

influential persons of the town. Mr. Aubry has also been for many years principal of the College or *Minor Seminary* of Quebec, and as remarked by the Editor of *Le Journal de Québec*, many public men in Lower Canada remember with gratitude the time when they were studying under his kind and able direction.

—The Revd. Father Martin lately Rector of St. Mary's College Montreal has left for Europe. He was the first Rector and one might say the founder of this flourishing institution. Besides the great task which he had to perform in that respect he has made important researches in the early history of Canada and published several works on that subject. We understand that the government has authorized him to procure from the archives of the *Ghesu* at Rome historical documents of great value. Such a task could not have been confided to better hands.

—The Emperor of Russia has ordered the introduction of the study of the English language into the academies of the Eastern portion of his Empire. This is on account of the commercial intercourse between Russia and the United-States on the coasts of the Pacific. The edict describes the English language as *la langue américaine*.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

Eugène Sue died at Annecy in Savoy, where he had been living for several years. His novels which have been translated into several languages were yielding him a large income. His first works were maritime novels *Plick et Plock*, *Atargull* and *la Salamandre*. They were written in a sarcastic, Byronic and almost atheistical spirit. *Mathilde* was a very different kind of work and has contributed to the celebrity of the author more than all that he had written before. But his reputation in foreign countries is due to his socialistic productions, *Les Mystères de Paris* and *Le Juif Errant*.

—A man, who may be called the pioneer of French Canadian literature, Michel Bibaud, died at Montreal, at the age of 75. He published the first history of Canada, and the first volume of poetry written by a French Canadian. He was also the editor of several literary periodicals and the author of many school books. He was at first a teacher, and was born at *La Côte des Neiges*, near Montreal. One of his sons, Maximilien Bibaud, has inherited the industry and talents of his father, and has already published many books and pamphlets.

—Her Majesty has been pleased to call the great historian Macaulay to the House of Lords. The *London News* says: "That triumvirate of English historians Hume, Gibbon and Robertson died unennobled. King George III, whether represented by Bute, Grenville, Rockingham or North would never have dreamt of making a peer of the advocates librarian, the Hampshire militiaman or the presbyterian parson. Now we live in different times and Her Majesty has summoned Mr. Macaulay to the House of Lords, for his history of course, not for his Essays or even for his speeches. What would Mr. Croker have said, had he lived but three weeks longer to have heard of Mr. Macaulay's elevation?"

—Mr. de Lamartine is now writing for the second issue of his *Course of Literature* a chapter on Béranger.—Although sixty two years of age he does not look as much as fifty. He spent this summer at Saint Point where he received visitors from all parts of the world. There are two things he is proud of showing; the tree under which he wrote the first book of Jocelyn, and the horse which he mounted when he harangued the multitude and prevented the unfolding of the red flag in the first days of the revolution of 1848.

—Mr. Charles MacKay, the celebrated English poet and writer of songs is about to visit the United States and Canada. He is called the English Béranger, and if he is not the equal of the French poet in literature, he is for superior to him by the moral character of his songs.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

—Mr. Silberman of the College of France, (Paris) has used the small caoutchouc balloons, now introduced in Montreal, as a plaything for children, to make several experiments on the direction of the winds in the various stratas of the atmosphere. He has found that below 150 feet the air was constantly disturbed by uncertain and changeable currents, and infers that meteorological observations made with the anemometer must be greatly deficient as to the consequences drawn from them, in relation to the direction of the clouds and the influence of wind on the weather.

—A society called *société d'acclimatation* has been formed for the introduction in France and in the French colonies of such species of animals as may become useful by being domesticated or otherwise. Mr. Jules Verreaux has recommended to the society the introduction into Algeria and the West Indian colonies of the *serpentarius reptilivorus* and of the *carunculated crane* who are the dead enemies of all venomous reptiles. Those birds are found at the Cape of Good Hope and nothing is more interesting than the description which Mr. Verreaux gives of the fights of the *serpentarius* with the largest kinds of snakes. The bird breaks the vertebrae of the reptile with its feet and then swallows it up, beginning by the tail.

