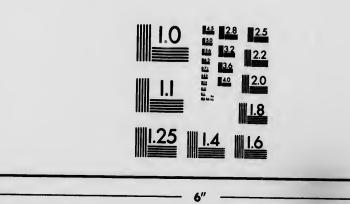


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SOUVENIR

PRESENTATION OF A DOMINION FLAG

TO

J. M. LEMOINE

FOR

The New Jower of Spencer Grange
11th November 1882

923,8714 L555 5729 1882 PL C.Sp





Lines inscribed in the autograph album of J. M. LeMoine, Spencer Grange, Quebec, by William Kirby, of Niagara.

I love Quebec for three good reasons; one,
Her matchless beauty both of earth and sky,
Her famous story of the years gone by;
And last for sake of him, her worthy son,
Bone of her bone, whose facile pen has run
Through tomes of legendary lore which vie
With what the world loves best; and so love I
Quebec for these good reasons, and upon
The plinths of Wolfe and Montcalm lay my hand,
And call to witness all the varied land,
Seen from the lofty cape's embattled coigne
Mountain and vale and city, isle and stream,
Resplendent in the memories that beam
Upon them from the pages of LeMoine.

W. KIRBY.

June, 1884.



A LITERARY FETE AT THE GARRISON CLUB

AT QUEBEC, 11th NOVEMBER, 1882.

Presentation of the Flag of Canada to J. M. LeMoine.

The presentation to J. M. Le Moine, of Spencer Grange, Sillery, by the proprietors of country seats round Quebee, of a handsome Dominion flag for the flag-stuff on the new tower erected on his residence, took place at 1 p.m., on Saturday last, at the Garrison Club,

A most recherché lunch had been ordered for the occasion. The following names appear on the address, headed as follows:

" Presented to J. M. LeMoine, author of Picturesque Quebec, dec., for his untiring literary efforts to add historical interest to the attraction." tions of the Canadian homes round the city."

His Worship the Hon FKS. LANGELIER (*)

Mayor of Quebec. Pavilly, Grande Allée.

ROBERT HAMILTON. Hamwood. W. RHODES, Licutenant-Colonel......Benmore House. Hon. D. A. ROSS......Westfield. Westfield. J. B. FORSYTH, Lieutenant-Colonel..... Roslin. FERDINAND TURNBULL, Lieut. Col ... Marchmont. RICHARD R. DOBELL. Beauvoir. W. HERRING. Ravenswood
ALFRED FURNISS. Bardfield.
THOS. BECKETT Clermont.
Wolsfield EVAN J. PRICE... Woleffield.
ANDREW THOMSON. Bijon.
ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL. Thornhill. FRS. J. STOCKWELL. The Highlands. CHAS. V. TEMPLE. FROST GRAY, Lieutenant Colonel. St. Michael's. GEORGE HOLMES PARKE. Ringfield. JAS. BOWEN, Jr

HENRY DINNING

L'Asile Champêtre.

ANDREW C. STUAPT, Lieutenant-Col. Meadowbank.

PARTERISON Hall

moreney.

(*) Some important municipal business having called away His Worship the Mayor, Mr. Wheeler read the following note:

"Dear Sir. — I am compelled to leave for Montreal on business tonight and shall the refore by unable to attend the presentation to Mr. LeMoine, but reat assured that I take a great interest in that event (the Fing presentation). Mr. LeMoine deserves any mark of esteem that his friends may desire to give him.

"By his writings he has done more than any body else to popularize among strangers our old city and its environs.

"Yours truly. Signed, F. LANGELIER"

After discussing the various entries on the bill of fare, Colonel Rhodes, the Chairman, proposed the health of the honored guest:

GENTLEMEN, — You are all aware that Mr. Le Moine, has been making some very considerable improvements at his residence, involving a new front to his house with a tower and flagstaff. It has therefore been thought a good opportunity for his neighbors to contribute as a Souvenir, and the Committee have decided to offer — a flag.

About forty years ago, when I was an Ensign in Her Majesty's 68th Regiment of Light Infantry, I was quartered at Marcon Town, in the Island of Jumaica, and on the occasion of new colonrs being presented to the Regiment, I was entrusted with the care of the Regimental colours. In British Regiments there are two colours, the Queen's and the Regimental. It is upon the last that the names of the places and the occasions where the Regiment has distinguished itself are inscribed. These colours were presented to us by Lady Gomme, wife of Sir William Gomme, the General in command. They were afterwards carried by the regiment through the Crimean and the Indian wars, and are now deposited as a sacred gift to the parish church of Leeds, where I saw them last winter during a v sit to England. Colours are given to regiments as a mark of honour and for good and faithful service ; I therefore think that the committee has been happy in its choice of the emblem we propose to present to our guest, Mr. LeMoine. A flag is a sign of authority. An explorer affirms his right to a newly discovered shore a- land previously unknown, by hoisting a flag there. — A king through his officers creets his standard in a country and orders all his subjects to acknowledge this act of possession. He also confers a flag as a mark of honour and calls upon the recipients to defend it. Mr. LeMoine has for a number of years past done good service to Canada in rescuing her annals from oblivion. He has described and made us prond of our Canadian homes, pointing out to the readers of his works and to the numerous travellers who visit this city, that our residences are scenes of domestic virtue, honourable living and Christian happiness. In no Canadian home is this more remarkable than in his own. If we, who are his friends and neighbors, recognize this, what more royal present can we give than by crowning his residence with a flag and claiming our right as free men, to pleat our standard of good will and friendship on the tower of our honourable friend's house - Spencer Grange.

