

ARTS INTELLIGENCE.

—*Discovery of an Antique Vase*—A letter from Rome gives an account of a discovery which was recently made in a cellar in the Vicolo del Malestrina, of a marble pedestal with an inscription to Hercules, by M. Silvius Messais, consul with Sabinus under Caracalla, A. D. 214. It was found near Pompey's theatre, where, under the Briscione Palace, the great bronze Hercules, now in the Vatican, was discovered. It is inscribed "Herculi Defensori M. Silvio Messais, Consul."

—*Genius Illustrated*—Horace Vernet was one day breakfasting at the *Café de Foy*, in the Palais Royal, when, drawing a bottle of champagne, the cork flew up to the ceiling, leaving behind it an unsightly blemish in the newly decorated surface. Vernet looked at the damage, and ugly enough it was, in the midst of that pure white and gold firmament; then he looked at the face of mine host, and beheld in it a mixture of consternation and suppressed anger. "My good sir," said Vernet, "make your self easy, to-morrow I will touch that offending spot with a wand which will make it the source of golden showers." The landlord opened his eyes, and he opened his ears; he was too politic to object to an arrangement which sounded so promising though he did not exactly understand it. The morrow came, and with it, at an early hour, came Horace Vernet with his pallet and paint-brushes. He asked for a ladder, and in less than an hour the centre of the injured compartment was embellished with a swallow on the wing, destined to form the attractions of the customers. Contrary to the assertion of the proverb, that one swallow of Horace Vernet not only made a summer, but it created a perpetual summer in the financial atmosphere of the *Café de Foy*. The story got wind, and every one wanted to see Horace Vernet's hirondelle; and in order to see it, and to say they had seen it, it was necessary to expend a certain sum in eatables. Never was caged bird so petted and cared for, and in all subsequent decorations of the premises the world-famed swallow was respected and preserved. Even now that the house has changed its destination—being no longer a café—the swallow of Horace Vernet still soars above the heads of admiring connoisseurs, who come to visit him with increased enthusiasm now that his gifted author has passed away.

—*Portrait of Marie de Medicis*—An interesting discovery has just been made at Paris of a portrait of Marie de Medicis of the date of 1602, when the Queen was 28 years of age. Her Majesty is represented in the florid style of Rubens, with a large collar of guipure on her neck, half covering a neck-lace of white pearls, to which is attached a cross of bright steel over a dark moiré dress, with a band set with precious stones around the waist. The blond hair is crisped and rolled round the head, surmounted with a small black cap. The eyes of a bluish grey, are full of life, and impart great animation to the picture.

The treatment of the accessories and the execution of the work leave no doubt that it is the production of the younger Porbus.

METEOROLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—*Comparison of the Seasons*.—The following table, showing the opening of winter at Quebec during the last ten years, will be read with interest:—

The Winter of 1858-9—30th Nov.—Very little snow has yet fallen. Wheeled vehicles still in use.
1859-60.—20th Oct.—First snow, but did not remain. 10th Nov.—Heavy fall of snow which remained.
1860-1.—28th September—First snow; thawed next day. 18th Nov.—Snow, which remained. 1st Dec.—Very much snow on the ground.
1861-2.—21st Nov.—First snow. 14th Dec.—Snow all thawed. 18th Dec.—Dust blowing on the roads. 19th—Snow, which remained.
1862-3.—24th Oct.—Heavy fall of snow. 15th Nov.—Much snow on the ground; no thaw after.
1863-4.—11th Nov.—First snow 17th—All thawed. 30th—Very little snow up to date.
1864-5.—8th Oct.—First snow. 10th Nov.—All thawed, 1st Dec.—Weather very mild; very little snow on the ground.
1865-6.—28th Oct.—A little snow. 7th Nov.—Heavy fall of snow. 16th—All thawed. 24th—Season very open; neither ice nor snow; many ships yet in port. 30th—Dust on the roads.
1866-7.—30th Nov.—Neither ice nor snow. 31st Dec.—A little snow on the ground. 9th Jan.—First heavy fell of snow.
1867-8.—5th Sept.—A little snow which thawed. 5th Nov.—Do., do. 29th Nov.—Snow, which remained until after the following dates,
Year.
1858—after 30th November,
1859 " 10th "
1860 " 18th "
1861 " 19th December,
1862 " 15th November,
1863 " 30th "
1864 " 1st December,
1865 " 30th November,
1866 " 9th Jan., 1867,
1867 " 29th November.

Here we have nine to one against the present snow remaining.—*Mercury*.

Abstract of Meteorological Observations.—From the Records of the Montreal Observatory, lat. 45°31' North; Long, 4h. 54m 11 sec. West of Greenwich, and 182 feet above mean sea level. For October, 1868. By Chas. Smallwood, M.D., LL D., D.C L.

