

historical sections must be questioned but the personal story—interspersed with serious, and sometimes humorous, anecdotes—does add a human chapter to Canadian history.

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Equal Rights: The Jesuits' Estates Act Controversy. J.R. MILLER. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1979. xi, 223 p. ISBN 0 7735 0302 1 \$13.95.

On 12 July 1888, as members of Loyal Orange lodges celebrated the bicentenary of England's 'Glorious Revolution', Lieutenant Governor A.R. Angers of Quebec gave assent in Queen Victoria's name to 'An Act respecting the settlement of the Jesuits' Estates'. The act resolved an issue of recurring public controversy that dated back to the conquest. After minor Protestant questioning and amendment, the measure had been unanimously passed by both the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council. But the Jesuits' Estates Act became the symbol and focus of one of late nineteenth century Canada's bitterest outbursts of sectarian and ethnic tension.

J.R. Miller's *Equal Rights: The Jesuits' Estates Act Controversy* is a first rate account of the Equal Rights movement that sprang up in reaction to what many, particularly in Ontario, regarded as a totally unacceptable intrusion of French, Jesuit and papal power in Britain's North American Dominion. In particular, Miller is careful to establish the depth of feeling in much of English speaking Canada against the sinister image attributed to the Society of Jesus.

The author's use of primary sources can only be described as exhaustive; every relevant manuscript collection held in various archives seems to have been searched. Yet the text is not heavy. Miller has a good eye for key phrases in letters and speeches, and a facility for weaving them into a very readable narrative. His selection of memorable catchwords for chapter titles is imaginative and helpful. Secondary sources, too, receive skillful handling, particularly in the first and final chapters. Miller does good work, too, in his use of journalistic sources. He makes it clear that the Toronto *Daily Mail* played a major role in inflaming anti-French and anti-Jesuit feeling in late 1888, and shows how the opportunistic shift of the *Globe* in March 1889, compounded the wave of Ontario Protestantism. The author backs most of his descriptions with solid evidence; one of the few which stands bare in need of further elaboration is the report of Liberal David Mills' mid-1889 very successful campaign in opposition to the agitation against the Jesuits' Estates' Act' (p. 119). If it was indeed successful, we are not told what happened to the elements represented by and influenced by Mills.

Miller's study reminds us that, while Roman Catholic elements were anything but united on many issues (eg. Gallicans vs. Ultramontanes in Quebec, French vs. Irish in many areas), they closed ranks quickly in the face of the common challenge of militant Protestantism. Well described, too, is the paradox of Ontario Protestants damning both federal Conservatives and provincial Liberals for too much 'truck and trade' with the Catholic hierarchy. The result is one of the better brief portraits of the late political careers of Victorian Canada's leading practitioners of the 'essential Canadian compromise', John A. Macdonald and Oliver Mowat. Like the movements of 'Canada First' and 'Le Programme Catholique' of the 1870s, the late 1880s drive to 'organize the larger Protestantism' represented a significant rejection of the Macdonald model of party politics. And the Equal Rights Association's failure to survive, like that of the earlier 'principled protests', demonstrated the basic, if sometimes malodorous, validity of Macdonald's instincts. Miller's study shows that Equal Rights was 'too Ontario' and too deeply split by party loyalties to form an enduring pressure group. Quebec Protestants

repeatedly disappointed their Ontario brethren. With some notable exceptions in the Montreal Ministerial Association and in the Eastern Townships, those whose situation had sparked the uproar and whose fate was most at stake, were tempered by Premier Honoré Mercier's skillful maneuvering and the realities of their own situation.

In the person and career of D'Alton McCarthy, the classic tension between movement and party was dramatically illustrated. Miller describes the Barrie M.P.'s desire to remain in Macdonald's good graces, and the Prime Minister's attempts to keep him in the Conservative fold. But the growing abrasiveness of McCarthy's anti-French statements made reconciliation increasingly difficult. On the whole, Miller does important new work on McCarthy, although, in this reviewer's opinion, he underestimates the significance of that gentleman's role in sparking the schools' question in Manitoba.

At all events, the book is much more than an account of political skills and fortunes. In a conclusion entitled 'The Agitation in Context', Miller goes a long way to fulfill that promise. Despite its relatively brief prominence, the Equal Rights movement is shown in its strong overtones of middle class urbanization, as well as in its disillusion with 'the way Canada was going'. The reader could wish for an even wider analysis of the underlying social implications of the Jesuit bill and the Equal Rights' movement. But Miller clearly points to these factors, and, as he set out to do, "fills a gap in historical literature".

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The Upper Canada Trade, 1834-1872: A Study of Buchanans' business.

DOUGLAS McCALLA. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1979. 231 p. ISBN 0 8020 5442 0 \$15.00.

The Upper Canada Trade is the story of a wholesale business based in Glasgow and Toronto which grew between 1834 and 1856 to be one of the largest businesses in Canada. Ultimately, it had seven partners and six branches, annual sales of up to \$2,000,000 and a capital of almost \$1,500,000. Yet, in spite of this remarkable success in a short period of 22 years the business suffered in the financial crisis of 1857. It went bankrupt in 1867, and though refloated, it failed again in 1872.

Douglas McCalla's book, a revised and condensed version of the author's doctoral dissertation submitted to Oxford in 1972, seeks to trace the circumstances in which the business developed and to explain its growth and ultimate collapse. To this end a variety of documentary sources are used. These include the Journals of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, various contemporary newspapers and magazines in Britain and Canada, personal papers located in the Public Archives of Canada, the Public Archives of Ontario and the Hamilton Public Library, the city directories for Glasgow, Hamilton, Toronto and Montreal (found in part in the Mitchell Library in Glasgow), the Minute Books of the Court of Session and the records of Sequestration located in the Scottish Court Office, Edinburgh. As befits a study which stresses international links and a subject matter which calls for consideration of economic, business and political factors, the source materials are broad and have been culled from widely scattered geographical locations. However, the major source material is the (as yet) little used, Buchanan Papers, housed in the Public Archives of Canada. These papers contain few formal business records but they do cover the partners' decision-making process and provide the data on which Professor McCalla has erected a detailed account of the business's development.

Yet the work is conceived not just as the history of a particular business, but rather as a case study which can provide insights to the Anglo-Canadian business world of the mid-