

Business card

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Black and white photograph of the bust of John Colborne (1778-1863), 1st Baron Seaton and Governor General of Canada from 1837 to 1882 (against the Patriotes).

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Fabricant / Éditeur Desmarais & Cie

Period 2nd half of the 19th century

Medium and Support silver print, paper; cardboard

Technique glued, printed

Historical context

John Colborne (1778-1863), 1st Baron Seaton, British lieutenant-colonel, distinguished himself at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. Lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada from 1828 to 1836, he was then appointed commander-in-chief of troops in both Canadas. Appointed governor in mid-December 1838, he is credited with the harsh suppression of the 1837 and 1838 rebellions in Lower Canada. At the time of his death, he was remembered in England as a competent colonial administrator devoted to the Crown.

This calling card, a cardboard-mounted photograph, is a copy of an illustration that appeared in January 1864 in the newspaper The Illustrated London News. It shows the marble bust of Colborne presented by one of his sons to the United Service Club, the most prestigious officers' club in London at the time. The photo studio L. E. Desmarais et Cie took this photograph in its studio on rue Mignonne at the corner of rue Saint-Laurent in Montreal between 1864 and 1868.

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