

Thus it became clear, that all hydatids are tapeworm larvæ, which, when swallowed with the animal, or a portion of it, in which they live, by another animal, develop in the intestine of the latter.—*Silliman's Journal*.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

—The Historical Society of Montreal has just published the first number of its transactions. It consists of an 80. pamphlet of 63 pages with a preface; in the French language. It contains a very interesting paper written and compiled partly by the late Commander Vigor and partly by the Hon. Chief Justice Sir L. H. Lafontaine, Baronet, on the existence of slavery in Canada. The paper goes to establish the legal existence of slavery in Canada, for a time, both under the French and the English regime. The pamphlet bears the coat of arms of the society, which was founded by Mr. Vigor, in 1857. Its motto is "Rien n'est beau que le vrai." The officers are: Patrons, the Hon. Sir L. H. Lafontaine, Baronet, and the Hon. D. B. Viger; President, the Revd. H. Verreau, Principal of the Jacques Cartier Normal School; Vice-President, R. Bellemare, Esq.; Treasurer, J. U. Beaudry, Esq., Clerk of the Court of Appeals and Secretary of the Commission for the Codification of the Laws; Librarian, H. Latour, Esq.; Secretary, Georges Baby, Esq.

—The Montreal Mercantile Library Association has continued, this year, their plan of obtaining as public lectures some of the American celebrities. Bayard Taylor and Elihu Burritt have been this winter among the lecturers at that institution.

—A Scotch journal says: "Another of the contemporaries of Burns, has been gathered to his fathers. James Neil died recently at Hurlford, aged 90 years. He had many reminiscences of the bard, which he was accustomed to relate with great glee. Among others we may mention the following; They were plowing together at a match on the Struther's farm here. Among the prizes was one for the best kept harness. Burns excited the mirth of the field by appearing with a straw harness, and the judge awarded him the prize for his ingenuity. Throughout the whole day Burns kept calling to the boy who aided him. "Scud on! scud on, Davie! If we be wurst, w'e'll not be last."

—Burns, writing to his earliest patron, Gavin Hamilton, in 1781, thus expresses himself: "For my own affairs, I am in a fair way of becoming as eminent as Thomas-a-Kempis or John Bunyan; and you may expect henceforth to see my birthday inscribed among the wonderful events of Poor Robin and Aberdeen almanacks, along with the Black Monday and the Battle of Bothwell Bridge."—See Lockhart's "Life of Burns," p. 110.

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