

10. *Gaspé Bay South (Gaspé Basin)*. The Commissioners of this municipality have been prosecuted and condemned for refusing to establish the assessment. This example will have a good effect upon the Commissioners of other municipalities, who may be inclined to offer resistance to the law.

The schools are closed, but are to be opened shortly.

11. *Gaspé Bay North (Penouit)*. The assessment, which was with great difficulty established here, has had the effect of increasing the salary of the teacher from a very small sum to \$200. Mr. Thomas Cole is an old and meritorious teacher, whose pupils make satisfactory progress, especially in geography and arithmetic.

I regret to have to add that there is a very considerable sum in arrear, and that the Commissioners have not the moral courage to institute the necessary suits for its collection.

12. *Grande Grève*. This municipality has only two schools, very badly kept and still worse attended. There is no progress, and it would be better to close these two schools than to allow them to be thus conducted any longer.

The assessment is looked upon here in a very unfavorable light by a great majority of the ratepayers; arrears are due, and the Commissioners are not sufficiently firm with those who, from hatred of the assessment, refuse to pay their share.

Mr. Wm. Hymann, who had been Secretary-Treasurer for several years, has ceased to fill that office, both on account of the annoyances to which he was subjected and the little support he received from the Commissioners. This gentleman is animated with a better spirit, and is full of zeal for the schools, which he wishes to see established on a better footing.

13. *Cup des Rosiers*. A school is about to be opened in this place.

14. *Anse à Grisfonds*. There is no school in this municipality yet.

15. *Rivière au Renard*. This parish contains two good schools, attended by 79 pupils of both sexes. There has been progress in every respect in this place, the population of which is, however, a poor one. This result is due to the initiative zealously and resolutely taken by the Curé, the Reverend J. B. Blouin.

The accounts and registers of the corporation are in good order.

16. *Mont Louis*. A school has at last been opened at Mont Louis, and not before it was wanted; it is a great boon to this isolated spot, which is visited by the missionary only a few times in the year, and in which many children were growing up without instruction.

17. *Ste. Anne des Monts*. A school is in operation here, attended by 42 pupils. The want of another school is keenly felt; unfortunately the inhabitants are poor, and should the fisheries prove unproductive during any year, it will be impossible for them to pay their share of assessment.

The Secretary-Treasurer, Jean Perrée, Esquire, does much for the schools, and his account-books are in perfect order.

18. *Cap Chatte*. There is a single school in this municipality, which has been kept for two years by Madame L'Espérance, the widow of the late Inspector of that name. This school is attended by 38 children, and their progress has been satisfactory.

The Commissioners and their Secretary-Treasurer, Louis Roy, Esquire, perform their duties with zeal and punctuality.

Notices of Books and Publications.

LE FOYER CANADIEN.—QUEBEC, 1863.

We have received the November and December numbers of the above publication, completing the first volume. An essay by Dr. La Rue on the popular songs of Canada is among the contents of those numbers, and another from the same pen, on the historical ballads, is promised for a future issue. By the report of the publishers we perceive that the list of subscribers now includes 2113 names; and that by the system of prizes adopted, five volumes, on divers subjects of Canadian literature, have been already published and distributed. These supplementary works contain 1685 pages, and the number of copies struck from the press is 10,600. Six fine volumes can thus be had for \$3; viz: the two books mentioned below, *les Anciens Canadiens*, by Mr. de Gaspé, the annual volume of the present publication, just completed, and the volume for next year.

LA LITTÉRATURE CANADIENNE DE 1850 À 1860.—Desbarats, Publisher. 2nd Vol., 8vo, 389 pp.

This is the prize book given to the subscribers of the *Foyer*, as we had occasion to remark in a previous notice. It contains the poetry of Mr. Octave Crémazie, selections from the poems of Messrs. Fiset, Lenoir and others; an article on Naples, by Mr. Bourassa; an

account of the battle of Châteauguay, by Mr. Adelard Boucher; essays on religious subjects by the Rev. Mr. Raymond; and a novel, by Mr. Philippe de Gaspé.

FERLAND.—*Notes sur les registres de Notre-Dame de Québec*. By Rev. Mr. Ferland. Desbarats, Publisher. 2nd. Edition; 8vo, 100 pp.

This new edition contains many additions. Sold for 50 cents,—subscribers to the *Foyer*: 25 cents.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF QUEBEC. New Series. Vol. I, Part 1st, 8vo, 18 pp. G. T. Cary.

The last pamphlet received from this Society, was the first number of the fifth volume. Since its issue, the building occupied by the society having been destroyed by fire, together with the library, collections and what remained on hand of the *Transactions*, the publication of the fifth volume will not be completed, but a new series has been commenced. This is the second time that the collections of the Society have been destroyed by fire, and the recurrence of these accidents proves the necessity of placing such valuable collections beyond the reach of conflagrations.

The present issue in a new form contains the annual speech of the President; an article by Mr. T. D. McGee on Champlain; a statistical compilation on the grain trade, by Mr. Harvey, with table and map; account of an exploring expedition to the Moisie River, by Mr. Cayley with a chart; two articles by Mr. Stanton, on the danger attending the use of benzine, and the botanical geography of Canada; commentaries on certain passages in Shakespeare, by Mr. Meredith; an article on the Port of Quebec, by Mr. Tate; and an article involving great labor, by Mr. Robert Bouchette, on the weights and measures of Canada and other countries.

The President of the Society, Mr. Langton, in his opening address, brought out very prominently the advantages to the country—even from a financial point of view,—attending outlays for the protection of letters, the arts and sciences—outlays which were often opposed by those who did not realize their utility or importance. The opinion of Mr. Langton, who occupies a very high position in the financial and administrative circles of the Province, appears to us to carry much weight in such matters; and we quote it with the more pleasure as all that he says with regard to the encouragement of the arts and sciences will apply with still greater force to public instruction.

Speaking of what had been done in this direction by the French during the early colonization of Canada, the President says:

"I never pass the Jesuits' Barracks in our city without some feeling of shame, in the comparison between the enterprise of our predecessors, and our own apathy in this respect. We boast of the superior energy of the Anglo-Saxon race; but what have we done during our hundred years' occupation of the country towards its intellectual advancement, which can compare with the foundations which they had laid, when for the most part it was an untrodden wilderness?"

The account of Prof. Hind's expedition to the River Moisie reveals to the reader the mysteries of a hitherto unexplored wilderness, and one feels a chilly sensation on perusing Mr. Cayley's description of the lonely solitude through which the party journeyed. The object of the explorers was to reach Esquimaux Bay, from the source of the Moisie River, in canoes—a feat which, it is said, can be accomplished by taking advantage of a chain of small lakes connected together by streams of running water. The successful accomplishment by this route of the journey from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Atlantic, would have been looked upon as something extraordinary enough, but the state in which the rivers were found and the shortness of the summer induced Mr. Hind and his companions to relinquish the attempt. The following extract will show the nature of the country,—the places described being nearly at the furthest point to which the expedition penetrated:

"After traversing this lake for a couple of miles, we arrived at the narrows, which ushered us into a still larger expanse of waters, in fact the largest we encountered on the whole route. Studded all over with islands as it was, we could yet see that it extended six or seven miles in the direction in which we were going, and three or four in the other,—the surrounding mountains having still as before, those huge boulders set so provokingly on end. It really was delightful to know that we could go mile after mile without the dread of a portage before us.

"Here we found all vegetation behind-hand. The Labrador Tea plant was not yet in flower, though it had been so three weeks before on the Grand Portage. The ferns were only just beginning to sprout, and no wonder, since even on the morning of the 1st of July, the thermometer stood below the freezing point and there was a