

most frequently. Nearly in accordance with this, in the above list the earthquakes are distributed as follows:—

| | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|
| January 8 | July 4 | Spring 16 |
| February 4 | August 6 | Summer 12 |
| March 5 | September 4 | Autumn 25 |
| April 4 | October 7 | Winter 30 |
| May 6 | November 14 | |
| June 3 | December 8 | |

We have only to add that the present article is to be regarded only as an imperfect and hasty summary, and that we shall gratefully receive and publish, in a supplementary article, any information which our correspondents may supply respecting either the late earthquake or any of its predecessors—*Canadian Naturalist and Geologist*.

OFFICIAL NOTICES.



SEPARATION AND ANNEXATION OF SCHOOL MUNICIPALITIES.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council was pleased, on the 26th December last, to annex to the school Municipality of Notre-Dame de la Victoire, in the County of Lévis, the District No. 2 of the School Municipality of Ville d'Aubigny, in the said County, the limits whereof being as follow: on the North-east a line parallel to the North-western line of Escar street, running North-east to the land of Thomas Fraser, Esquire; on the North-west the summit of the Cape; on the South-west the land of France Couture, and on the North-east the land of the said Thomas Fraser.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council has been pleased to erect as a separate School Municipality, under the name of East Abercrombie, that part of the Township of Abercrombie, in the County of Terrebonne, formed by the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth ranges of the said Township of Abercrombie.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council has been pleased to erect as a separate School Municipality the Parish of St. Romain, in the County of Compton; which shall include the Township of North Winslow as far as River Felton.

APPOINTMENTS:

BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council has been pleased to appoint Venerable Archdeacon Samuel Gilson, M. A., a member of the Montreal Protestant Board of Examiners, vice Rev. W. F. Leach, D. C. L., resigned.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS AND TRUSTEES.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council was pleased, on the 26th December last, to make the following appointment, viz:—

County of Drummond.—St. Frédéric: The Rev. John George Magill, to be a School Trustee.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council was pleased, on the 3rd instant, to make the following appointments of School Commissioners, viz:—

County of Charlevoix.—St. Fidèle: Messrs. George Dallaire and Etienne Bilodeau.

His Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council was pleased, on the 29th January, to make the following appointments of School Commissioners:—

County of Terrebonne.—Abercrombie: Messrs. Edouard Rateile, Pierre Simard, Isaac Rateile, Alexis Beauchamp, and Theodore Nadon.

County of Hochelaga.—Côte des Neiges: Messrs. David Davidson, and James Snowden.

CATHOLIC BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF QUEBEC.

Madame Célestin Bélanger alias Victorine Picard, Miss Marie Julie Olympe Gautron dite Larochelle, and Mr. Nicolas Joly, have obtained diplomas authorizing them to teach in Elementary Schools.

N. LACASSE,
Secretary.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF THREE-RIVERS.

Misses Sarah Bouthillette, Albino Bailly, Joséphine Contois, and Mr. Isaac Ringuette, have obtained diplomas authorizing them to teach in Model Schools.

Misses Séraphine Bourgoing; Dame Zéphirin Bernard, and Mr. Godfroy Caron, have obtained diplomas authorizing them to teach in Elementary Schools.

J. P. M. DESILETS,
Secretary.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF KAMOURASKA.

Messrs. Séverin Dumais, and Edouard Roy, have obtained diplomas authorizing them to teach in Model Schools.

Misses Caroline Caron, Marie Marcelline Turcot, Arthémise Desjardins, Marie Céline Marquis, Arthémise Bérubé, and Léocadie Paradis, have obtained diplomas authorizing them to teach in Elementary Schools.

P. DUMAIS,
Secretary.

DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY OF THE DEPARTMENT.

The Superintendent acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following works:

From Professor Dawson, Montreal: *Acadian Geology*, 1 vol. 120; *First Principles of Philosophy*, by B. Silliman, 1 vol. 80.

From M. H. Perley, Esq., Superintendent of the New-Brunswick Fisheries: 39 pamphlets on divers subjects.

From J. G. Barthe, Esq., Advocate, Québec: *Le Canada Reconquis par la France*, 1 vol. 80, by himself.

From M. J. C. Taché, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Québec: *Des Provinces de l'Amérique du Nord et d'une Union Fédérale*, by himself, 1 vol. 120, 50 copies; *Notice historiographique sur la fête célébrée à Québec, le 16 juin 1859, jour du 200e anniversaire de l'arrivée de Mgr. de Montmorency Laval au Canada*; published by M. J. C. Taché, 1 pamphlet 80, 142 copies.

From James Hodges, Esq., London: *Construction of the Great Victoria Bridge*, 1 vol. large folio, by himself; *Construction of the Great Victoria Bridge*, 1 vol. large 40, by himself.

TEACHER WANTED

For the School under control of the School Trustees of Chambly Salary, £60. Apply to John Yule, Esq., Chambly.

SITUATION WANTED

By George William Simpson, School Teacher, Montreal. Apply to this Office.

JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

MONTREAL (LOWER CANADA) JANUARY, 1861.

Penmanship.

That a fair legible handwriting is an advantage to the writer, as well as the reader, none, we take it for granted, will deny. To know well how to use a pen, in a physical as in a literary sense, all now admit to be of the greatest importance. It is even asserted by some that handwriting may, in many instances, be a good criterion by which to judge of characteristic traits. If this is true it gives additional importance to the subject, and of itself should be a sufficient reason to stimulate both teachers and learners to great exertions. Indeed the acquirement cannot be too highly appreciated, and will, we trust, continue to be looked upon as a prize well worth contending for in our public schools. Our higher educational institutions have not unfrequently been taxed with indifference or neglect in this respect; but there are a great many persons whose manuscript proves this to be erroneous, or at least exaggerated. A collection of calligraphic specimens made by a Canadian amateur, and including the autographs of many of the remarkable men the country has produced, shows a penmanship which is far from being uncouth or obscure; indeed, with few exceptions, it is quite the reverse. So much importance is attached to the subject by the Council of Public Instruction that it has made it one of the conditions without fulfilling which the Prince of Wales' prize, to be competed for in our Normal Schools, cannot be obtained.