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Canadian Rights and Canadian Independence.

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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 dark a
doom,
It but augments the deep and sweeping thought
Which overpowers 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.

ORIGINAL BIOGRAPHY.

AMROISE SANGUINET one of the most
respectable inhabitants of the Province of
Lower Canada, ended his honorable life
on the gibbet on the 15th of February
1839. In vain did the soulless Colborne
by the aid of his Court Martial try to stig-
matize his reputation by sentencing him
for murder. History will record the truth,
and the subject of this biography will be
numbered among those honorable and
intrepid martyrs of liberty who sealed with
their own lives their love of freedom. The
name of the bloody tyrant who signed
the death warrant of our departed friend
will be execrated and cursed for ages to
come, whilst the memory of his victim will
be cherished and respected.

Mr. Sanguinet was born in the year
1801, in the Seigniory of Lasalle in the
County of Laprairie in the District of
Montreal, his ancestors were among the
first settlers of the Province, and enjoyed
high rank in colonial society. His father
was the proprietor of the Seigniory Lasalle
of which we have spoken above. As his
seigniory was adjacent to some lands be-
longing to the Crown and to the Episco-
pal church, it became an object of envy,
and under the administration of Sir Robert
Shore Milnes, the old gentleman was
prosecuted by the Attorney General of the
Province, who acted by the order of the
Executive Council.

The titles of Mr. Sanguinet to the por-
tion of the Lands the government claimed,
were maintained by the Court of King's
Bench at Montreal. After such a decision
Mr. Sanguinet had a right to expect that
His Majesty's officers would not trouble
him any more. But it was not so; The
Attorney General in behalf of the Crown
appealed to the same Executive Council
who had ordered the prosecution. The
case was soon decided. The members of
the Executive Council were both Plain-
tiffs and Judges. Mr. Sanguinet was con-
demned and was consequently totally
ruined. Such is the manner of adminis-
tering justice in Canada, and there are
people who say that Canadians have no
just cause to complain of a government
which acts so dishonestly. But this was
not all. As soon as the law-suit had been
decided against Mr. S., those same Execu-
tive Councilors who had been Plaintiffs
and Judges, requested of Sir Robert Shore
Milnes their portion of the spoils. The
Governor thought the demand premature
and did not grant it. But his successor
Sir James Henry Craig of infamous noti-
riety disposed of the land robbed from Mr.
S., to the identical men who had ordered
the law-suit and who had decided against
the right owner.

The reader after having perused this
scandalous transaction on the part of the
British government, will not be surprised
that 20 years after such an odious proceed-
ing they annihilated on the scaffold, a name
which was an enduring stain on its honest-
y and generosity. Mr. S., while in pos-
session of his lands, treated his *censitaires*
with great humanity, but as soon as those
lands were declared the property of the
Crown these poor unfortunate men were
constantly harassed by the hirelings of the
English government. The House of As-
sembly with its usual generosity, passed a
Bill for their relief, but Lord Dalhousie
abusing the power which this bill gave

him, granted unusual and exclusive privile-
ges to two influential Tories who now
crush down those who are settled on their
lands. The above proves to have been
one of the most bare faced robberies that a
government ever can commit on the pri-
vate property of an individual. By this
act of dishonesty, the Sanguinet family
once very rich, was reduced to poverty.
Mr. Sanguinet brought up his family in
agricultural pursuits. Amroise, the subject
of this biography, settled at St. Constant
in the County of Laprairie. His educa-
tion although not a classical one, was toler-
ably good. By his industry and his so-
ber habits he accumulated wealth as fast
as his limited means would allow him, and
it was not long after he had settled there
before he could be considered an independ-
ent farmer. His good conduct and the re-
spectability of his name made him a con-
spicuous character among the people of
his parish.

He always was a true reformer, never
flinching from his duty when his country
required that he should exert himself in
its behalf. In 1822, although a very young
man he exerted himself to get signatures
to the petition to the Throne and Imperial
Legislature against the Union of the Two
Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada,
and he had the pleasure of seeing this new
scheme of harassing his countrymen totally
annihilated.

