

every one who desires to become acquainted with a very interesting branch of the early history of the country. It will shortly appear in sections of 128 pages, and be published at the low rate of 25 cents a number. Subscribers will please apply to Mr. Huguet Latour, Montreal.

—*Montreal Gazette.*

THE QUEEN'S SELECTION OF NOVELS.—The *Inverness Courier* says:—"We stated lately that her Majesty had kindly announced her intention of presenting the Working Men's Club here with a selection of books—works of fiction and light literature. As the books were expressly selected by her Majesty, it may be interesting to give a list of them, as sent by Dr. Robertson to Mr. Macdougall, Hawthornwalk. They are the 'Waverly Novels' 'Scott's Poetry,' 'Smile's Lives of the Engineers,' 'Cooper's Novels' (26 volumes), 'My Schools and Schoolmaster,' 'Hudson's Twelve Years in India,' 'Grant's Novels' (19 volumes), 'Pickwick' and 'Nicholas Nickleby,' 'Lights and Shadows,' of 'Scottish Life,' 'Aytoun's Lays of the Cavaliers,' 'Gleig's Life of Wellington,' 'Scott's Tales of a Grandfather,' 'Marryat's Novels,' (13 volumes), and 'Bulwer's Last Days of Pompeii.' The books have arrived and are all strongly bound."

NECROLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE

—The pupils of the Jacques Cartier Normal School have to lament the death of the Rev. Julien Perreault, their chaplain, who had hardly attained his fortieth year when the sad event took place. He was a man of great talent, and universally esteemed. His death adds another heavy loss to those sustained by the Seminary of St. Sulpice during the past few years.

—The Ursulines of Quebec have also to deplore the loss of their Superioress, Sister St. André, *née* Isabella McDonell. Placed at the Boarding-School of this Convent, in 1818, by the late Bishop McDonell, of Kingston, this lady, remarkable for her talents and piety, remained in this institution until she had attained the age of 70 years, when she died, having devoted forty-five years of her life to religion, and discharged at different times during this period the duties of Superior of the Convent.

—Lieut. Col. Suzor, Assist. Adjutant General of Militia, died lately at the early age of 32 years. From the post of drill instructor Col. Suzor gradually rose to that which he occupied at his death; his rapid promotion was due to his merit, and to the zeal and aptitude displayed in the discharge of his military duties. His loss will be doubly felt at the present time, when, by his experience and well-tryed ability, he could have rendered important services. Col. Suzor is the author of many works on the art of war. His funeral took place at Quebec, with much military pomp; among those that followed his remains to the grave, were the pupils of the Laval Normal School, of whom he had been drill instructor for several years.

—In political circles, we have to record the death of the Hon. Frédéric Auguste Quesnel, which took place in Montreal, on the 28th July last. A man of recognized talent, he received in the course of his long career, many marks of confidence from his fellow-citizens. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada, and also of United Canada, and filled at different times the posts of Executive Councillor, Legislative Councillor, President of the People's Bank, and President of the St. Jean Baptiste Society of Montreal. He was brother to the Hon. Jules Quesnel, who died in 1842. His father, Mr. Joseph Quesnel, a poet and musician, was born in France, and died in Montreal, at the age of 59 years.

Mr. F. A. Quesnel, the subject of this notice, was elected to the Parliament of Lower Canada for the first time in 1820, having been returned for the county of Kent. He represented the county of Chambly in 1831, and became a member of the Executive Council under Lord Gosford, in 1837. In the first Parliament, after the Union, he represented the county of Montmorency, but had no seat in the second Parliament. He was, however, in 1848, called to the Legislative Council. He died at the age of 81 years and a few months.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

—The British Association for the Advancement of Science opened its Annual Session at Nottingham on Wednesday, the 22nd August; Mr W. R. Grove, Q. C., the president for the year, giving the inaugural address. It was a singularly striking one, his theme being the "Continuity" of Nature, which he illustrated first of all from Astronomy, alleging that the old idea of vast blank spaces in the universe had been dispelled, science indicating bodies in our solar system, varying in size from Jupiter, which is by 1240 times larger than the earth, to planets not larger than a pistol bullet. All forces—light, heat, electricity—he considered to be but modifications of each other, and matter, to be universally the same under different forms. In physiology he favoured the Darwinian theory, and he would apply his theory of "Continuity" even to history. At the conclusion of the President's address, Lord Belper proposed, and the Mayor of Nottingham seconded, a vote of thanks, which was carried by acclamation.—*Educational Times*, London.

