

thélemi; while last year no less than fourteen municipalities had to resort to that course. The amount furnished by the ratepayers exceeds the legislative grant by 250 per cent.

NOTES respecting each of the School Municipalities of the counties of Berthier, Joliette, Montcalm and L'Assomption, 1860 and 1861.

1. *Rawdon*.—At the time of my last visit all the schools, with the exception of one, were in operation. I was compelled to communicate to the commissioners the complaints which had been made to me against the teacher of the school in question, as well as against the teacher of school section No. 8. The other schools of Rawdon shewed satisfactory progress, if their circumstances are taken into consideration. The model school is conducted this year by Mr. Ed. McManus, who holds a model school diploma. 25 Catholic heads of families, principally from section No. 1, filed an act of dissent with the commissioners, on the 16th day of last November. I visited their school, which is conducted by Mr. Fitzgerald, who has an academy diploma, and whose well known ability will no doubt draw pupils to this new institution.

2. *St. Charles Borromée*.—Two of the school-houses here are rented. The other two were built last year and belong to the commissioners. The emoluments of the four female teachers are as follows:—£27, £22, £18 and £13 10; this is too small a sum, and the schools are consequently inferior.

3. *Industry*.—The different institutions in this municipality are well kept as usual, and if the progress of the pupils is not as great as we have a right to expect from boys' and girls' primary schools (so far as the ability of their teachers is concerned), it results from want of assiduity on the part of the pupils.

The Industrial College of Joliette, and the academy for girls, conducted by the Sisters of La Providence, justly enjoy a reputation for practical utility. In addition to the branches usually taught in classical colleges, at Joliette 10 pupils receive instruction in landscape drawing, 15 learn architecture, 14 botany, and 15 are following a commercial course—finally, 15 pupils follow a course of chemistry and agriculture. The business of the commissioners has been well conducted, but in August last there was a large amount of arrears to be collected.

4. *St. Félix de Valois*.—This municipality has four schools in operation, exclusive of the dissentients. The girls' school, which was set apart from the boys' school last year, has been joined to it again this year. I observed a great deal of zeal for the cause of education in the different sections of St. Félix. The examinations were tolerably satisfactory. The number of dissentient pupils attending the school seldom exceeds 12; I warned the trustees of this. Their teacher is badly paid. The business of the commissioners is well conducted; but there was, in July last, an amount of \$350 of arrears.

5. *St. Gabriel de Brandon*.—The commissioners have closed the school at Lake Corbeau and have established one on the Government road. I was unable to visit it; 50 pupils attend it. The building in section No. 4 is a credit to the commissioners. Miss Etn conducts her school there with success, and I may say the same of that kept by Miss Paré in No. 1. The other schools are not very good. The area of this municipality is immense, and as the population, which is scattered over it, is composed of new settlers, the children cannot be spared to profit by the educational advantages at their disposal. I had to warn the commissioners to collect their arrears which are considerable. I was also compelled to warn the trustees that it would be necessary to follow the letter of the law more strictly under penalty of losing their share of the grant.

(To be continued.)

### Notices of Books and Recent Publications.

SMITH.—A Shilling Book of Arithmetic for National and Elementary Schools; By Barnard Smith, M. A., Cambridge and London, 1866. Macmillan & Co.—12mo, pp. 188.

This is one of a cheap series of school books, very well got up, and containing a great deal of matter in a limited space. It goes further than the title of the book would lead us to expect, as it treats of the application of arithmetic to geometry and the metric system or "French tables."

DRAPER.—A Text-Book on Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene, for the use of Schools and Families; By John C. Draper, M. D., New York: Harper, 1866. Royal 8vo, 36 pp.

A very comprehensive work, but too large even for schools of the highest grades. The elements of physiology and hygiene might very properly be taught in the more advanced schools, though this had

better be done through the teacher himself than through any text-book. If text-books of this kind were placed in the hands of pupils for every imaginable branch of instruction, life would be too short to obtain an education. The volume before us is ably compiled however, and valuable in other respects; it contains no less than 270 illustrations, and may be read with great advantage by anyone desirous of obtaining a knowledge of the three important subjects of which it treats. It is essentially a practical work, abounding with facts, and, as far as a hasty perusal has enabled us to judge, the scientific information it contains has been brought down to the latest discoveries.

TAYLOR.—Portraits of British Americans.—The number for Oct. last, which has made its appearance but a few days ago, completes the first volume of this interesting publication. It contains pen and ink sketches and photographs of Mr. Brydges, whom Mr. Taylor very properly nicknames *le plu. grand Voyeur* of this continent; Right Revd. Thomas Mulloch, D.D., Roman Catholic Bishop of Newfoundland; Hon. Isaac Buchanan, Hon. Joseph Cauchon, and the late S. Monk, Esq. The sketches are, as usual, cleverly written.

CANADIAN NATURALIST AND GEOLOGIST.—The December number of this valuable periodical, the 11th of the whole publication, closes the 2nd volume of the 2nd series. We have so frequently borrowed articles from this scientific review, that it needs no special commendation to make our readers acquainted with its merits.

SADLER'S Catholic Almanac for the Year of Our Lord 1866.—New York. pp. 426. This almanac contains the most minute and complete information that could be collected on the Roman Catholic clergy and educational and charitable institutions of North America. It is divided in three parts: the first, besides calendars and astronomical information, contains the Roman Register, and the clergy list of the United States; in the second part is to be found all that concerns British North America, Great Britain and Ireland; and the third is filled by advertisements having reference to educational institutions, Catholic booksellers, &c.

We gather from the ecclesiastical summaries, the following statistics. There are in British North America, 2 R. C. Archbishops, 18 Bishops, and 1014 priests. The diocese which contains the largest number of priests is that of Montreal, 238; next is Quebec, 188. There are in Ireland, 4 R. C. Archbishops, 27 Bishops and 3050 priests; in England 1 Archbishop, 12 Bishops and 1325 priests; in Scotland, 1 Bishop, 179 priests. It is to be regretted that a general summary for the United States should not have been added in the same manner.

CARMICHAEL.—*Precis of the Wars in Canada, from 1755 to the Treaty of Ghent in 1814, with Military and Political Reflections* by the late Maj. Gen. Sir James Carmichael Smith, Bart., Edited by his son Sir James Carmichael. London 1862, Tinsley. 216 p. 8vo.

Although from its date this work hardly comes under the scope of notices of recent publications, we have much pleasure in calling attention to the fact that our enterprising booksellers, Messrs. Dawson Bros., have imported a few copies. This book, to which existing circumstances have given more than ordinary interest, is not only attractive to politicians and those whose business it is to speculate on coming events: it is of the highest value to the student of Canadian history. Although it is not without some errors which, however, the initiated can easily correct, it still gives a clear and reliable outline of the whole military history of the colony from its establishment to the present day. The correctness of the general reflections at the end of the volume have, we believe, been called in question by other competent writers on the subject; but the volume itself affords all the materials for a proper discussion of the plan suggested by the writer, and it is a great acquisition to the public at the present moment.

## MONTHLY SUMMARY.

### EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

—The Matriculation lists for the present Session in the McGill University include 58 students in law, 174 in medicine and 78 in arts; or after deducting a few entered in more than one faculty, 306 in all. This number is exclusive of those students matriculated in the University, but studying at Morrin College, Quebec, and St. Francis College, Richmond. There are in addition 250 pupils in the High School, 66 teachers in training in the Normal School, and 314 pupils in the Model School of