Preceding the indexes are an addenda section, and two useful appendices: an invaluable index to a series of newspaper articles on Charlotte County preserved in the New Brunswick Museum, and a list of dissertations in progress, extracted from the PAC Register.

Each entry in the check list comprises an item number (made up from the class number and the number of the title within the class, separated by a decimal point), the author or responsible body (initials only for personal forenames), a curtailed title from the work described, the number of pages, publication date, and a single location, mostly in a New Brunswick collection but including the Public Archives of Canada and the Toronto Public Library. Some titles have not been located at all, but these are indicated. For periodicals, page references are given, and the form of unpublished works is identified: typescript, manuscript, etc. This is certainly the minimum of information, but by saving the time that would be needed for bibliographical descriptions and the identification of successive editions of a work, the compiler has been able to bring together an impressive number of titles—a task which might otherwise have occupied a lifetime.

The preliminary matter appears in both French and English, but it would be misleading to describe the work as bilingual; headings are in English throughout, and where there are notes to French-language titles, these too are in English.

Nowhere else has such a wealth of New Brunswick material of this kind appeared in a single volume, not excluding MacFarlane’s bio-bibliography, and one hopes that the compiler will be able to fulfill his promise of annual supplements to keep the work updated.

Review Editor


About ten years ago, when William F.E. Morley first told me of his intention to work on a bibliography of Canadian local histories, I warned him that it would be a gargantuan, next to impossible task. Undaunted none the less, he set to work. In 1967 he published Volume I, The Atlantic Provinces, and last year Volume II, La Province de Québec, appeared under the joint authorship of André Beaulieu and William F.E. Morley, with the collaboration of Benoît Bernier and Agathe Garon.

Among Canadian bibliographers, I would rank Morley at the top, and he is, in my estimation, the best bibliographer currently practising his art in Canada. His years as a bibliographer at the John Carter Brown Library have doubtless contributed to the fact that “il a gagné ses épaulettes.” After Marie Tremaine, who has been the beloved teacher and idol of so many Canadian bibliographers, it is Morley whom we should regard today with admiring awe.
As a bibliographer, Morley is indeed one of the most exacting perfectionists I have ever encountered. However his strong points are also his downfall. In Canadian Local Histories he employs principles which are most applicable when dealing with rare books of the John Carter Brown Library genre or with the Gutenberg Bible, but which become a little incongruous when applied to common and insignificant books, and inevitably lead to exaggerations in the treatment of the material.

The methods used by the compilers have given rise to repeated listings of the same item. As one example I would offer Wood's Storied Province of Quebec. This particular item consumes about three-quarters of a page of entry and description and is repeated word for word fifteen times. The same would apply to Channell's History of Compton County, also entered about fifteen times. Numerous other items have been treated in the same manner.

Another exaggeration, possibly inevitable, is the use of locations. I find it both unnecessary and superficial that some exceedingly common titles are given the undue credit of having up to thirty locations. This approach becomes more of a census than an aid to researchers.

I have the impression that there are few important items which have escaped the diligent search procedure of the compilers, and it is fully evident that Volume II of Canadian Local Histories is a most welcome addition to the growing number of Canadian bibliographies. The typography of Volume II exhibits a marked improvement over that used in Volume I of the series. The actual treatment of the material follows the rules established by Morley in Volume I.

André Beaulieu, co-author of Volume II, lists on p. xix his own publication in co-authorship with Jean Hamelin, Répertoire des publications gouvernementales du Québec, 1867-1964, but neglects to mention their other excellent publication, Les Journaux du Québec de 1764 à 1964, published in Quebec in 1965. The reason for this, I suppose, is that periodical literature is not dealt with in the Canadian Local Histories series. Yet I feel that Les Journaux du Québec... contains more relevant information of a reference nature relating to the subject than do many of the items listed as source material in La Province de Québec.

Bernard Amtmann, Montreal

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Ontario County Atlas Reprints, 1969-1972

(This is a list of the Ontario county atlas reprints published by the spring of 1972, the subjects of the general review which follows. The source of the reprint is identified first, the original publisher and date being given in parentheses.)

Peter Martin Associates, available from Toronto Public Library, 46 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario:

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