

upon the surface, while the leaves are entirely submerged. Michaux discovered many specimens on the shores of Lake St. John; and he saw in the surrounding forest the *Pinus rubra*, (red pine) *Abies Alba*, (white spruce) and the *Thuja occidentalis*, (cedar); this situation is the furthest north in which these trees had been seen. He remarked that the white pine, *Pinus stroba*, was scattered over a vast extent of country, but not equally so, having seen some on the banks of Lake Mistassin as far north as forty leagues from Lake St. John; it is however very common two degrees south of that. The *Larix Americana*, American larch, generally called tamarack in Canada—abounds in the environs of the lake; the *Abies canadensis*, (hemlock spruce) which thrives on the shores of Hudson's Bay, is also abundant.

Our indefatigable voyager then ascended the Mistassin, sometimes called *Rivière des Sables*, which falls into Lake St. John and which, with the exception of a few short portages, is navigable for canoes a distance of 120 miles. It was then and still is the route followed by the Mistassin Indians, who dwell near the great Lake Mistassin, and who come to trade at Pointe Bleue, the most northern post in the Canadian territory. Having journeyed for 120 miles up the river he came to the foot of a water-fall. High banks of rock contract the width of the stream, which is precipitated from an elevation of eighty feet over ledges of stone resembling huge steps. Here the intrepid botanist stopped to scramble over the drenched rocks in quest of new specimens, pausing now and then to admire the grandeur of the scene.

Continuing his route over the mountains intervening between Canada and the Hudson's Bay Territory, and from whose summit he had a view of the immense valley lying beyond, he reached Lake Mistassin on the 4th September, having halted a few moments to herborize on the shores of the Lake des Cygnes, one of the many lakes which, with numerous streams, water this region. Mr. Brunet, from whose pamphlet we scarcely need observe, the information contained in this notice is gleaned, gives some interesting details and traditions connected with the great Lake Mistassin, but into these we have neither time nor space to enter. The northernmost point reached by Michaux was one which our author indicates as being on Rupert River at a short distance from Hudson's Bay; the Indian guides dreading the approach of winter would proceed no farther. He however had an opportunity of determining the exact latitude at which the trees of the north cease to grow, and of recording his observations on the topography of the country. It was while exploring in the neighborhood of Lake Mistassin that he found the pretty specimen of primrose which he named after the lake, *Primula Mistassinica*. This was his last discovery in that part of North America. Before leaving this continent however, he once more visited the United States, and returned to his native country in 1796. His diary contains interesting information on the climate and vegetable productions of the northern regions visited by him, and the author expresses a hope that the government or some public institution may be induced to cause it to be printed. Mr. Brunet, we understand, intends travelling over the same region up to Lake Mistassin with a view to completing the beautiful herbarium which he is making for the Laval University.

LEMOINE. "Ornithologie du Canada." By J. M. Lemoine, Advocate, part second; 398 p. 12c.—E. R. Frechette.

We have much pleasure in announcing the publication of a second volume by our young Canadian naturalist.

## MONTHLY SUMMARY.

### EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

—There are in Philadelphia three hundred and twenty-three public schools. The total number of scholars on the first of January, 1860, was 61,745. The amount invested by the city in real estate and furniture, for the support of schools up to the first of January last, was \$1,380,908 00. The amount appropriated for last year, was \$518,802 67.

—From the report of the president of the Cincinnati School Board for the year 1860, it appears that the number of pupils enrolled in the public schools of that city the past year, was 20,892, of whom the average number belonging to the schools, from time to time during the year, was 13,841. Of this average number belonging to the schools, the average of actual daily attendance was 12,337, and of daily absentees the average number was 1,297. The total expenditure for schools was \$230,934. Especial attention is given to the physical education and development of the scholars.

—Connecticut has nearly one thousand public schools and about one hundred thousand children between the ages of four and sixteen. The state has school accommodations for some eighty thousand children, at an annual expense of about one hundred thousand dollars or five dollars to each child. The average attendance, however, is but little over fifty thousand.

