

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

—The project of the Confederation of the British North American Provinces has been approved in the Legislative Council by a vote of 45 against 15, and in the Legislative Assembly by a vote of 91 against 33. The vote among the Lower Canada members was as follows; Yeas 37, nays 25,—total 62; among Roman Catholics, yeas 28, nays 24,—total 52; French Canadians, 27 against 22. As however several counties represented in Parliament by English and Protestant gentlemen are to be classed as French and Roman Catholic, the last figures may not give an exact idea of the true state of the interested parties in that respect.

The Assembly was occupied during seven weeks in discussing the subject, and the debate was then only terminated by the Government moving the *previous question*, which was done when news of the elections in New Brunswick was received, Hon John. A. McDonald announcing that it was the intention of the Government to ask for the necessary supplies to defray the expenses of the civil service and provide for the defences of the country, and to prorogue Parliament as soon after as possible and call another session during summer. He added that several members of the administration would then immediately leave for England in order to confer with the Imperial Government on the subject of the proposed confederation. Messrs. Cartier and Galt accordingly took their departure for England on the 12th instant, Messrs. McDonald and Brown following on the 19th. The Hon. T. D'Arcy McGee who goes to the Dublin Exhibition as Canadian commissioner, accompanies the last named gentlemen.

The sums asked for—including two million dollars for military and militia expenses—were granted by very large majorities. Hon. Mr. Galt, Minister of Finance, in the Assembly, and Hon. Mr. Ross, in the Legislative Council, pointed to the necessity which was felt for a definite understanding with England in regard to our defences, declaring that Canada was willing to fulfil its part of the duty, which should be in proportion to the limited resources of the colony.

—Mr Dion, photographic artist of this city, is the inventor of a fire alarm, remarkable alike for its simplicity and the great ingenuity displayed in its construction. It occupies very little space, being in the form of a small box, and can be placed in almost any situation. On a rise taking place in the temperature of the room in which it may be, it will at once give the alarm by ringing a bell which can be hung anywhere at pleasure. The inventor has applied for a patent.

—The New Atlantic cable, which is now in process of manufacture in England, is to be about two thousand five hundred miles long, allowing four or five hundred miles for all contingencies. Its core, through which the electricity passes, is to be composed of seven strands of the best copper wire, making together over seventeen thousand miles of copper wire; this is to be enclosed in eight coats or layers of insulating material; then follow ten coatings of jute, and ten iron wires. Each wire is covered separately with five twists or strands of yarn.

About eight hundred miles of this cable is now ready, and is being placed on board of the Great Eastern, and will fill one of the three large tanks prepared to receive it. It is intended that in June next the whole two thousand five hundred miles of the cable will be ready to pay out from the Great Eastern, and be sunk "down among the dead men," who, for once, will have their connection with the living world of humanity resumed wherever their bones come into contact with the cable.—*Hunt's Merchants' Magazine.*

NECROLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—Among the many dark deeds that overshadow the page of history, the assassination of President Lincoln must ever occupy a conspicuous place—a hideous spectre pointing an era in the book of time. The fearful tragedy enacted on the evening of Good Friday in the theatre at Washington spread a feeling of horror and dismay wherever the appalling news was received, business was generally suspended and flags were hoisted at half mast on public and other buildings throughout the Provinces. Abraham Lincoln, whose straightforwardness and characteristic simplicity of manner were popularly recognised in the nickname "Honest Old Abe," was a native of Kentucky but had removed to the West with his family at an early age. He was admitted to the Bar and practised law very successfully during many years at Springfield, Ill: and having been thrice elected to the Legislature of his adopted State, and returned to the national Congress as representative, he was at length chosen to the highest place in the gift of his fellow countrymen in 1860, and had just been inaugurated as President for a second term of office when the hand of the assassin cut short his earthly career. Mr Lincoln was about 56 years of age at the time of his death.

—The death of Cardinal Wiseman created a lively sensation in England recently, and a vast multitude assembled to witness his obsequies, which were performed with the most imposing solemnity. Many of the nobility were present, as were also the ambassadors of France, Austria, and Greece, together with other members of the diplomatic corps and illustrious persons. The funeral service was performed by the Bishop of Troy in presence of the Archbishop of Dublin and eleven bishops. Upwards of 30,000 persons were admitted and passed in procession through the church during the ceremony. Cardinal (Nicholas) Wiseman was born at Seville in Spain, in

1802, and was the son of James Wiseman, a merchant of Waterford, and Ann Strange who died in 1851. His family claims to be of high antiquity in England, and includes a baronetcy conferred by Charles I.

