
Lire l'histoireJean-Louis Bertrand

**The Eastern Township
A Pictorial Record**

**Charles P. deVolpi
and
Philip H. Scowen****Dev-Sco Publication Ltd.
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Foreword by Edgar A. Collard, Editor, Montreal Gazette

In this book, M^r. Charles deVolpi and M^r. Philip H. Scowen have carried out a most timely and useful service to history by drawing up a catalogue, with their notes and comments, of the prints of the Eastern Townships published between the 1830's and the 1880's. As 109 (plus 12 associated items) have been repro-duced, the reader of the book may view this part of Canada in a new dimension, going back through time itself.

The half-century covered by this book was one alive with change. At the beginning of this period the Eastern Townships were part of the old colony of Lower Canada. During the middle years they were part of the new colony formed when Upper and Lower Canada were joined under a single government. In the last years of the period the Townships became part of the Province of Quebec, in the new Dominion of Canada.

This rapid pace of constitutional development was matched by changes in many other ways. In these fifty active years the Townships developed their agriculture, their industries, their railways, their churches, schools and colleges. They even had their own battlefield (as those prints show) in the Fenian Raid of 1870.

It was also a great half-century in the history of prints. In the 1830's photography was unknown, and the various types of prints were the only means of publishing the artist's work. During this period photography was invented. The print, however, held much of its importance, though photography was rivalling it as a swifter means of capturing the face of the countryside.

Yet the old prints have qualities that photographs cannot provide. They not only depict scenery, buildings and people; they reveal them in the manner and fashion of the period. The prints themselves are period pieces, quite as much as what they record. And they are of interest, not least, for the way each reveals a something of the artist whose work they reproduce.

Edgar A. Collard

Example of illustration, plate 44



VIEW FROM SUGAR LOAF LOOKING NORTH LAKE MEMPHREMAGOG

BY JOHN HENRY BUFFORD, LITHOGRAPHER (1810-1870)

John Henry Bufford

Born at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 1810 and died at Roxbury, Massachusetts, 1870. Bufford was a popular and successful artist in his day. He also made drawings of disasters, a precursor to the newspaper photograph. Born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Bufford apprenticed in Boston and, by 1835, moved to New York, where he opened a lithography business. As an engraver, Bufford was dedicated to replicating faithfully the work of other artists. His own work after 1840, however, took on a sketchy, shorthand duality. With tastes already beginning to shift toward a photographic naturalism.

Wikipedia