—The number of School teachers in Maine last year was 7,408: 4,632 females and 2,776 males, an increase of 1,119 in ten years. The average

wages of male teachers per month, exclusive of board, was 21.51; of females, \$2. 03 per week, exclusive of board. The cost of 621 school-houses built during the year ending April 1st, 1860, was \$59,135. The whole number of school-houses in the state is 3,946. The whole number of children between the ages of 4 and 21 years, is 243,396.—*The School-master.*

—The semi-annual meeting of the St. Francis District Teachers' Association, was held at Eton Corner, C. E., on Thursday and Friday, the 30th and 31st instant. The capacious Congregational Church was filled to overflowing during some of the sessions. Mr. Hubbard, of Danville, School Inspector, occupied the chair. An address was delivered by the Rev. Cyril Pearl, of Waterville, on how to secure a greater number of well-qualified teachers. Professor Graham, of St. Francis College, delivered a lecture on our "Common Schools, and the means of improving them." Dr. Dawson, of the University of McGill College lectured on "Normal Schools." Many practical subjects were extendedly discussed by the above named gentlemen, and by Professors (Rev.) Cornish, Miles, Thorburn, and by the Rev. Messrs. Gillies, Sherill, Constable, and by many others. The Convention was one of great interest. The good people of Eton and vicinity most cordially entertained all those from abroad. The next meeting is to be held at Richmond just before Christmas.

—A movement has been set on foot in England for the appointment of a conference to be held at Birmingham. The originators are Lord Brougham, Teignmouth, and Shaftesbury; Sir J. Pakington, M. P.; Sir Stafford Northcote, M. P.; Sir Andrew Agnew, M. P.; Adam Black, Esq., M. P., the Lord Provost of Edinburgh; Sir A. H. Elston; Sir H. W. Moncrief, M. D. Hill, Esq., Recorder of Birmingham; Miss Mary Carpenter, and many distinguished friends of the Social Science movement. The object of the association will on this occasion be to bring to bear on the Legislature such arguments as will lead to the grant of public moneys for the education of children who are neither criminals nor paupers, but whose parents are either unwilling or unable to educate them.

—The School commissioners of Gaspé Bay South having refused to levy the school rate in that municipality, Inspector Béchard had them prosecuted before the Hon. Justice Thomsor who fined them severally. The counsel, Mr. Hamilton, who successfully took part for the prosecution deserves the thanks of the community for the courage and ability with which he conducted the case in a place where the school law is by no means popular.

—On the 16th of May the pupils of the Laval Normal School celebrated the fourth anniversary of the inauguration of the school by a literary and musical soiree.

### LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

—The death of Henri de Courcy has been announced in Paris. He had under the name of C. de la Roche Héron, contributed several articles on Canada to the *Univers*. He was long a resident of New-York, having been employed as a manufacturer's agent; and he also visited Canada where he became acquainted with the late Mr. Jacques Viger, who furnished him with the materials for his work, *Les Serpentes de Dieu en Canada*. He is the author of an *Histoire de l'Église Catholique aux États-Unis*; and was the brother of M. Pol de Courcy, a distinguished writer.

—A literary and scientific sitting lately took place in the Laval University at which experiments with the electric light were made by Professor Hamel. M. Rameau also lectured on colonization in Algeria and Canada compared; concluding by reading an interesting letter from M. Belcourt, missionary to Prince Edward's Island, which announced the immigration of a number of Nova-Scotians to the county of Bonaventure.

### MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

—The *Africa* brings us intelligence of the death, on the 16th March, of the Duchess of Kent, the mother of the Queen of England. For a long time the late Duchess had been afflicted with a cancer, which was the immediate cause of her death. Since the accession of her daughter to the throne of England she had remained a resident either at Windsor Castle with the Queen or at Frogmore, a mansion of her own, a mile or two distant from the castle, whither the Queen went almost daily to visit her.

The late Duchess had attained a venerable age. She was a princess of the house of Saxe-Cobourg, was born on the 17th of August, 1786, and was baptized under the name of Marie Louise Victoria. She was, at an early age, married to Prince Henry of Leiningen, who dying, left her a blooming young widow in 1814. A year or so later she attracted the attention of Edward Duke of Kent, the fourth son of George III., and was married to him in London on the 11th of July, 1818. But the married life of the new Duchess was but short; for in less than two years the Duke of Kent died; and she was again a widow with one child—the Princess (now Queen) Victoria. At that time the accession