—The late Mr. Justice Gale was born at St. Augustine, East Florida, in 1783. He was educated at Quebec while his father was Secretary, and came to study law at Montreal under the late Chief Justice Sewell, in 1802, having the late Chief Justice Rolland and, we believe, Mr. Papineau as fellow students. Mr. Gale was admitted to the bar in 1808, and ere long secured a large practice. In 1816 he was appointed a magistrate in the Indian territories, and accompanied Lord Selkirk when he went to the North-west. Later, when Lord Dalhousie was attacked for his Canadian administration, he went home as bearer of memorials from the English-speaking Lower Canadians in the Townships and elsewhere, defending his Lordship's conduct. In 1829, he became chairman of the Quarter Sessions, and in 1834 was raised to the bench to replace Mr. Justice Uniacke, who preferred to resign the seat on the Bench to which he had just been appointed rather than come back to Montreal during the cholera, then raging here. Judge Gale retired from the Bench in 1849, forced into retirement by continued ill-health and the gradual coming on of the infirmities of old age. He had married in 1839, a Miss Hawley, of St. Armand West, by whom he leaves three daughters. Mrs. Gale herself died several years ago. Born of parents who had both suffered for their loyal adherence to the British Crown during the American revolution, and educated in their views, Mr. Gale was, as long as he meddled in politics a staunch conservative and defender of British connection and British supremacy.

Both as lawyer and judge he won the respect of his *confreres* alike by his ability and learning. Of late years his heart has been deeply interested in the freedom of the slave. He could not speak with patience of any compromise with slavery, and waxed indignant in denunciation of all who in any way aided, abetted, or even countenanced it. When the Anderson case was before the Upper Canada Courts he was one of the most active among those who aroused agitation here. When the Prince of Wales visited the country he got up a congratulatory address from the colored people of Canada, which, however, was not received, as the Prince was desired by the Duke of Newcastle not to recognize differences of race and creed wherever it could be helped. He was a man of high principle, and ever bore an unblemished moral character. He was a scrupulously just man, most methodical and punctual in business matters. There were also in his writings great care and precision and clearness of language. In his letters, too, and even in signing his name, the same trait was observable. He often used to condemn the stupid custom of men who signed their names with a flourish, yet so illegibly that no one could read, but only guess at, the word intended. He was not ostentatious of his charities, yet we know they were not lacking. Some years ago he made a gift of land to Bishops' College, Lennoxville, and during the last month of his life, when age and illness were day by day wearing him out, he found relief for his own distresses in aiding to relieve those of the needy and afflicted.

With him has passed away one more of the links which have bound the bustling men of middle age to-day with a generation of which the youth of to-day know almost nothing, of men more proud and more precise in their manners than we are, but also of such rectitude and sense of honour, that we feel deeply the loss of the influence of their example. A loyal subject, a learned and upright judge, a kind, true, steadfast friend has been lost to the community in Judge Gale.—*Montreal Gazette.*

STATISTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—The Indians dwelling within the United States are fast disappearing from among men. In 1840 there were 400,000; in 1850, 350,000, and the census of 1860 shows only 295,400. This is a decrease of 50,000 every five years. The proportion of decrease is steadily augmented as the path of empire takes its way westward. How many years will elapse, at this rate, before the Indian savage will exist only in the history of Schoolcraft, the prose fiction of Cooper, and the poetry of Longfellow? The civilized Indian flourishes better than the wild one, for in the State of New-York (the last census says) we have 3785 aborigines, whereas in Colorado only 6000 were left in 1860.

The principal Indian populations are distributed as follows: West Arkansas, 65,680; New-Mexico Territory, 65,100; Dakota Territory, 30,664; Washington Territory, 31,000; Utah Territory, 20,000; Minnesota, 17,900; California, 13,660; Kansas, 8180; Nevada Territory, 7520; Oregon, 7000.—*New York Teacher.*

—Ten years ago, the whole amount of business done by the wholesale newsagents did not probably exceed in amount the sum of \$750,000 yearly. Now the cash receipts of the American News Company of New-York for the sale of newspapers, magazines, books and stationery, for the eleven months ending with the thirty-first of December last, have reached the sum of \$2,226,372.83. We learn from the office of that company, that probably forty millions of newspapers were handled within that time by persons in the employ of the company, of whom seventy were constantly occupied in getting them in, charging, distributing and shipping them. For wrapping paper and twine, with which to pack this enormous mass, the company paid twelve thousand dollars.—*Hunt's Merchants' Magazine.*

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