—Mr. Babinet of the Institute, has read a memoir at the Academy of sciences in which he states that France will be for several years exempted from the long rains and inundations, which it has of late experienced in consequence of a change which he ascribes to the sudden return of the currents of hot westerly winds which had deviated to the north; now that they have resumed their former direction things will return to their normal state.

—Frederick Sauvage, the inventor of the screw as a propeller died in the greatest poverty, a short time ago, while hundreds of people are becoming rich through the discovery which he made in the cells of a gaol, where he was confined for debt. His portrait is given in the *Illustration de Paris*. He had a very interesting and intelligent physiognomy. The use of the screw as a propeller is found in nature itself, an insect has lately been discovered in Australia whose hind wings are screw propellers.

—The Minister of Agriculture of Canada, had offered prizes of £40 £25 and £15 for the best essays on the destructive Wheat Insects. The first prize has been taken by Professor Hind of Trinity College, Toronto; the second by the Revd. George Hill, rector of Marsham, C. W., and the third by Mr. Emilien Dupont of Saint Joachim.

ARTISTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—Mr. Ernest Gagnon, professor of music at the Laval Normal School and organist of St. John's church at Quebec has left for Europe to complete his musical studies.—Mr. Gagnon has shewn remarkable talent, and being a very young man yet, has every chance of attaining to eminence in his profession. Our best wishes will follow him in his artistic career.

—Mr. Plamondon, a pupil of Paulin Guérin, has finished the copy he was making of the *Transfiguration* of Raphael, the largest painting made by that artist which is considered as the first painting in the world.—The copy is to be placed in St. John's Church, at Quebec: it is the full size of the original. Few artists have undertaken a copy of that chef-d'œuvre and it is said that Mr. Plamondon has been remarkably successful. It has almost been the work of his life, since he commenced it twenty five years ago.

—His Royal Highness, Prince Napoleon has been elected a member of the Academy of Fine arts to replace the Marquis de Pastoret.

—The first premium for the designs of the Wellington monument has been awarded to Mr. Calder Marshall. It consists in a sum of £700 sterling. The second premium (£500) is given to Mr. F. Woodington. There are several others of a £100 each.

—The two Provincial expositions of agriculture and of industry have been held, the one for Lower Canada in Montreal, and that for Upper Canada, in the town of Brantford. His Excellency the Administrator of the Province attended the latter. Toronto and Montreal have been chosen by the respective Boards of Agriculture as the sites of the expositions for next year.

—Mr. Edouard Gingras, of Quebec, whose beautiful carriages were so much admired at the Montreal exposition, died the very day on which he was informed of his obtaining the first prize.

He had obtained prizes at the London and Paris universal expositions and one of his carriages was bought by the Emperor. His important coach-factory is still in operation and will we hope continue to reflect credit to Canadian industry. Mr. Gingras was highly esteemed by his fellow citizens and a great crowd attended his funeral.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

—India contains an extent of 1,466,576 square miles; the British dominions cover 837,412; the states governed by native princes 627,910 and the French and Portuguese colonies 1,254. The whole population is rated at 189,884,297 souls of which 131,990,901 in the British dominions, 48,376,247 in the independent states, and 517,149 in the French and Portuguese colonies.

—A select committee, appointed by the legislative council of New South Wales, to inquire into the practicability of establishing a telegraphic communication between that colony and Europe, has made its report, and published the evidence on which the report is founded. The evidence went to show that the best way would be to connect Sydney and London by way of Port Essington, Singapore, Rangoon, India and the Euphrates. There would be no submarine cables between England and the Indian Archipelago, except across the British Channel and the Bosphorus. The cost of constructing a telegraph between Sydney and Port Essington, a distance of 1,800 miles, is estimated at £130,000; and the annual cost, including interest on the outlay, is estimated at £55,000 per annum. It was considered by some of the witnesses who gave evidence, that if there was established a telegraphic communication between Australia and Europe, the payment of an enormous subsidy to an Australian mail steam-packet company could be dispensed with. It was considered also by witnesses, that European nations who have possessions in the Pacific are interested in the extension of the telegraph to Australia, and that they might be expected to assist in its establishment.