Under the administration of the ever
odious Dalhousie our friend was one of
the most active at a meeting of the free-
holders of the County of Huntingdon,
which was holden at St. Philippe on the
14th January, 1829. This meeting was
called for the express purpose of taking in-
to consideration "the deplorable state of
the Province" and also with the further
views of demanding the immediate recall
of Lord Dalhousie who had rendered him-
self obnoxious to the great mass of the
people for having dismissed several militia
officers, and for having refused to recog-
nize the nomination of a Speaker by the
House of Assembly on the 1st November
preceding. The inhabitants of the County
of Huntingdon passed a series of resolu-
tions approving of the proceedings of the
meeting of Montreal upon the question of
the independence of the Judges, their ex-
clusion from the Legislative and Execu-
tive Councils, the Civil list and the respon-
sibility of all public servants. Such were
the just demands of the Canadian people to
which a favorable answer was given by a
committee of the House of Commons in
1828, but whose recommendations have
ever been a *dead-letter*.

At this meeting of the County of Hunting-
don, Mr. Sanguinet was nominated a mem-
ber of the Permanent Committee of the
County.

Under the administration of Lord Ayl-
mer, our lamented friend was commis-
sioned as an Ensign and quarter-master in the
Provincial militia. His commission as
such was dated the 4th June, 1831. At
the general election of 1834, Mr. Sanguinet
supported with all his might, our un-
fortunate and martyred friend Joseph N.
Cardinal Esquire as a Candidate for the
county of Laprairie.

When the infamous resolutions of Lord
John Russell against the Canadian people
were known in the Province, as a consis-
tent reformer, Mr. Sanguinet opposed them;
and at a general meeting of the County
of Laprairie in the month of August 1837,
which meeting was holden at St. Constant,
he was very active and zealous in main-
taining those liberal principles which had
been advocated by the people's Representa-
tives. This meeting adopted the plan
of non-consumption of duty-paying arti-
cles and the encouragement of domestic
manufactures, &c. &c.

After the despotic conduct of Lord Gos-
ford toward the Canadian people, and the
total denial of justice to them by the En-
glish Parliament, Mr. Sanguinet saw no
other alternative for his countrymen but
to throw off the chains of slavery.

On the rising of the 3d November last
he was named as Captain in his section,
and under the Command of a Superior offi-

cer, he went with a party of men to dis-
arm the loyalists in the neighborhood.
They went to the house of a man named
Walker at La Tortue to disarm him.
They knocked gently at his door and told
him what was their object, promising him
security if he should comply with their re-
quest. They were answered by a discharge
of two guns which wounded one of the
patriots, who in their turn received
orders to fire into the house. This was
accordingly done and the result was that
Walker was shot dead, and a man by the
name of Vitrey was severely wounded.
The house was broken open, but the
patriots committed no excesses. They
disarmed the family and proceeded further.
After the patriot army was disbanded, Mr.
Sanguinet hid himself for some time in the
woods, but at last hunger and all kinds of
privation forced him to surrender to the
British authorities after having tried several
times to make his escape to the States.

His trial began before the Court Martial
on the third day of January 1839. He
was accused of High Treason and of the
murder of Walker—and was found guilty
of both charges. Now every candid and
impartial man who will decide upon this
case with justice and righteousness in his
heart, cannot entertain the idea that if
there was civil war as the accusation of
high treason in taking up arms against the
English government will prove, there
could be any murder in killing a man who
fired upon a party of the insurgents. If
there was murder there could not exist a rebel-
lion with the intention of overthrowing the
present form of Government, because by
no civilized nation but the British will it
be considered murder to kill a man upon
the battle field. We maintain that these
opinions are sound and correct. It was
well proved that there was a general ris-
ing in that part of the country, that the
patriots were disarming the loyalists, that
Walker was asked to give up his arms,
that he answered them by discharging his
gun on them, that no alternative was left
them but to retire dishonorably or to re-
turn the fire, which they did, and that in
this engagement Walker was killed. What
tribunal in God's name but a dishonest
one like the Montreal Court Martial acting
under the Special orders of the bloody Sir
John Colborne, could give a *verdict of
murder* against the subject of this biog-
raphy. The real object of this proceeding
was to blast the memory of the unfortu-
nate sufferer and thereby diminish the
sympathy Republicans on this side of
the lines would feel for those who perished
on the scaffold for their country's sake.
In this scheme we are certain that the
British did not succeed, and the memory of
Mr. Amroise Sanguinet remains untarnish-
ed in the eyes of his countrymen and re-
spected by the Americans.

