

edifice was heavily in debt, it was he who mortgaged his property to redeem it. To do this he would have sacrificed all he possessed, but the Catholics of Toronto generously came to his assistance. His outlay in charitable and religious undertakings was so extensive that the venerable Bishop de Charbonnel placed a restriction upon his generous expenditure. Besides his large contributions to St. Paul's, St. Michael's, and St. Basil's, he presented the organ to the Cathedral. Moreover, he made it a rule to contribute one hundred dollars to every new church that was erected in the diocese. His donations of vestments, sacred utensils, ornaments, etc., to the city churches and missions, were without bound. Fearing that the last Bazaar in aid of the House of Providence would be a failure, he gave the Rev. mother \$100. The Hon. Mr. Elmsley enjoyed the fullest confidence and the most cordial esteem of the former Bishops of this See, as well as our present estimable Chief pastor. About two months since, the Hon. Capt. Elmsley was seized with his last illness. From the earliest stage of his sickness—disease of the heart—he felt a presentiment of his approaching end. His resignation was perfect. In accents of joy he announced to his good lady his conviction that God was about to take him to Himself. When he felt death drawing near, he called the members of his family around him and gave them his blessing. Having received from the Bishop the last rites of the church, he calmly gave up his soul to God.—*Abridged from the Freeman. U. C. Journal of Education.*

—Lord Seaton, formerly Sir John Colborn, died recently at Torquay, aged 86. He had seen much service during the wars which succeeded the French Revolution, and greatly distinguished himself at Waterloo, where at the head of the 52nd he led a flank attack on Ney's columns that materially contributed to the overthrow of the Imperial Guard. He was successively appointed governor of Guernsey and lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada. From 1835 he was Commander of the Forces, acted as Administrator for Lower Canada after the departure of Lord Gosford, and again, on the retirement of Lord Durham; and finally filled the office of Governor General until the arrival, on the 16th Oct. 1839, of Mr. Poulett Thompson (afterwards Lord Sydenham). The legislation of the Special Council, the burning of the villages of St. Denis and St. Benoit by the volunteers, the executions for political offences and other acts of severity during his administration have rendered his name unpopular in Lower Canada. His likeness, published in the *London Illustrated News*, suggests the idea of inflexibility of character. He was, soon after his return to England, promoted to the peerage under the title of Lord Seaton. In a discourse on the subject of the Union of the Canadas, which he opposed in the House of Lords, he advocated the same views as were laid down in a pamphlet by Chief Justice Robinson. He feared that a premature union of the two provinces, would enable the radicals to combine for the purpose of resisting a confederation of all the British colonies—a measure he held to be necessary. In 1840 he was appointed High Commissioner to the Ionian Islands in which capacity he continued to act until 1849. In this case he used his endeavors to conciliate the people, and left them a constitution which has caused much trouble to England since, and disposed her to renounce her protectorate. He afterwards held the command of the troops in Ireland and was appointed a Field Marshal in 1860.

—Dr. Wolfred Nelson, recently deceased, was the son of a commissariat officer and was born in Montreal on the 10th July 1792. He studied medicine at Sorrel under Dr. Carrier, was admitted to practice in 1811, and shortly afterwards established himself at St. Denis, on the Chambly River, the scene of the only advantage of any importance gained over the British troops by the insurgents in the rebellion of 1837. In 1812 he marched to the frontier as surgeon to the battalion organized in his county. In 1817, after one of the most hotly contested elections of the time, he was returned to Parliament for Sorrel by a majority of two votes over his opponent, Attorney General Stuart. The defeated candidate thereupon commenced many prosecutions for perjury, and, having suffered himself to be led into many acts of injustice, was dismissed from office. For a long time Wolfred Nelson and his brother Robert were the boldest and most energetic friends Mr. Papineau and the liberals had in Parliament. He presided, in 1837, over the memorable assembly of the five counties of the River Chambly which was soon after followed by numerous arrests. To avoid being made a prisoner, he, and his partisans, entrenched themselves in the village of St. Denis, and there successfully defended themselves against Col. Gore's detachment sent to capture them, but the insurgents having met with a reverse at St. Charles, Dr. Nelson was compelled to abandon his position at St. Denis where he was surrounded, and seek safety in flight. His efforts to escape, however, were not successful; he was captured near the frontier and brought back a prisoner to Montreal, whence he was exiled to Bermuda by Lord Durham. Being restored to liberty by the Imperial Government's disavowal of that Governor's acts, Dr. Nelson proceeded, in 1838, to the United States where he resided until August 1842. He then returned with his family to Montreal and was soon after (1841) elected to represent the County of Richelieu in Parliament. He continued to discharge his representative functions till 1851, when he was appointed Prison Inspector, which office he still held at the time of his death. He was also on two occasions chosen Mayor of his native city, and his conduct while occupying this position had won for him the esteem of all classes of his fellow citizens.

