

NORTH AMERICAN.

[VOL. 1.]

Canadian Rights and Canadian Independence.

[NO. 2.]

PUBLISHED BY H. J. THOMAS.

SWANTON, VT. APRIL 18, 1839.

EDITED BY CANADIANS & AMERICANS.

THE NORTH AMERICAN
IS PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY.
Price \$1 50 per an. in advance,
or \$2 00 at the end of the year.

PUT DOWN THE TYRANTS!

They never fail who die in a great cause;
The block may soak their gore,
Their heads may sicken in the sun—their limbs
be strung to city gates
And castle walls, but still their spirit walks abroad;
Though years elapse, and others share as they
It but augments the deep and sweeping thought
Which empowers all others, and which conducts
The world at last to freedom. BYRON.

People of Canada! Remember that the
blood of martyrs in the cause of FREEDOM
calls aloud for vengeance at your hands.
The following is a list of those who have
fallen victims of despotism, in the Lower
Province:

Ch's Ovide Perrault, M. P. P.
Jean Olivier Chenier, M. D.
Joseph Toussaint Drolet, MPE.
Pierre Amiot, M. P. P.
Jean Francois Lionnais M. D.
Joseph Narcisse Cardinal, MPE.
Joseph Duquette, Major of P. A.
Pierre Theophile Decoigne N.
Ambroise Sanguinet, Lt. P. A.
Charles Sanguinet, Capt. P. A.
Francois Xavier Hamelin, do.
Jacques Robert, Major P. A.
Chevalier Delorimier, N. P.
Ch's Hindenlang, Brig. P. A.
Francois Nicolas, Capt. do.
Amable Daunais, Lieut. do.
Remy Narbonne, Capt. do.
Isaiah Boudreau, N. P.

ORIGINAL BIOGRAPHY.

JOSEPH DUQUETTE was born of very
respectable connexions in 1814, at Chateau-
guay, in the county of Laprairie, in the
District of Montreal. Mr. Duquette was
so agreeable and amiable a young man,
that he always secured and retained the
regard and esteem of his acquaintances—
we appeal to the citizens of this village,
with many of whom he was intimately
acquainted, in support of the foregoing as-
sertion. He finished his classical studies
at the college of Chambly, under the di-
rection of Mr. Migneault, where he acquit-
ted himself most honorably, after which
he embraced the Notarial profession, com-
mencing his studies with Mr. Cardinal N.
P., he removed to Montreal, some time
after to prosecute his studies with Che-
valier De Lorimier, Esq. N. P. He was dur-
ing his stay there, a member of the Asso-
ciation of the Sons of Liberty of that city.
In October 1837, his uncle P. P. Demaray
Esq. N. P. at St. Johns, required his ser-
vices in his office and begged him to come
and finish his professional studies there,
to which he assented. From that moment
his political career became more active;
a reformer he always was, and that with a
consistency and devotion rarely surpassed.
After the House of Assembly had been
called together to hear the official commu-
nication by Lord Gosford of the passing
of the eight coercive resolutions by the
English Parliament against Lower Cana-
da, generally known as the "infamous
Russell resolutions," and when the Govern-
ment informed the Representatives of the
people, they had better submit to this in-
equitous and unjust spoliation of their
sacred rights, and the House of Assembly,
faithful to their pledges, had nobly refused
to submit to the imperious and unjust dic-
tates of a foreign government 3,000 miles
off, the people became indignant and met
publicly in their respective towns and villa-
ges, passing resolutions condemning in
strong language the proceedings of the Im-
perial Parliament. These meetings of the
people "on the state of the Province" con-
tinued, and the proceedings of the
House of Assembly were vindicated and
justified. Lord Gosford having dismissed
from her most gracious majesty's service