On the 12th day of January he received
official notice of his execution for the 18th.
He prepared himself to meet his fate like
a true patriot. When the awful day was
at hand, he encouraged his fellow-sufferers
among whom was his younger brother
condemned under the same *specious* accu-
sations. He stepped upon the scaffold with
much firmness, and while one of his unfor-
tunate companions was addressing the
multitude, he leaned against one of the
pillars of the scaffold. He afterwards stepped
into the place which was assigned him.
The fatal signal was given, the trap fell
and another victim of tyranny was added
to the long list of the martyrs of liberty.
His sufferings seemed to be very short.
His body after having been exposed about
an hour's time to gratify the feelings of
the Tories, was given up to his friends
who buried it in the Catholic burying
ground of Montreal.

Mr. Sanguinet was a very large and
heavy man, with black hair and very mas-
culine features. He was 38 years of age,
left a wife with five children.

The vengeance of the British govern-
ment which had not quite exhausted itself
on the father, closed by bringing the son to
the scaffold. This act so repugnant to hu-
manity and justice would never have been
committed by any other nation. But who

does not know the sanguinary disposition
and cruelty of the British government?
Americans, who read this, your fathers
have been treated in the same cruel way to
procure for you the political blessings
you are enjoying to day.

Dr. CALVET'S MEMOIR.

Notwithstanding the extraordinary efforts of the
British Government to suppress this work, a copy
(and perhaps the only one extant,) has been pre-
served, and is now being translated for the columns
of the NORTH AMERICAN. We shall publish
copious extracts every week, that the American
people may become better acquainted with the
cruel policy of Great Britain towards her Canadi-
an subjects, as early as the year 1780.

INTRODUCTION.

Mr. Pierre Du Calvet held a high rank
in the first class at Montreal. After the
conquest of Canada, he was entrusted by
General Murray with the important nego-
ciation to bring back to their native land
the scattered and fugitive Acadians. His
success having wholly justified this mark
of confidence, he was elevated to the dig-
nity of Justice of the Peace which place he
held for many years without ever accept-
ing any salary; but continued judging
his fellow citizens, or rather reconciling
one with the other; he thought so much
of the honor of being a Magistrate that he
paid a Clerk for that purpose with his own
money. Under whatever form poverty
was discovered by him, he was never deaf
nor callous to the wants of others, but on
the contrary his generosity and humanity
had no limits. Such kindness had but few
votaries, and in the end it created
many jealous enemies. Envy being eclipsed
by virtue, became irritated and discharg-
ed its venom on Mr. Calvet. With the
view to annoy him, his home was crowded
with troops, often in great numbers, with-
out any compensation for his disbursements.
They went so far as to assail him in his
own home; fire arms were discharged in
his dwelling house; an officer transformed
into a judge now in office, was the object
right or wrong of general suspicions; out
of respect for the honor of the military
body, which anomalously exercised judi-
cial authority for a considerable time, all
civil judicial inquests were prohibited and
interdicted in the newspapers of Que-
bec. The consequence was that the gal-
lery in front of his house was broken to
pieces, his doors and shutters, although of
iron, were forced; and the injuries are to
this day unredressed, and himself exposed
to violence and oppression. Such were
the first scenes of persecution against Mr.
Du Calvet.

The flame of civil war which in 1775
spread over all the English Colonies, began
to extend its fury to the Province of Que-
bec. Mr. Du Calvet was holding a place
of distinction under the government: he
had inherited from his ancestors a large
fortune, which had considerably increased
in his hands by his care and industry.
Gratitude, interest, his own inclinations,
the tenderest and the most powerful ties of
human life, every thing in a word main-
tained his fidelity to his King; no one
would be a traitor to his own honor, his
welfare, his existence and to his own-self,
unless a prospect of ameliorating his
own condition justifies treasonable at-
tempts; what advantages could all the
American States together offer to Mr. Du
Calvet in compensation for the domestic
prosperity he enjoyed at home? During
all the troubles of the war, he observed
that loyal conduct which becomes a man
whose fortunes are attached to the fate of
his Sovereign. Such decided fidelity was
to be rewarded by the destructive catastro-
phy which awaited him.

