

—There are very few of the many who carry watches who ever think of the complexity of its delicate mechanism, or of the extraordinary and unceasing labor it performs, and how astonishingly well it bears up and does its duty under what would be considered very shabby treatment in almost any other machinery. There are many who think a watch ought to run and keep good time for years without even a drop of oil, who would not think of running a common piece of machinery a day without oiling, the wheels of which do but a fraction of the service. We were forcibly struck with this thought the other day, upon hearing a person remark that, by way of gratifying his curiosity, he had made a calculation of the revolutions which the wheels in an American watch make in a day and a year. The result of this calculation is as suggestive as it is interesting. For example: The main wheel makes 4 revolutions in 24 hours, or 1,440 in a year; the second or centre wheel, 24 revolutions in 24 hours, or 8,760 in a year; the third wheel, 192 in 24 hours, or 69,080 in a year; the fourth wheel (which carries the second-hand), 1,440 in 24 hours, or 525,600 in a year; the fifth or 'scape wheel, 12,960 in 24 hours, or 4,728,400 revolutions in a year; while the beats or vibrations made in 24 hours are 388,800, or 141,812,00 in a year — *Lancaster Express*.

—We read in the *Journal of the Society of Arts* that another scientific expedition round the world has been organized in Austria. The *Marco Polo* will leave Trieste on the 5th of March, with about sixty passengers, and the voyage is expected to extend over eight months. Two hundred days will be spent on the sea, and fifty in visiting thirty ports which are named as stopping-places on the route. The cost of the expedition is defrayed by the passengers, who pay £400 each. The ship has been carefully furnished with instruments and apparatus of all kinds. — *Educational Times*.

STATISTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—The following curious facts are stated by the *Abeille Medicale*:—The earth is inhabited by 1288 millions of inhabitants, viz., 369,000,000 of the Caucasian race, 552,000,000 of the Mongolian race; 190,000,000 of the Ethiopian, 1,000,000 of the American Indian, and 200,000,000 of the Malay races. All these respectively speak 3064 languages, and profess 1000 different religions. The amount of deaths per annum exceeds 333,000,000, or 91,000 per day, 3700 per hour, 60 per minute, or 1 per second, so that at every pulsation of our heart a human being dies. This loss is compensated by an equal number of births. The average duration of life throughout the globe is 33 years. One-fourth of its population dies before the seventh year, and one-half before the seventeenth. Out of 10,000 persons, only one reaches his 100th year; only one in 500 his eightieth; and only one in 100 his sixty-fifth. Married people live longer than unmarried ones; and a tall man is likely to live longer than a short one. Until the fiftieth year women have a better chance of life than men; beyond that period the chances are equal. Six hundred and fifty persons out of 1000 marry; the months of June and December are those in which marriages are most frequent. Children born in the spring are generally stronger than those born in other seasons. Births and deaths chiefly occur at night. The number of men able to bear arms is but one-eighth of the population. The nature of the profession exercises a great influence on longevity; thus out of 100 of each of the following professions, the number of those who attain their seventieth year is:—Among clergymen, 42; agriculturists, 40; traders and manufacturers, 38; soldiers, 32; clerks, 32; lawyers, 29; artists, 28; and physicians, 24; so that those who study the art of prolonging the lives of others are most likely to die early, probably on account of the effluvia to which they are constantly exposed. There are in the world 335 millions of Christians, 5 millions of Jews, 600 millions professing some of the Asiatic religions; 160 millions of Mahometans, and 200 millions of Pagans. Of the Christians, 170 millions profess the Catholic, 76 millions the Greek, and 80 millions the Protestant creeds.—*Id.*

NECROLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE

—The late Chief Justice, Sir Louis Hyppolite LaFontaine, Baronet and Commander of the Pontifical Order of St. Sylvester, was born at Boucherville, in October 1807, and died in his fifty-sixth year. He descended from a very respectable family belonging to the agricultural classes; and one of his ancestors had sat in Parliament. Although endowed by nature with a remarkably robust constitution, his health had long been impaired by sedentary habits and the severe exertion incidental to active political life. He, in part, received his education at the Seminary of Montreal, and was admitted to practise law at one-and-twenty. Two years later, he was returned to Parliament, where his talent, and the success he had met with at the bar, soon brought him into notice. Desirous of preventing the impending revolt in 1837, he proceeded to Quebec with Mr. Debartzch, and a few other members, for the purpose of obtaining from Lord Gosford the summoning of another session of Parliament. Sometime after this event, one of his letters having been found, in which it was ironically suggested that the *bonnets bleus du nord* should be armed, he hastily left the country. Strange to say, Mr. LaFontaine had the temerity to seek a refuge in England, where he was received and entertained in high political circles. Receiving a timely warning from Mr.

