

tree is called sigillaria, the root stigmara, and the nut still another name; and it requires much observation and study to discover and to show that these different names all belong to what was really one and the same plant. As our knowledge increases, we may be able to dispense with many of those old names, which is more than can be said for modern botany. What would we have been without these old plants, without this great provision made for us in primitive times before man existed upon the earth? These plants form a part of the same plan to which we belong, and undoubtedly that plan existed at the time these old palæozoic plants grew. And not, I may say, even in this Christmas time, as we gather round the hearth, although our coal fire does not roar and crackle and blaze like the old yule log of our ancestors, yet the trunks of our old sigillaria, burning upon our hearths to-night, send forth a quiet, kindly glow, befitting their great age and long burial in the earth. And the happy hearts that gather around the Christmas fireside may thank God that we have had these great stores prepared for us in the times of old, and that we have hearts and minds fitted to enter somewhat into that great plan which stored them up, and for the enjoyment in a measure even of the beauty of the plants that lived so long ago.—*Daily News*.

ART.

The Albert Memorial Chapel.

Within the last few days several of the grand marble *tableaux* executed in inlaid work by Baron Triqueti, and intended for the decoration of the Albert Memorial Chapel, have arrived at Windsor Castle. Two of these beautiful works of art have been placed in their proper position on the south side of the interior of the chapel. The first to be noticed is that contributed by Her Royal Highness Princess Louis of Hesse (Princess Alice of Great Britain and Ireland.) The subject is Pharaoh creating Joseph Viceroy of Egypt. The Egyptian King and Queen are represented sitting upon a throne in the palace, and the monarch is placing a jewelled chain and badge around the neck of Joseph, while an attendant officer is arraying the newly created Viceroy with a mantle. Under the throne are these words: "According unto thy word shall my people be ruled. Only in the throne will I be greater than thou." The dresses of the four figures and the architecture of the palace show a careful study of the early Egyptian costume and style of building. The picture is set, as it were, in a frame of costly coloured marbles. In the upper part of the border is a beautiful medallion portrait of Princess Louis executed in white marble, and around it, in gold letters upon a black ground, are the words: "Alicé ætat. s. xxx." Immediately beneath the *tableau* itself is a medallion representing Joseph in prison, with the motto "Purity and Prudence" below it. The history of Joseph himself is very prettily told in a series of white marble medallions set in other parts of the border; and the portions selected for illustration are those to which the Bible texts, "And they cast him into a pit," "He hanged the chief baker," "He restored the chief butler," and "I am Joseph," refer. Next to Princess Alice's gift is a bas-relief, in white marble, of Ruth gleaning in the fields of Boaz, who stands watching the Moabites gathering the fallen ears. Below the figures is the inscription: "Let her glean even among the sheaves, and let fall also some of the handfuls that she may glean them."—Ruth ii. 15. Underneath the panel is the word "Charity," in golden old English characters. The next *tableau*, upon the south wall, is the offering of the firstborn of the Queen and the Prince Consort. It is the picture presented by her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Prussia (Princess Royal of Great Britain and Ireland), who with her Royal husband, Prince Frederick Wilhelm, is now a guest at Windsor

Castle. The subject selected for Princess Victoria's *tableau* is "Jacob blessing the sons of Joseph." There is the tent with the aged patriarch seated. Before him kneel the sons of Joseph, and his hands—for he is in the act of blessing them—rest upon them. This touching scene in the early history of Israel is beautifully rendered. The text attached to the picture is, "Behold, I die, but God shall be with you.—Genesis, xlviii. 21." The story of Jacob is shown in a series of white marble medallions, upon the border. Above the *tableau* is a marble bas-relief portrait of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Prussia, surrounded by the inscription, "Victoria ætat. s. xxviii," in gold letters upon a black ground, and beneath it is the motto, "Love and Piety." Only a portion of the Princess of Wales's offering has yet reached the Castle. The medallion portrait in white marble has around it the inscription, "Alexandra ætat. s. xxiii." This, with the other portions of the border, has arrived safely, and the *tableau* itself is shortly expected.

OFFICIAL NOTICES.



Ministry of Public Instruction.

APPOINTMENTS.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Quebec, by an Order in Council dated 11th December 1868, was pleased to make the following appointments:

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

The following Gentlemen to be School Commissioners for the herein-after mentioned Municipalities:

Grenville, Co. of Argenteuil: Messrs. Daniel Reeves and James Campbell in the room and stead of Messrs. James Campbell and the Revd. F. S. Neive whose terms of office had expired,—the election not having been held within the legal time.

Chénier, Co. of Arthabaska: Mr. Philippe Hébert in the room and stead of Mr. Joseph Décoteau who has finally quitted the Municipality,—the election not having taken place within the prescribed time.

Village of Bagotville, Co. of Chicoutimi: Mr. Jacques Girard in the room and stead of the Revd. Mr. Narcisse Gauvin who has finally left the Municipality,—the election not having been held within the prescribed time.

Ste. Rose, Co. of Laval: Mr. Jean Baptiste Dagenais in the room and stead of Mr. Philippe Gravelle who has finally left the Municipality,—the election not having been held within the legal time.

St. Paulin, Co. of Maskinongé: Mr. Honoré Plourde in the room and stead of Mr. Jean Boucher, deceased,—the election not having been held within the legal time.

Ste. Sophie de Lacorne, Co. of Terrebonne: Mr. John Green in the room and stead of Mr. Alexander McDonald who has finally left the Municipality,—the election not having been held within the legal time.

Grenville No. 3, Co. of Argenteuil: Mr. James McNeal in the room and stead of Mr. John McCallum who has finally left the Municipality,—the election not having been held within the legal time.

Cranbourne, Co. of Dorchester: The Revd. Mr. Patrick Kelly in the room and stead of the Revd. Mr. A. Gagnon who has finally left the Municipality,—the election not having been held within the prescribed time.

DIPLOMAS GRANTED BY BOARDS OF EXAMINERS.

QUEBEC CATHOLIC BOARD.

Session of November 3rd 1868.

MODEL SCHOOL DIPLOMA, (Fr.) 2nd Class:—Miss M. Eléas Chaillé.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA, (Fr.) 1st Class:—Misses M. Georgina Gagnon, M. Odile Herménie Lamontagne, M. Sophie Nadeau, and Margaret Cecilia Deehan (Eng.).