several gentlemen, who in attending those
meetings had exercised an inherent right
of freemen—that of expressing their sen-
timents, voluntary resignations of other
commissions holden under the Provincial
Government were forwarded to the Civil
Secretary of the Province. The parish of
St. John was one from which the greatest
number of resignations had been sent.
The meeting of the six counties of the
Chambly River at St. Charles on the 23d
October, 1837, had scattered terror among
the Tories in the Province, but more particu-
larly among those of St. John's. The Tories
assisted by some timorous radicals issued
circulars for a general meeting of both
parties on the 4th. of Nov. at St. Atha-
nase, opposite St. Johns, Mr. D. was pre-
sent and was seen among those strenuous
reformers who would not consent to any
compromise of their political principles.
He voted for the adoption of the declara-
tion of St. Charles, and would not listen
to the half measure proposals of the Tories.
On the night of 16th. Nov. the house of
his uncle where he was boarding was for-
cibly entered by a gang of ruffians, known
as the Queen's loyal dragons, headed by
the notorious Malo; his uncle was seized,
handcuffed, tied with a rope by the middle
of the body, fastened to the bottom of a
rough waggon and hurried towards Cham-
bly. Mr. Duquette immediately mounted
a horse, passed through L'Acadie to meet
his uncle at Montreal, but not being able
to cross at Laprairie, he proceeded to
Longueuil, where he learned the rescue of
the prisoners by a small party of brave
Canadians, and having joined them, the
following day they arrived in safety at
Highgate, in this State. He was one of
the 84 brave men, who fought at Moore's
Corner, in the county of Missisquoi on
the 6th of December 1837, against 600
loyal volunteers, he was one of the last
to leave the ground, displaying a coolness
and bravery admired by all who witnessed
it.

He returned to Swanton, where he re-
sided until the last day of February, 1838,
when he again entered Canada at Beach
Ridge, under Dr. Robert Nelson, holding
the commission of Quarter Master, in the
Patriot Service. The failure of the expedi-
tion caused his return to this place,
where he remained until Durham's am-
nesty appeared, when he returned to his
dear native land, but not cowardlike to sub-
mit to the dictatorship of the vain and
haughty George Lambton; no, he return-
ed with the decided conviction that a revo-
lution never retrogrades as long as coura-
geous men are found, who are willing to
sacrifice their lives in the cause of Liberty.

On the 3d of Nov. last, he cheerfully
assisted his friend Mr. Cardinal, whose
biography we have already given, and
with whom he was then studying. Suffi-
ce it to say, he was made prisoner at
Sault St. Louis, by the treacherous Indians
who took them to Montreal jail, there con-
fined in a damp cell, and living on bread
and water, he was extremely reduced, yet
his spirits were always cheerful. On his
trial he manifested the utmost coolness
and firmness. When the sentence of death
was communicated to him by that tribu-
nal, whose deeds of blood will never be
forgiven, till the British power be bound-
ed by the wide Atlantic, he immediately
told them the term of five days only allot-
ted him to prepare to meet his Creator,
was too short, and asked for a respite, but
never for a pardon.

Two days before he met his undeserved
fate, he received the visit of his aged, re-
spectable and truly beloved mother. Who
can describe the parting scene between a
mother who came to kiss and embrace
for the last time her only son, who in re-
turn pressed convulsively in his arms that
decrepid old lady whose only support
he had been and for whom he had yet an-
ticipated many happy days on this side of
the grave? He foresaw the misery and
poverty in store for her, the only dwelling
she had, had been burnt by those fiends in
human shape, the Glengarians, the part-
ing under such circumstances with his be-
loved mother must have been very distress-

ing—still he resigned himself to his fate.
We learn with deep regret that this re-
spectable woman was obliged during some
part of the past winter, to take shelter in
uninhabited houses and barns, being
turned out of every house, as it was con-
sidered high treason to shelter the mother
of the unfortunate young man who had
forfeited his life in the Cause of Liberty.
(This disgraceful fact we have from au-
thority that cannot be questioned.) Hav-
ing expressed to his mother his reluctance
to die so soon and unprepared, the old la-
dy left the jail and was, by the means of
some friends, allowed to speak to the
brutal and cruel Colborne, she fell on her
knees and begged a respite of eight days,
that her son might be enabled to meet his
Creator with more security. Who could
believe it? Colborne a member of the
Episcopal Church, refused so humane a
request! and the poor unfortunate old la-
dy was told that in two days she was to
be childless. With an agonized heart she
returned to the jail to inform her beloved
son of the unhappy result of her mission.
"Your trouble was in vain," said he to
his mother; "the day after to-morrow I
shall be in a region where virtue is reward-
ed and tyranny punished. Mother, we
must submit." The old lady took leave
forever of the only object of her paternal
solicitude. Mr. Duquette prepared him-
self to meet death like a brave Patriot. On
Friday morning he was excessively weak,
so much so, that he could scarcely stand—
a short time before the fatal hour arrived
he was with his companion in misfortune
and a Roman Catholic Priest, when the
Provost Marshall entered their cells to in-
form them the hour had arrived, and they
must be prepared—the executioner arrived
and commenced his duties by pinning
their arms behind them. During this opera-
tion Mr. Duquette's weakness obliged
him to be seated, they were then marched
to the gallows, there to sacrifice their
lives for that Liberty, for which they had
so nobly contended.