I therefore now unfurl a flag, he loves and by his writings has taught us to love—the flag of the Dominion, which we will first salute with three British cheers; — I will then consign it to the custody of

our future standard bearer, James M. LeMoine, Esq. To which Mr. LeMoine briefly responded:—

Gentlemen — After many long years of literary labour, your presentation is indeed a pleasant surprise — this, for me a bright, a proud moment.

How can I find words to suitably acknowledge this generous recognition of what my humble efforts have sought to achieve?

Credit me when I tell you I feel confused at the warmth of feeling, which prompted to day's social meeting—this very cordial mode of endorsing my literary performance.

Tis now twenty years since I undertook what I then thought—what I still think—a useful, a loyal duty to my country—that of popularizing Canadian annals and placing prominently before the

public, the historical deeds, the picturesque sites, the healthy rustic homes, which, like a chaplet of flowers, encircle the brow of my native

Little did I then expect that after walking, not, however, without some misgivings, over the thorny paths — marked out for students in our young country, I should this day, thanks to you, be standing grateful, though I confess, rather proud, where I now stand, to receive the generous, the spontaneous, most encouraging ovation you now

The shortcomings, the incompleteness of my recent task, I readily acknowledge. What numero a lacunac yet to lefilled, in " Pieturesque How many other sweet Canadian homes, how many Quebec ! " cherished Quebec institutions, associations, clubs, societies and incidents which ought to have found a resting place — a notice in the pages of "Picturcoque Quebce?" Providence may yet, perhaps, vouch-safe me the years, necessary to re-arrange, and re-publish another edition of the work, an illustrated, enlarged, more complete one, let us hope! In concluse n, gentlemen, for your presentation and very kind remembrance to-day, accept my cordial, my sincere, my lasting thanks. - (Rejeated applause !)

Hon. David A. Ross having been invited to add a few remarks, said in substance : "Gentlemen-There remains but little for me to say. We all know the author of Maple Leaves, &c., in fact I fancy I knew him when I was a boy -- (laughter). His sketchy Canadian works

cover a wide, very wide, field of investigation

Without him, several episodes of the history of my country would have been, I think, unknown to me to this day. His merit has been frequently recognized by most competent judges. We find him for years at the head of our venerable Historical Society, as President; we see him now the President of the first section of the Royal Society of Canada, founded by the Marquis of Lorne, for the promotion of literature and science.

Although our friend was not behind any of us in youthful antics-he is now in the van, as an antiquarian (laughter) ; I hope that he may live long enough to be an Antique. (Laughter.) When that happy time arrives, we shall present our patriotic friend with snother flag and invite him to another lunch. What fleg shall it then be? Let us trust that it shall still be a British flag; and as to the lunch it will certainly be like that of Martinus Scriblers a "feast after the manner of the ancients" For the information he has imparted, we are deeply indebted to Mr. LeMoine.

He has stayed the bird (1) in its flight that we might study its habits and its plumage - he has arrested the gliding fish (2) in the rapid that we might admire the beauty of its form — better still, he has taken old Time by the for lock and has made him stand and deliver his budget of curious old, forgotten, French Canadian legends and the tales of heroism (3) of the early settler whose life was a continual state of warfare, attacking the grand old pines with his axe or the savage Redskin with his "c-rabine."

He has taken us by the hand and with him we have stalked

^{1.-}Les Oinaux du Canada.

^{2.-}Les Pécheries du Canada.

^{3.-}L'Album du Touriste.-L'Album Canadien.

through the mist of a century and have emerged into the cool clear September of 1759.

On one hand he has pointed out to us a handsome general officer his features brouzed with the sun of Italy, sitting on his charger at the head of his troops, with calm defiance in his eye.

"That man " says he "is Montcalm." (1)

Do you remember how he returned on that fatal 13th September

from his last battle field?

On the other hand he calls our attention to the opposite host clad scarlet or in the belied plaid, with the bayonet, and claymore, the face of the officer at their head (already a General although so young) beaming with exultation at the thought of at last meeting u foe worthy of his steel on equal terms, his longing at last satisfied for "a fair field and no favor."