Ellice, however, that accusations were being lodged against him, he judged it prudent to retire to Paris. Having returned to Canada, he suffered imprisonment during the second outbreak. When the union of the Canadas was brought about he resisted the policy of the Right Honorable Charles Poulett Thompson (afterwards Lord Sydenham) to the utmost of his power. As violence was threatened, he withdrew from the election of Terrebonne through motives of humanity, but soon obtained a seat by the influence of Mr. Baldwin as representative for York. From this time must be dated the existence of that close friendship between these two men which exerted a potent influence over many subsequent events.

Mr. LaFontaine retired from politics in 1851, and was soon afterwards made Chief Justice for Lower Canada and Baronet. He leaves an infant son, the issue of a second marriage. His funeral was a very imposing ceremony, at which Mgr. the R. C. Bishop of Montreal pronounced an oration highly eulogistic of the qualities of the late judge.

—The Catholic Archbishop of New-York, the Rev. John Hughes, died on Sunday evening, January 3, aged about 65 years. Few men of his day exercised so wide an influence, social, moral, and political, and few men have exercised it, so honestly and wisely. He was born in Ireland in 1798, the son of a respectable farmer. He came to America in 1817, and soon after became a student at the Catholic College at Emmetsburg, Maryland. In 1825 he received ordination, and was appointed to the charge of a church in Philadelphia, and became recognized as a man of mark in his church. In 1838 he was appointed coadjutor to the venerable Bishop Dubois of New York, who was fast sinking under age and infirmity. A fortnight had hardly passed before Bishop Dubois was struck down by paralysis, and the oversight of the diocese fell upon Mr. Hughes, who four years later, upon the death of his superior became Bishop of New York. In this position he had full scope for the exercise of his great administrative powers. To the general public he was best known by the various controversies in which he was at several times engaged, prominent among which were those with Dr. John Breckenridge, that upon the Public School Question, that with his fellow-countryman, Dr. Nicholas Murray (Kirwan), and one with Hon. Erastus Brooks. But his true work was in the organization of the affairs of his diocese, and the establishment of its educational and religious concerns upon a firm basis. It would require a volume to detail his labors. It is sufficient to say that he gradually gathered into his own strong hands the entire control of the Catholic schools and churches of his diocese. The amount of church property nominally vested in him has been stated at fully five millions of dollars. He found his diocese weak and disjointed; he left it strong and consolidated. His position gave him great political influence; this he rarely used except when he thought the interests of the Church were in question, and then always with telling effect. In 1850 the Diocese of New York was divided by the erection of the Sees of Albany and Buffalo, while that of New York was raised to the dignity of an Archbishopric. After the breaking out of the insurrection, Archbishop Hughes, at the desire of our Government, went to Europe on a mission to aid the Union cause; for his exertions in this mission he received the official thanks of the authorities of the City of New York. Within a few months his health began to give way, and his public appearances became more rare. His last notable effort was his speech to the Catholics of New York, at the time of the riots of last July. He died as he had lived, a true man, and a sincere Christian.—*Harper's Weekly*.

—One of the Seigneurs of Rigaud Vaudreuil and other places, eldest son of the Honorable Charles Etienne Chaussegros de Lery, member of the Executive Council, and of the late Marie Josephine Fraser, and nephew of the late Viscount de Lery, Lieutenant-General in the service of France, was born at Quebec on the 2nd Sept., 1800. Descended from one of the oldest families of the Province, whose members, both under the French rule and the present Government, filled, with general approbation, the most important offices of trust in the colony; allied to the best Canadian families, and by the mother's side, to the most illustrious houses of Scotland, Mr. de Lery nobly bore his honourable name. After having with honor and success, devoted the first and greatest portion of his life to the service of his country, in the career followed by his father before him, he abandoned—now some fifteen years since—public life to devote himself exclusively to the advancement and colonization of his seignior. Under his management, and that of an able and worthy friend, the respected curé of the parish, St. François, now noted for its gold mines, progressed rapidly and soon became the most important parish in the county. Mr. de Lery was frequently solicited to re-enter the arena of politics, but always persistently refused; he preferred to devote his leisure hours to the interests of his *censitaires*, who all respected him as a father, and often submitted their mutual petty disagreements to his arbitration. His wealth, social rank, knowledge, and above all, his urbanity, rendered the task to him an easy and an agreeable one and all who came to consult him and lay before him their little differences, invariably returned home satisfied with his decisions. He could not, however, always resist the wish, respectfully urged, of his fellow-parishoners, who twice elected him Mayor of St. François de la Beauce, and *Préfet* of the county, which office he filled until the hour of his death.—*Journal*.