—Mr. Patricio Lacombe who died recently in Montreal, aged 56, belonged to that very limited class of men who have contributed to the literature of this country. Those of our readers who may be conversant with French Canadian authors, and who have read Mr. Lacombe's *Terre Paternelle*, will regret that his modesty and other engagements prevented the full development of his talent and creative fancy.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

—Magnesium, although a less plentiful constituent of the earth's crust than calcium, enters into the constitution of a great variety of minerals. It is found occasionally combined with phosphorus and with boracic acids. But it is in combination with silicic acid that it is most universally diffused. Precious serpentine, and meerschaum, are hydrated silicates of magnesium. Venetian talc, white augite, amianthus, and the varieties of amphibole, are also examples of silicates of magnesium associated with more or less of foreign substances. Carbonate of magnesium forms a range of low hills in India. The rarer hydrate occurs in a few localities. But the most economically important mineral containing magnesium is Dolomite, which consists of carbonates of magnesium and of calcium, and usually overlies (with or without the intervention of sandstone conglomerate) the coal formation. In England the magnesian limestone formation extends, with little interval, from Tynemouth to Nottingham, a distance of 147 miles. At Sunderland the bed is fully 600 feet thick. It is this magnesian limestone which furnishes most, if not all, of the magnesia prepared in this country. Abroad, magnesia is economically obtained from the mother-liquors left after sea-water has been evaporated down for its salt. Probably these mother-liquors will ultimately turn out the best source of magnesium, since here the metal is associated with chlorine, and it is from the chloride that the metal is most readily procurable. Every ton of sea-water contains a fraction over two pounds avoirdupois of magnesium in combination with chlorine, and almost exactly half that quantity combined with sulphuric acid. A rough calculation shows that, if the surface of the ocean be taken at twice that of the land, and its average depth at three miles, then the specific gravity of magnesium being 1.75, the ocean contains about 160,000 cubic miles of magnesium.—*Journal of Arts and Manufactures U. C.*

—Orology is becoming an important branch of ornithology. The recent labors of several naturalists have induced the directors of many museums to include collections of eggs in this division of the animal kingdom. We learn with pleasure that Mr. Cooper has just added to the museum of the Laval Normal School a pretty collection of the eggs of Canadian birds, which will serve as a nucleus.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

—The *Scientific American* thus describes a village in Central Canada, which is the type of many now springing up into towns throughout both divisions of the Province. The village of Hastings is situated on the River Trent, a few miles from Rice Lake, C. W. Three years ago there were some dozen houses in it; now there are over one thousand inhabitants, two four-story factories—one cotton and one woollen; two large saw mills, grist mill and tannery, and ten stores; altogether, it is quite a thriving village. The cotton factory is called the Trent Valley Mills; it has 30 looms, and turns out about 8,000 yards of grey cotton per week. The same firm have a small factory, where they knit gentlemen's underclothing, vests and pants.—*Journal of Arts and Manufactures.*

—From information received from Quebec, says an English paper, we learn that the mineral wealth of Canada is slowly but surely becoming developed. It is something less than six years since the copper regions of Lower Canada first attracted attention, and we now find them filled with mining enterprise, drawn by the rich promise from Europe and the States, bringing abundant capital, and giving employment to hundreds. The Acton mine, in the county of Bagot, was the first to which much attention was directed, and the success of the operations in regard to production and money value are supposed to be without parallel. Within three years after it was opened 490,000 dols. worth of ore had been obtained, and between 500 and 600 hands were employed in its working. The Harvey Hill Mines, in the county of Leeds, a large interest in which was held by citizens of Quebec, is, as we learn, a still more valuable property than that of Acton. These mines have been disposed of within the last few days to Boston capitalists for the sum of £50,000 sterling. 322 tons of this ore from the Harvey Hill Mine, sent to England, give an average of 38 per cent. This is a much higher percentage than is generally obtained, but we are informed that much of the ore raised from this mine is as high as 50 per cent.—*Ibid.*

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