Delisle, a French Canadian, the High
Constable of the District of Montreal, was
one of the officers in the execution of this
imperial murder, and while Mr. Dupette
was slowly walking towards the scaffold
pulled suddenly the rope round his neck,
precipitating him to the ground. Mr.
Cardinal, whose physical strength had not
been impaired, turning towards the cow-
ardly Delisle, reprimanded him in severe
terms for his harsh and cruel treatment
of poor Duquette, then so weak. "It's good
enough for a dog of a rebel," was the re-
ply of the brute. When the two sufferers
stood upon the scaffold, Mr. Duquette's
strength revived, and his face was suffused
with a crimson hue. Each took his
proper place and bade one another a part-
ing adieu for this world—the next moment
the drop fell—whether accidental or design-
edly, we know not, our young friend was
not strangled by the rope, the knot being
between the mouth and the nose. When the
drop fell, Mr. D. instead of falling perpen-
dicularly, fell longitudinally, breaking some
of his teeth and cutting his face on the
railing round the scaffold, his sufferings
were excruciating, several times he begged
for God's sake, to have an end put to his
insupportable agony, by killing him.—
Twenty long minutes elapsed, before
another rope could be procured and pre-
pared! it was then passed around his neck
and tied to the fixture, the other rope was
then cut, and in a few moments after this
second hanging, Mr. Duquette was num-
bered with the dead. An hour after, his
body was given to his friends, who buried
him in the same grave with his faithful and
equally unfortunate friend Mr. Cardinal.

Such was the harsh and inhuman treat-
ment inflicted upon this unfortunate young
man. The bloodhounds, who could act
thus, would hardly be tolerated among sa-
vages. How long are they to pollute our
fair country with their brutal murders?
The bloody scene of 23d Dec. 1838, should
never be forgotten by the Canadians—the
blood of the Martyrs of Liberty cries loud-
ly for vengeance upon their murderers.
Mr. Duquette was twenty four years

of age, about 5 ft. 9 in. high, rather slender,
his complexion was pale, with grey
eyes piercing as an eagle's; his appearance
indicated great firmness and resolution.

HISTORICAL.

Having promised our patrons some his-
torical information in relation to Canada,
we would first, by way of introduction,
give them a couple of chapters of Acadian
history. In order to give the reader a
correct idea of the ambitious projects of
Great Britain in North America, it be-
comes necessary to speak of the wicked
exterminating policy pursued by that proud
and haughty nation towards the unfortu-
nate Acadians, who, like the Canadians,
were persecuted because of their French
extraction. Where is the man who could
listen to an aged and respectable Acadian,
relating the tale of his country's misfor-
tunes, without shedding a tear of sympa-
thy. Who can look on a picture of Brit-
ish despotism that would not burn with
indignation and hatred against the oppres-
sors.

ACADIA.

CHAPTER I.

*Cession of Acadia (now Nova Scotia.) to
France by the treaty of Ryswick in
1696—Causes of dispute between the
people of New England and Acadia—
Encouragement, by the French, of pi-
racy upon the coast of Massachusetts,
and on English fishing vessels, by giv-
ing the pirates an asylum at La Have.
Departure of Col. Church from Bos-
ton, with 600 troops in 1704; their
brutal conduct.—The burning of Pas-
samaquoddy, Minas & 2 other flour-
ishing villages.—Return to Massa-
chusetts with plunder, &c.*

*Attack of General Nicholson, and terms
of Capitulation of Port Royal, in 1710.
Cession of Acadia to the British by
the treaty of Utrecht in 1713. Refu-
sal of the Acadians to swear allegiance
to the British Crown.—Plan proposed
for the settlement of Nova Scotia, in
1749. Departure of Gov. Cornwallis
from England, with 4,000 men, for
Nova Scotia—arrival.—Origin of Hal-
ifax—their fears of the Acadians and
Indians—misery inflicted on the Aca-
dians. Administration of Major Law-
rence, in 1754. Real intentions of the
Gov. Reasonable request of the people,
and its refusal. Intolerance of the
Episcopal Clergy.—Barbarity of Col.
Winslow at Grand Pre.—The result
of Priestly intrigue. Population and
wealth of the Acadians.—Treatment
of the Savages towards them contrasted
with that of the British.*

*Destruction, by fire and plunder, of Chignecto,
Minas and the other villages.—Flight to
Canada, Prince Edward's Island and Cape
Breton.—Brutal and treacherous conduct
of the British towards those poor men who
accepted the terms of the Gov. Description
of the cruelties practiced upon them.—
Conduct of the British compared with that
of the Spaniards towards the Mexicans.—
Poignant regret of the people of New Eng-
land, when the real objects of Britain be-
came known.—Appeal to the Lower Cana-
da Tories; their deplorable situation, should
the Gov. deprive effectually the Canadians
of all political rights.*

