mould.

We are not attempting circumstantial biography, for we write under the feelings that must agitate every man in this commercial city, upon losing the brightest ornament, the most widely known, the most highly appreciated of the commercial body. There may arise men of wealth or men of integrity, men of enterprise or men of talent, but we fear never again to behold in Montreal, a merchant of such untiring perseverance

“Bankrupt of life, and prodigal of ease,”

or possessing the renown, the generally diffused, the exalted, the unimpeachable renown that was enjoyed by HORATIO GATES.

Commercial men will most deeply deplore his loss, for with it our trade may suffer more than imaginary evils. Most of those in active business in the community found him an established merchant at the time of their commencement; and he has always proved himself, whatever were the chances of time or the fluctuations of circumstances, whatever were the smiles of prosperous days or the frowns of adverse seasons, the same bold, nervous, unflinching man of business, undismayed by disappointment and unchanged by success.

If there ever was a merchant "*sans peur et sans reproche*" it was HORATIO GATES; for what name is there that through the varied transactions of a long and intricate course of business, has continued so entirely unsullied with the charge of one single dishonorable action. His was a mind too powerful to be terrified with the idea of any trifling advantage that another might gain in a transaction, and too noble to profit by another's inadvertence. Free from the paltry chicanery of grovelling spirits, and strong in the confidence of his own mental resources, he wielded the mightiest affairs of commerce, with such generous deference to the convenience of others, that no man ever left him with a dissatisfied voice. Not wrapt in the single idea of adding wealth to his own coffers, his operations tended to facilitate and advance the general interests of the country. How often did he appear disinterestedly to enter upon transactions rather from a desire to sustain the market, than from a prospect of pecuniary gain. He adored commerce for her own sake.

Who was more free from the despicable state assumed by many that fortune has for the moment elevated a mere degree above their fellows; who more easy of approach, more affable or more condescending in all the daily relations of society. But this amenity of disposition was always attended by that dignity of character, which reminded every one in his company, that he stood in the presence of a superior man.

HORATIO GATES was a native of Massachusetts; but the names of great men belong to the whole human family, and not to any narrowly prescribed bounds of territory. If the course of events caused him to pass a life of honor and usefulness in a city far removed from the scenes of his youth, and the sympathies of early acquaintances, we, among whom this life of honor and usefulness has been spent, are more imperatively bound to reverence his memory. The little differences of a nation and country vanish, when we are regarding a mind itself too expansive to be fettered by such arbitrary distinctions.

We speak not of the kind father, the tender husband, we speak not of the unbounded hospitality, the open purse ever ready to give, and the generous hand ever ready to assist, for these are common attributes, while in HORATIO GATES, distinguished as he was for them all, they were but feeble lights outshone amid the dazzling characteristics of superior excellence.

Were we living in days of renown when the virtues or the vices of an age become embodied in, and were transmitted with the names of celebrated individuals, we should here have a name to be carried forever onwards by the pen of history and the voice of song; and we trust, however selfish may be the genius of our own times, that he who has so long stood foremost in our minds, may never be lost to our recollections.

—*Montreal Advertiser.*

It is needless to detail the private virtues of the deceased, they were too conspicuous to be unknown to our fellow citizens; and it would be improper in us to appear to invite respect, where the Hon. individual himself commanded it. But we may be permitted to sympathize with the sorrows of his bereaved family, and in the public loss which the Province has sustained.

It was only lately that MR. GATES appeared on our political stage, where, as in every other situation, his leading characteristics were mildness, urbanity, combined with a remarkable activity, and intelligence. And a sufficient earnest had already

been given of the value of MR. GATES as a public man, to produce a just estimate of his talents, and to put every honest heart in Canada into mourning, on the present melancholy occasion.

— *Montreal Herald.*

Montreal has sustained a severe loss in the death of MR. GATES. No man was ever more highly or more deservedly popular among all classes; and MR. GATES's bereaved relatives will at least enjoy the blended pain and pleasure of universal sympathy and universal mourning. In writing of such a man, one spurns the hackneyed caution to speak only good of the departed; for of MR. GATES, even when alive, none but two individuals ever dared to breathe anything but good.

At present it may not be proper to say much; but we would suggest to some one of MR. GATES's numberless and affectionate friends the melancholy task of preparing a short memoir of his useful and honorable life, as at once a tribute to his memory, and a model to the public of industry, integrity, liberality, kindness and patriotism. It should be engraven in the heart of every clerk, every merchant, every legislator, and every father in the country. Since writing the foregoing remarks, we have been much gratified to learn that the members of the Committee of trade, and the directors of the bank are to go into mourning for MR. GATES during thirty days.—*Settler.*

Yesterday afternoon at the hour appointed for consigning to the tomb the mortal remains of our deservedly esteemed and venerated fellow citizen, the HON. HORATIO GATES, every avenue to his residence was closed by a multitude of persons, who, without distinction of creed or politics, hastened to testify their respect for the memory of him, whose virtues will be long recorded in the recollection of those who witnessed that beautiful but rare combination of private worth, with public enterprise, which distinguished his character.