He has vividly depicted the spirited attack of the Chevalier de Levis whose hopes were dashed to the ground by the tall masts of the

British frigate rounding l'ointe Levi.

Has he not ever upheld the dignity of our country?

Has he not immortalized the very streets of our ancient city and the rural retreats which surround it, not forgetting even sad and romantic Chateau-Bigot ?

In all his writings, James LeMoine has been loving, to the Fleur de Lys,-just, to old England; and let us hope that in the future as in the past, he will not let his exertions for the Dominion flag.

All honor to him!

Mr. Richard R. Dobell being called on, corroborated briefly what had just been said by Hon. Mr. Ross, adding that he, too, recently had a pleasant proof of the servicer rendered by Mr. LeMoine to historical studies and genealogy. Yes, Mr. Chairman, as au active man of business, I can get through at times a deal of work, at least I cherish the idea I have done so - but after all, what are the long hours of business activity of a merchant — active though he be — compared to the unceasing, toiling vigils of a student, bent over crabbed old MSS., wrapped up in historical research, trying to reconcile conflicting historical authorities!

Shall I tell you what occurred to me lately on board a train?

I casually met a stranger, a titled gentleman, who told me he had met me before. "You are from Quebec. Do you know Mr. J. M. LeMoine," said he. "Right well," I replied. "Are you aware of the service he rendered my family by helping me to make good my descent from the most illustrious old Canadian family - the house of Longueuil. Through his researches and with the help of Lord Lorne and his great adviser Sir John, I am now, by the gracious act of Queen Victoria — Baron de Longueuil." Thus, most unexpectedly and strangely, was forced on me another proof of services rendered through the writings of our guest.

Mr. Wheeler, acting as Vice-President, then rose and said: -

"There is a feature in the causes which led to the presentation of today that I would like for a minute to allude to. Thousands have read the works of Mr. LeMoine and thousands will re-read them and derive pleasure and instruction from them in time to come, but it is those portions of his latest work which describe the country homes and

^{1.—}Glimpses of Quebec, 1749-59.

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estates around Sillery and Quebec, which, I divine, more particularly caus of the happy meeting of to day—to use the language in the heading to the list of names "A recognition of the untiring efforts of Mr. J. M. Le Moone to give the picturesque seats and places around Sillery and Quebec, the additional charrer of historical interest, &c." Homes are homes, I suppose, everywhere, but Canadian homes and especially country homes are, I fancy, more loved by their owners than those of a tropical country on in a land where it seems always after dinner.

During the period of frost and snow the threshold of the Canadian country house is sharply defined enough and has a distinct meaning of its own. This has developed a keener love of home and a warmer domestic life than that of more favoured or temperate countries. But home is home everywhere, and as the old song says: "Life has 'eer no charm so dear as home and friends around us." Thus then, love of home comes flist, and in its train follows this warm recognition of the laborious and painstaking efforts of Mr. LeMoine to invest the homes in the environs of Quebec ... the interest and charm of a historical past. Such kind memories ... we mention to day help to draw closer those great cords of love and duty which bind the whole universe together."

In thanking Lt. Col. Forsyth for the toast of his health and the guests present for their hearty reception of the same, Col. Rhodes explained that the idea of this presentation and of the pleasant fete of to-day, gave an opportunity to some of the many warm and appreciative triends of Mr. LeMoine, which they had long desired. It had been designed by Mr. Wheeler, who had with considerable energy brought about the present agreeable meeting and presentation. Mr. Wheeler was not the oldest resident of Sillery, but he had contrived during his life in that locality to bring about various useful things, of which it was not good to be unmindful: the post office, the long footpath, the telegraph, the telephone and other matters of public and private interest had been owing to his exertions; — it only tended to show how much good at the cost of very little money a desire for the general welfare in the mint of one man might effect.

The health of Mr. Wheeler was then proposed by the Hon. David Alexander Ross, and drank with onthusiasm. Mr. Wheeler in reply thereto thanking them for the kind manner in which his name had been received, said:—"He was very much gratified to find that the little services which he may have tried to render to the neighlorhood in which he lived in the past, should he so kindly and so well semembered. He wished to be forgiven if he briefly alluded to a reform that he had set his heart upon for some years past, and that was a plan for the erection of a village pump or fountain in Bergerville for the use of the tired or thirsty visitor, and for either dwellers of Sillery or visitors to its views and cemetries.—a cool and shady spot where a

man, a horse or a poor dog might take a drink of clear pure cold water.

In conclusion, Mr. Wheeler again alluded to the more than kind appreciation of his effort, which would never be forgotten by him.

Col. Forsyth closed the entertainment by recalling, jointly with Col. Rhodes, the festive, social ways of Quebec in the olden time, when its garrison was composed of two, sometimes three, regiments of the line, two companies of Royal Artillery, one company of Royal Engineers, Sappers, Miners, Ordnance and Commissariat. — (Morning Chronicle 15 Novembre 1882.)