The treaty of Ryswick having restor-
ed in 1696 the Province of ACADIA to
France, that government soon after, enter-
ed with spirit and resolution, into active
measures for colonizing this province and
securing its fur trade, but more especially
its extensive and rich fisheries. From
these two sources France derived great
benefit. The latter trade in which the
English had for some time participated
largely, became a fertile cause of dispute
between the inhabitants of the New-Eng-
land States and the French Acadians. It
is also said by some writers that the French
Government encouraged the pirates, who
then infested the coasts, to commit depreda-
tions on the shores of Massachusetts
and on the English fishing vessels, by of-
fering them an asylum, and the means of
disposing of their plunder at La Have.

Col. Church was a second time des-
patched from New-England with about
six hundred troops, in 1704, to pillage the
French settlements in Acadia. He pro-
ceeded to Passamaquoddy, where he burnt
the houses and seized the property of all
the inhabitants. He then crossed to Port
Royal and sent his boats with a de-
tachment, to Minas, which they plundered
and destroyed, together with two other

flourishing villages. He sailed thence to
Passamaquoddy, whence he returned to
Massachusetts, carrying with him his
plunder. The poor Acadians saw their
buildings levelled to the ground and their
property plundered; and one hundred and
thirty-three years after this, many of their
children were again to see the same scenes
of desolation enacted in Lower Canada,
where a great number had taken shelter.

In 1710, Port Royal was reduced by the
British, and capitulated on honorable terms
to Gen. Nicholson, by which the French
settlers were allowed two years to retire
with their effects from the province.

By the treaty of Utrecht, in 1719, Aca-
dia, which was called by the British Nova
Scotia, was formally ceded by the crown of
France to Great Britain. At this period
and for many years after, as late as 1719,
the province was resorted to, only by trad-
ing adventurers, there being no resident
inhabitants but the French Acadians.
This brave and generous people, although
abandoned by the Crown of France, still
withheld their fidelity and kept the provin-
cial government in constant uneasiness.

In 1749, agreeably to a recommendation
of the board of trade, a plan for settling
the province of Nova Scotia was decided
upon, and at the head of 4000 adventurers,
Governor Cornwallis arrived at Chebusto
harbor, on the west side of which he found-
ed a town, which, in honor of the then
president of the board of trade, he called
Halifax.

Suspicious not only of the Aborigines,
but also of the Acadians, the new settlers,
after having fortified their position, could
not remain contented. Having suffered
from the Indians, they despatched a de-
tachment against the poor unoffending
Acadians, whom they suspected to be
leagued with the Indians against them.
The Acadians fled to the woods for the mo-
ment, but on the departure of the English
soldiers, returned to their plundered homes.

Major Lawrence succeeded Cornwallis
in the administration of the government,
in 1754. Under pretence of securing the
peace of the province and of depriving the
Acadians of the power of assisting the
French, or encouraging the Indians, but
with the ultimate view of possessing him-
self, by force, of the flourishing farms of
these harmless people, determined to re-
move them from their native land, unless
they subscribed to the oath of allegiance
in the fullest manner; which they willingly
consented to do, provided they were ex-
empted from bearing arms against their
countrymen, and the Indians who had al-
ways been kind to them.

The religious and fanatical spirit of a
member of the proud and selfish church of
England, was too distrustful to allow this,
even under the sanction of an oath, to the
followers of the Roman Church, who were
then so persecuted in England and Ireland.

The Acadians were, therefore, without
any intimation as to the object of calling
them together, commanded to appear be-
fore Col. Winslow, at Grand Pre; and,
in consequence of this summons, 400 men
assembled. They were then shut up in
the church, which was now turned into a
garrison, and told that they were immedi-
ately to be removed from that province,
distributed among the Colonies, and their
cattle and lands forfeited to the crown.

No one can conceive the horror, the in-
dignation, and, at the same time, the con-
sternation of the unfortunate and too
much abused Acadians. But what was to
be done? they had been accustomed to
put an unbounded and implicit confidence
in their priests and professional men; these
were already sold to, and bought by, Brit-
ish gold, as, now-a-days, the great mass of
the priests of Upper and Lower Canada
are. Thus Acadia was forced into a pas-
sive submission to the most cruel, arbitrar-
y and tyrannical orders, and that too by
the influence of a corrupted and unprin-
ciple clergy, and of a great part of their
educated men, who notwithstanding their
venal services in favor of British power,
were involved in the common disgrace of