The native of a country that may proudly boast of such a scion, his indentity with BRITISH feeling never for a moment affected his partialities for the land of his origin. An AMERICAN by birth, he was equally the friend of his own and the country of his adoption. Liberality, charity, honesty and independence formed the chief features of his public and domestic virtues, and if the universal sympathy for his loss could be regulated by the multitude who followed his remains to the chambers of the dead, we might fearlessly say, that such a funeral was never, upon any occasion, witnessed in BRITISH AMERICA. His pall was borne by six of his fellow Councillors, and the train of mourners, embracing ten of the ministers of the city, the members of the bar, the directors of the Bank, the Board of Trade, and many eminent merchants, illustrated the fact, that public worth and private virtues, even where those characteristics have ceased to exist, can be appreciated by a discerning community.

Speech of the Hon. Philip Hone, at the Dinner of the
St. George's Society, New York.

Mr. President, I beg leave to acknowledge for myself, and for the society which I represent, the honor conferred by your toast, and I rejoice in the opportunity which is afforded me, to congratulate this company on another return of the anniversary of the patron saint of Old England, and the auspicious state of things which enables Englishmen and Americans to unite in the bonds of good fellowship, with a confident truth that those bonds are in no danger of being severed.

It was my intention to avail myself of the present, or some similar occasion, to discharge in part, a debt of gratitude for kindness and hospitality extended to me by the citizens of Montreal, and if the occasion had occurred, a few days earlier, the remarks I am about to make would have been more in accordance with the jovial and cheerful feelings of this assemblage, but it is impossible to allude to the prosperous City of Montreal at this time, without a deep and solemn sense of her recent

melancholy bereavement and a profound sympathy in the loss which she has sustained, in the decease of one of her most distinguished citizens.

I should hesitate to mingle the accents of grief, with the sounds of hilarity; or call upon you in the midst of your festivity to shed a tear for departed worth, did I not know that both are equally characteristic of England, with whom the enjoyment of rational mirth, is not inconsistent with the sensibility which prompts us "to weep with those who weep."

We have just received the melancholy tidings of the decease of Horatio Gates of Montreal, well known to many in this company, who like myself have enjoyed his friendship, and had frequent occasions to bear testimony to his private worth and public services.

Mr. Gates was a native of the United States, born in the state of Massachusetts; he removed in early life to Montreal, where he soon became distinguished as an eminent and prosperous merchant and a liberal and public-spirited citizen. He was at different times appointed to offices of high trust and responsibility, and at the time of his death, was a member of the Executive Council of the Province. His zeal, activity, and enterprise rendering him a prominent man in the party which advocated, and promoted all measures of public improvement, it will not be considered invidious, to place him in the first rank among the benefactors of his adopted country, and the deep expressions of regret for his loss, and of respect for his memory evinced by his fellow citizens, prove their acknowledgment of his claims to that distinction.

As an American he never ceased to entertain an affection for his native land, and his countrymen derived important advantages from the facilities which his high mercantile station afforded them in their intercourse with Canada, and will long remember with gratitude his liberality and hospitality.

Trusting that this very imperfect tribute to the memory of a lamented friend may be kindly received as a substitute for the remarks which I had intended to make, I beg leave to propose the following toast: —

The City of Montreal We sympathise deeply in the loss of one of her most useful and estimable citizens.

{ *Bank of Montreal,*
MONTREAL, April 15, 1834.

At a full Meeting of the Board, held at the Bank this day, the following Resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the late Honorable HORATIO GATES, Esquire, whose premature and melancholy death the members of this Board deeply lament, was one of the original promoters of the establishment of this Bank—was an attentive and zealous Director of it since its commencement, and acted as its President for nearly the last two years with credit to himself and advantage to the institution.

Resolved, That the Members of this Board therefore, as a mark of respect to his memory, and to evince the opinion they entertained of his usefulness as a Director and President of this Bank; of his distinguished liberality and public spirit as a Merchant, and of his integrity and social qualities as a man; will wear mourning for, and during the space of thirty days.

A true extract from the minutes of the Board.

B. HOLMES, *Cashier.*

{ *Castle of St. Louis,*
Quebec, October 25th, 1832.

DEAR SIR,—

I have much satisfaction in being enabled to inform you, that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of your appointment as Legislative Counsellor of the Province of Lower Canada; and that I am in daily expectation of receiving His Majesty's mandamus, calling you to a seat in that branch of the Provincial Legislature.

I Remain, Dear Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

(Signed) ALYMER.

The Honorable Horatio Gates.