DAY.	Barometer corrected at 32°			Temperature of the Air			Direction of Wind.			Miles in 24 hours.
	7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.	7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.	7 a.m.	2 p.m.	9 p.m.	
1	30.051	30.023	30.042	35.0	56.2	39.1	W	SE	Wly	88.29
2	29.972	29.949	29.901	37.0	53.7	44.9	W	NE	NE	71.24
3	.949	910	911	42.2	69.1	47.9	NE	NE	NE	60.10
4	.861	.779	.662	42.4	68.3	50.9	NE	NE	NE	71.29
5	.431	.333	.250	48.2	59.4	54.1	NE	WSW	WSW	67.10a
6	.484	.691	.799	45.0	64.0	46.1	W	WSW	W	89.21b
7	.701	.500	.401	44.0	66.3	38.0	W	SW	SW	110.91
8	302	503	604	55.1	49.7	43.0	SW	W	W	242.20c
9	872	.864	803	36.7	50.4	41.6	W	W	W	197.17
10	800	.697	.671	44.2	58.3	48.2	W	WSW	W	91.10
11	500	.497	.495	40.0	64.3	53.1	W	W	W	55.11d
12	.560	.600	.761	54.7	60.2	47.8	W	W	T.	109.29
13	.864	.851	847	43.0	49.3	43.1	W	W	W	111.44
14	.830	.821	800	40.2	67.1	49.3	W	W	W	89.99
15	.731	.704	.678	46.0	52.3	46.4	W	W	W	104.10
16	.617	.641	.660	42.1	50.7	41.6	W	W	W	81.19
17	.811	.979	30.042	31.1	37.9	30.6	W	NW	W	77.20j
18	.611	.904	29.900	31.1	52.3	40.0	NW	W	W	91.00
19	.698	.688	.650	40.0	56.7	39.7	WSW	WSW	W	224.12e
20	800	910	.946	37.3	60.4	39.0	W	W	W	90.77
21	961	.902	.849	32.0	33.0	32.4	W	NE	NE	89.94k
22	.751	.878	.901	30.1	32.2	31.1	NE	NE	NE	104.21*
23	30.147	30.121	30.109	22.6	45.6	30.7	N	W	W	91.12
24	.100	.001	29.950	27.2	51.6	34.0	W	W	W	110.20
25	29.859	29.774	.690	36.0	41.1	40.0	WSW	WSW	WSW	81.10
26	.791	.899	.931	39.3	57.0	36.0	SE	NE	W	66.19f
27	.849	.617	.443	35.1	59.3	48.0	WSW	WSW	WSW	41.11
28	.314	.500	.811	47.1	51.1	31.9	WSW	WSW	W	86.60g
29	30.047	30.104	30.149	27.4	49.1	31.7	W	NE	NE	66.61
30	.400	.329	.324	23.0	41.7	31.9	NE	NE	NE	65.10
31	.047	29.806	29.610	36.2	50.1	48.0	WSW	SW	SW	70.24h

RAIN IN INCHES.—a, b, d, e, f, Inapp.; c, 0.121; g, 0.642; h, 0.031.

SNOW IN INCHES.—j, Inapp.; k, 3.96; * 0.96.

The highest reading of the Barometer was on the 30th day, and indicated 30.400 inches; the lowest reading was on the 5th day, and was 29.250 inches, showing a monthly range of 0.850 inches.

The mean temperature of the month was 44.83 degrees, which was a trifle lower than the *Isotherm* for Montreal for October.

Rain fell on eight days, amounting to 0.794 inches. Snow fell on three days, amounting to 4.97 inches. The first snow of the autumn fell on the 17th.

—*Meteorological observations taken at Quebec, during the month of October, 1868.* Latitude 46°48'30" N.; Longitude 71°12'15" W.; height above St. Lawrence, 230 feet; By Sergt. J. Thurling, A. H. C., Quebec.

Barometer, highest reading on the 30th.....	30.480 inches.
lowest " 5th.....	29.410
range of pressure.....	1.070
mean for month reduced to 32°.....	29.852
Thermometer, highest reading on the 8th.....	65.0 degrees
lowest " 30th.....	17.8
range in month.....	47.2
Mean of highest.....	48.5
" lowest.....	32.3
" daily range.....	16.2
" of month.....	40.4
maximum in sun's rays, (black bulb,).....	67.9
minimum on grass.....	31.9
Hygrometer, mean of dry bulb.....	41.7
" wet bulb.....	37.8
" dew point.....	32.8
Elastic force of vapour.....	.186 inches.
Vapour in a cubic foot of air.....	2.1 grains.
" required to saturate, do.....	0.8
Mean degree of humidity (Sat. 100).....	72
Average weight of a cubic foot of air.....	551.3
Cloud, mean amount of (0-10).....	7.0
Ozone " ".....	1.1
Wind, general direction.....	North-West.
mean daily horizontal movement.....	120.2 miles.
Rain, number of days it fell.....	9
amount collected on the ground.....	0.95 inches.
" " 10 feet above.....	0.90
Snow, number of days it fell.....	6