—Dr. H. E. De Brion, a French physician, who has resided for many years in England, has discovered a process for preparing from indiarubber what he designates an *enamel paint*, which is absolutely proof against the action of the atmosphere as well as against liquids (including, it is said, the strongest acids) known to affect iron. The preparation is applied cold, and in a liquid state, and in consistency and general appearance it resembles such common oil paint as is ordinarily used for iron-work. It may be applied with ease; but it is necessary, of course, that there should be a complete covering of the surfaces to be protected. It hardens at once, and immediately forms a smooth and lustrous enamel-like covering, air-proof, damp-proof, water-proof, and acid-proof. Thus protected, iron is safe, as iron-rust cannot accumulate upon the surface of this enamel paint, nor corrode beneath the surface.—*Id.*

—In a lecture at the Royal Institution on the shooting stars of the years 1865-66, Mr. Alexander Herschel has attempted to show that they have periodical returns like comets, and in support of this position he referred to the records of Observations made from time to time during the last 1,000 years. Observations show that during every clear night in this hemisphere shooting stars may be seen, the ordinary number being about thirty an hour; but that in certain months, especially in the beginning of November, the number of these stars is greatly increased. It appears also that at intervals of thirty-three years there have been noticed very remarkable showers of shooting stars. One of these periods will occur about the 13th of November next.—*Id.*

—At a recent meeting of the Academy of Sciences of Paris, M. Chancourtois presented an interesting memoir on the production of diamonds in nature. M. Chancourtois thinks that diamonds have resulted from an incomplete oxidation of carbides of hydrogen, just as the sulphur of the *Solfatara* results from an incomplete oxidation of sulphuretted hydrogen, all of whose hydrogen is converted into water, while only a part of the sulphur is changed into sulphurous acid. It is by a similar process that petroleum has given rise to bitumen and this again to graphite. "If then," said the author, "a mixture of hydrocarbon gases and vapor of water be submitted to slow oxidation, diamonds may possibly be obtained." It is even possible, he observes, that the tubes which convey common coal gas along the streets of Paris may contain such artificial diamonds in abundance.—*Id.*

—M. A. De Candolle, giving an account to the French Academy of the recent Botanical Congress in London, stated that an exact measurement of one of the mammoth trees of California, *Sequoia gigantea*, the "old maid," which was blown down in a storm a few years since, had been made by Mr. Edmond De la Rue. It was found to be twenty-six feet five inches and nine lines, six feet above the ground. Mr. De la Rue traced the annual layers on a sheet of paper which M. de Candolle exhibited, and it was found that the layers amounted to 1234.—*Intellectual Observer.*

—M. de Corogna states to the French Academy that in districts towards which the winds blow the gaseous matter given off by the eruption at Santorin, inflammations of the eye, bronchitis, and digestive derangements have been frequent, while other districts have not suffered in the same way. Asphodels, and generally, plants of the lily tribe have been injured. He ascribes the human maladies of indigestion, etc., chiefly to sulphuretted hydrogen, and the vegetable disorders to hydrochloric acid vapours. The ophthalmia is traceable to volcanic dust.—*Id.*

—M. Liandier has a note in *Comptes Rendus* stating that for several years he has watched the zodiacal light during the evenings of February and March. This year, for the first time, he saw it on the 19th of January, and watched it till the 5th of May. He considers it to have the shape of a perfect cone, varying in luminosity and colour from dull grey to silvery white, the changing aspect probably being occasioned by the condition of our atmosphere. In February the summit of the cone reached the Pleiades and the Twins in May. Between January and May he found it to follow the zodiacal movements of the sun. He believes the luminous cone to be a fragment of an immense atmosphere enveloping the sun on all sides. If so, he says it may be expected to exercise an enormous pressure on the sun, with great development of heat; and if local variations occur, he thinks they may explain the occurrence of spots through the reduction of temperature that would follow diminished pressure.—*Id.*

—On the 1st September, 1859, Mr. Carrington and Mr. Hodgson witnessed a sudden blazing up in the sun, which is supposed to have indicated the fall of an extraneous body into our luminary, and a consequent accession to his mass. In *Monthly Notices*, vol. xxvi., No. 8, recently issued, will be found a mathematical paper computing the effects of the fall into the sun of such a body as our earth, which some persons suppose would produce such a blaze as to scorch up all the planets. Mr. Waterston finds that if the blaze so occasioned were persistent, the general rise of temperature would not exceed 10° or 15°, but he observes that as soon as the falling body had plunged below the atmosphere into the fluid incandescent body of the sun, the blaze would terminate, though the temperature of that part of the sun would be sensibly increased. If the whole potential radiating power of the sun were increased 1000°, he says, "even this is only one twelve-thousandth part of the potential temperature that sends heat