

## EDUCATION. JOURNAL

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SUMMARY.—Interature: Shakespeare's Ter-Centenary at Montr d.—Addresses of Messrs Day, Chauveau and Metice.—Udo by Mr. Heavys...e.—Mr. Bailey's Essay.—Garrick's Ode.—Science: Leaves from Gosse's Romance of Natural History—Hamonies (continued)—Education: Arithmetic, by John Bruce, Esq.—Teaching as a Pus-aller.—Visit Parents.—Ufficial Notices. Appointment of School Commissioners and School Trustees.—Diplomas granted in the Jacques-Cartior Normal School.—Diplomas granted by the Boards of Examiners.—Teachers wanted — Donations to the Library of the Department.—Books missing from the Labrary.—Entropial.—Appointing Teachers.—Library of the Department of Education.—Extracts from the Reports of School Inspectors (continued)—Notices of Books and Publications—Hind: Explorations in the Interior of the Labrador Peninsula.—Buchanan· The Relations of the Industry of Canada with the Mother Country and the United States.—Lee Moine: Maple Leaves.—Brunet: Enumeration des genres de plantes de la Flore du Canada.—Consulérations sur notre organisation militaire.—Dowart: Selections from Canadian Poets.—Dreys: Chronologie nouvelle.—Flourens: Examen du livre de Mr. Darrin.—Monthly Statuary: Educational Intelligence.—Literary Intelligence.—Scientific Intelligence.—AdvertiseMess.

## LITERATURE.

## Shakespearian Ter-Centenary Celebration at Montreal.

At an early hour on the morning of the 23rd April, the St. George's Society, to which the initiative in the celebration had been abandoned as of right, assembled at Dolly's, and shortly afterwards formed in procession and walked to Christchurch Cathedral, where a sermon was preached by the Metropolitan, Lord Bishop Fulford. On leaving the church a young oak was planted in honor of the poet, Hon. G. Mosfatt and Mrs. Mosfatt acting as sponsors.

In the afternoon, a committee of citizens presented the Principal of the McGill University with a purse, containing £425, to found a Prize for annual competition among the students in English Literature. A gold medal bearing the effigy of Shakespeare together with a suitable inscription, will be awarded to the winners of the prize. Mrs. Ann Molson and Sir William Logan also presented each £250 for the purpose of founding gold medals, the first for excellence in the natural and mathematical sciences, and the second for excellence in geology and natural history. Thus, the University of McGill College, which already possessed two medals (the Prince of Wales' and Mr. Chapman's), will be one of the best endowed in this respect on the continent. The anniversary of Shakespeare's birth will henceforth hold a foremost place in the Fasti of the Institution.

The Mercantile Library Association closed the proceed-

peal of the organ lent an almost religious solemnity to the occasion. Readings from the works of the great dramatist, together with music selected from operas founded on subjects borrowed from his plays, an essay on his life and writings, by Mr. A. Bailey, and the recitation of a poem, by Mr. Heavysege, formed the programme. The two last mentioned productions will be found in another part of this number. Mr. Heavysege, the author of Saul, is too well known to our readers to require any further introduction.

On the following Monday, April 25, the St. George's Society and co-operating Committee gave a grand literary and musical entertainment at the Exhibition Building, at which nearly 6000 persons attended. The spacious edifice had been elegantly decorated with banners, flags, statues and devices. Sentences from the works of the illustrious poet were also affixed to the walls.

The Chair was occupied by the President of the Society, J. J. Day, Esq., seats being provided at his side for His Excellency Sir Fenwick Williams of Kars, K.C.B., Commander of the Forces, His Worship the Mayor, Jean Beaudry, Esq., the Presidents of the different national societies, and the orators of the evening.

The orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Pech, executed with effect divers selections from the opera of Romeo and Juliet; and the Montagnards Canadiens rendered several choral compositions with much force, and to the evident satisfaction of all present.

We reproduce the addresses in the order in which they were delivered during the evening; as also the Garrick Ode, which was read with much effect by Mr. Houghton.

## MR. DAY'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—We have met this evening for the purpose of celebrating the Ter-Centenary of the birth of our Immortal Bard, Shakspeare. This celebration, although initiated by the St. George's Society, has been carried out by the Executive Committee appointed by the citizens irrespective of nation-It is, therefore, entirely co-mopolitan in its character, and I am happy to see that all the national Societies are represented here to-night. I am sure you must all feel highly gratified at the oneness of heart and feeling thus manifested, in doing honor to the memory of our great poet. May this prove the dawn of a new The Mercantile Library Association closed the proceedings of the day with a literary and musical soiree, held at more liberal union of sentiment and purpose, in all that concerns the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, where the majestic our welfare as a people, looking forward to become at no distant