Peace was nearly re-established in Canada;
Mr. Du Calvet was enjoying in the bosom
of his family the tender fruits of public
tranquility, when on the 27th September,
1780, he was arrested suddenly by Capt.
Laws of the 84th Regt., his papers were
wrested from him in day time, and at night
his money was also taken; which has al-
ways been kept as a prize; he was escorted
to Quebec, and from thence dragged with
violence on board the *Cancaux*, an armed
vessel then at anchor in the harbour; all
apparel which before that time belonged to
a bed for a human being, was taken a-

way from the cabin where he was incarcera-
ted; and he had no other bed to sleep on
than the bare floor of the ship under a cli-
mate where the fall is as rigorous, if not more
so, than as our severest winters in Europe.
Mr. Du Calvet thought at first that it was
an act of economy on the part of the sail-
ors, he then offered to provide himself with
the necessary articles and the harsh master
of the ship Mr. Atkinson then Commander,
told him that so much condescension was
contrary to his orders, adding with a poli-
tessness becoming a mariner, *that the floor
was too good for a prisoner of his descrip-
tion.* Mr. Du Calvet had nothing on
board of this vessel but salted and mouldy
provisions, which affected very much his
constitution, so much so that he spitted
blood and had all the appearance of an
emaciated phantom and living skeleton,
hardly recognizable to his own guard; his
friends could not see him till after a long
period, and then very rarely; the visits
were very short and under the superintend-
ance of witnesses. And his son, six or
seven years of age! ah, never was he
allowed to see him once, to console by his
presence his unfortunate father who was
in irons.

At length on the 14th November it was
thought advisable for appearance sake to
accede to the remonstrances of Mr. Du
Calvet, and his persecutors appeared at
least to be willing to alleviate his fate.
Under a guard of soldiers he was taken to
the military jail of Quebec. It was a sort
of refined barbarity that caused this change
in the theatre of his imprisonment. His
new lodgings were the true picture of a
sepulchre, no rays of the sun could pene-
trate there, it was constantly damp, and
was never made for the abode of a human
being. Under the French Government it
was used as a military stable. It was a
spacious vault in the ground paved with
large unpolished stones with about twelve
dragon beds with five or six mangers
full of dirt and filth, ashes with pieces of
rotten cloths, and other stinking stuff.
Some of those mangers had even been used
as privies by the dragoons and prisoners
who had been before Mr. Du Calvet in
that abominable place, and then contained
the filth with which they were full.

What a place for a man of such respecta-
ble connexions in France, honored by the
English Government with a situation in
the magistracy, and distinguished for his
fortune, even among the Canadian nobility!
Scarcely had Mr. Du Calvet inhaled
the corrupt air of this filthy sewer when he
was nearly thrown down by the terrible
poisonous stench of the first vapours. In
the name of the weakness to which he
was reduced, and of weeping humanity,
which under all civilized governments ought
to protect his person, even when in chains,
he solicited with tears in his eyes, the lib-
erty to have these mangers cleaned of their
contents, & such a cleaning which is done
even for the health of brutes was denied to
the supplicant. Oh shame!! That dirt
was left as the inseparable companion
of his captivity; it seems he was condemn-
ed to rot alive with all the horrors of rot-
tenness. This object was so apparent that
it struck with horror the Deputy Surgeon
of the Garrison, at the first inspection he
made of this government jail. He remon-
strated severely against such a monstrous
abomination, nevertheless several weeks
passed before his remonstrances with those
of the prisoner could prevail on barbarity,
to diminish its excesses.

At length on the 13th Dec., for his last
transmigration Mr. Du Calvet was trans-
ferred to the Recollets Convent, one of the
wings of which, destined once to chain and
scourge the refractory monks, had been
changed into a State military prison. The
keeping of it was entrusted to its first
monachal jailor the REVEREND FATHER
BERRY, a man who under the monk's
habit, has not only the ferocious heart of a
dragon but also the infernal soul of a hang-
man. The coloring is not too high; by
this description, his friends and partisans
will know the original.

Such was the worthy Minister on whom
General Haldimand depended to discharge