

of Anna Maria, daughter of the late Rev. Philip Yorke, grand son of the first Earl of Hardwicke, was born on the 6th of March, 1840. He came to Canada with his father, in 1855, and was after two years residence amongst us, sent to Europe where he studied, at Heidelberg, a celebrated German University, during two years. He had returned to this country, in the *Anglo Saxon*, a few days previous to the accident, and accompanied his father and mother with a large and distinguished party on an excursion to the St. Maurice, which up to the fatal moment had proved a most delightful trip. He was a young man of the most amiable manners, full of love for science and in every way doing justice to the motto of his family: "Study quiet."

The citizens of Three Rivers and those of Quebec have shown due marks of respect to the remains of the unfortunate young man; and the press of this country and of the United States, have already testified their sympathies for his distinguished and bereaved family. The funeral will take place, at Quebec, Friday next. The following is from the *Ere Nouvelle*:

It is with deep grief and pain that we are compelled to chronicle the dreadful accident which occurred at the *Grande Mère*, River Saint Maurice, yesterday morning.

His Excellency the Governor General, Lady Head, Miss Head, Mr. John Head, with a distinguished party, left Three Rivers on Tuesday morning last to visit the River St. Maurice as far as the Piles Falls. The trip was entirely successful until yesterday morning, when Mr. John Head, son of His Excellency, was unfortunately drowned while bathing in the immediate vicinity of the Falls of the "Grande Mère." The circumstances, as gleaned from our mayor, Mr. Turcotte, who was present, are briefly these: About half-past 7 yesterday morning the Hon. J. Browne, son of the Earl of Kenmare, accompanied by Mr. Head, left the camp to take their usual morning bath. When they reached the spot where Mr. Browne had bathed the preceding morning, he observed that he had forgotten his towel. He returned in search of it, leaving Mr. Head to prepare for the bath. Before the former returned Mr. Head took the water and was immediately perceived by the voyageurs, who were on a hill close by, to struggle on his back in the water. They rushed in alarm to the spot, but the unfortunate young man had disappeared. Auguste Bellemare, one of the voyageurs, dashed into the water and dived sixteen feet deep, but without success. Louis Decoteau, another voyageur, also dived, but with the same result. Boats and canoes were brought, a pole was planted, and Bellemare, who in the meantime had taken off his clothes, descended to the bottom by aid of the pole. On reaching the bed of the river he had to walk on the bottom for some seconds before he succeeded in finding the body. When found, he took it under one arm, and with the other climbed to the surface, bringing the body with him. These acts of daring courage were performed within 100 feet of the Falls of *La Grande Mère*, and in a place where the least faux pas would have led them over the falls. The body was but 12 minutes in the water, yet although every appliance and effort were used to revive it, from 8 o'clock till 12, it was without success. Thus we have to record the most unfortunate calamity that has ever occurred in this district. A shade of deep gloom is cast over our community by this sad event. When so lately his Excellency and suite were received with unbounded enthusiasm by our citizens, when we cordially hailed his presence among us, little did we dream in our joy that cheers of welcome would so soon give way to a funeral dirge. Words cannot express the feeling of profound sorrow, which this untoward accident has produced in our midst. We can merely express our deep sympathy with His Excellency and family in their bereavement, until the citizens of Three Rivers shall express their sorrow in a different form.

The body was brought down this morning in care of Capt. Retalack, M. S., and His Excellency, family and suite immediately followed in canoes. They embarked in the steamer *Advance* which was in waiting at the mouth of the St. Maurice, and they proceeded direct to Spencer Wood, Quebec.

The English Language in Lower Canada.

A statement has been recently made by the *Toronto Leader* to the effect that the English language was almost excluded from the French Colleges and Schools in this part of the country. We deem it necessary to contradict that statement. In every college in Lower Canada the English language is taught and in some of them most efficiently. It is taught in a most successful manner in the convents and in the academies of young ladies, and were the learned editor of the *Leader* to attend the public examinations at these institutions, he would be at a loss to distinguish the French from the English pupils. According to the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Lower Canada for 1858, which is now printing, the number of French pupils in the Colleges and Academies learning the English language is 7968; that of the English pupils learning French is 1765. Besides this there is hardly a Model School, in the French parishes in Lower-Canada, where English is not studied with more or less success; it is taught in many elementary schools; and there is every where a very strong disposition on the part of the parents to have it taught.

The total number of French children who are learning to read and write the English language cannot be less than 40,000. We have no exact figures by which we could judge of the number of children learning French in Upper Canada; but we have every reason to believe that it bears a much smaller proportion to the total number of pupils than in England and in the most enlightened parts of the United States. Even in Lower Canada it is but very recently that the French language has been taught effectually in the higher English educational institutions. It is to be noted also that with two or three exceptions, all the French Canadian members of Parliament understand English; most of them can speak it and some among them have frequently addressed the house in that language with great fluency and correctness. No Upper Canadian ever addressed the house in French, if we except the speakers, who, on two or three occasions, returned thanks in both languages.

We do not pretend to say that the French Canadians are not as firmly attached to the language of their forefathers, as the English are to the Anglo-Saxon idiom; but we wish, as far as it lies in our power, to repel the charge of their being blindly and irreconcilably opposed to the use of a language, so highly serviceable, and which they are neither unable nor unwilling to master.

Ninth Conference of the Association of Teachers in connection with the Jacques-Cartier Normal School, held Friday, 26th August, 1859.

Present: The Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau; Messrs. the School Inspectors F. X. Valade and C. H. Leroux; Messrs. D. Boudrias, president; F. X. Hétu, secretary; P. Jardin, treasurer; Messrs. A. Dalaire, J. C. Guilbault, A. J. Groux, L. Grondin, P. Delaney, J. E. Labonté, E. Simays, Counsellors; and Messrs. U. E. Archambault, M. Emard, P. H. St. Hilaire, R. Martineau, F. X. Desplaines, H. Martineau, T. Amyraut, P. P. Anger, H. Perrin, A. Coutu, P. M. Hamelin, L. G. Destroismaisons, J. O. Parent, teachers.

The President having opened the conference and read the minutes of the last sitting, it was unanimously resolved that special mention should be made in the next report of a lecture delivered by Mr. Emard at the preceding conference, entitled: "The advantages which the profession of teacher possesses compared with the other liberal professions," the subject having been treated in a masterly manner, by the above named gentleman.

Messrs. P. Jardin et P. H. St. Hilaire were then requested to give a lecture, at the next conference. Mr. P. P. Anger was invited to discuss, at the next conference, the question: "Whether it would be more advantageous to commence the scholastic year on the first of May or on the first of July."

The members, after having paid their subscriptions, named the following officers: President, M. A. Dalaire; Vice-President, F. X. Hétu; Secretary, E. Simays; Treasurer, M. Boudrias; Counsellors, Messrs. L. Grondin, M. Emard, J. C. Guilbault, P. Jardin, F. X. Desplaines, P. P. Anger, and P. H. St. Hilaire.

The Honorable the Superintendent complimented the retiring president on the zeal with which he had discharged his duties. Mr. Dalaire, also, in taking the chair, in a neat address, paid merited praise to his able predecessor.

The Superintendent then addressed the members, and gave them some advice with regard to the means of properly executing the 18th article of the Constitution.

Mr. J. E. Labonté read a dissertation "on the good results which the teaching of agriculture in our schools will produce." The