

the clergy of the diocese. He performed a great deal of patient drudgery in making up a schedule or cadastre of the properties belonging to the several parishes and fractions in the diocese, in order to show where and what most was needed to be done, and investigated the titles, and set those which were imperfect right. On the very day of his death the Convocation of Bishop's College sat to confer degrees, &c. But not alone in the public places he was wont to labor in will he be missed. Gifted with refined tastes, fond of pictures, statuary and books, as well as flowers, of a most happy and genial disposition, affable and courteous in his manners, he made himself beloved in private and social life, and leaves behind him almost numberless friends in different parts of the country, who will read of his departure hence with heartfelt and unqualified regret. He was married in 1832 to Miss Ross (daughter of the late David Ross, Q. C.), who survives him, and by whom he leaves a family of three sons and two daughters. (Condensed from *Montreal Gazette*.)

—The late Mr. Benjamin Holmes, whose sudden death the press has so recently been called upon to deplore, was born in Dublin on the 23rd April 1794, and came to Canada when only nine years of age. His first essay in life was made as clerk in the commercial house of Henderson & Armour. During the war of 1812 he served as ensign in the *Canadian Fencibles*, and in 1837-38 was foremost among the volunteers engaged in suppressing the insurrection. He was, in 1841, elected to Parliament for the city of Montreal with the Hon. Mr. Moffatt, and re-elected in 1848, conjointly with the late Chief Justice Lafontaine. Having modified his political opinions with advancing years, he saw fit to cast his vote in favor of the *Rebellion Losses Bill* under the Lafontaine-Baldwin Ministry, and subsequently acted with the more advanced reform party. It was from the McDonald-Dorion Cabinet that, in 1863, he received the appointment to the collectorship of Montreal, a place he held at the time of his death. Mr. Holmes was an active politician, a warm partizan, and a man of considerable intellectual powers.

—Private letters by the *Belgian* apprize us of the demise, on the 14th May, in Paris, of a gentleman who, for half a century, occupied a high position in our social and commercial community. Henry Atkinson was born in England, June, 1793. Having settled permanently in Quebec in 1812, at the age of nineteen, his successful operations in timber, his intelligence and unceasing industry soon permitted him to take a leading part in our export business. For many years he was connected, in business, with his elder brother, William Atkinson, Esq., formerly of Cap Rouge Cottage, near Quebec, and still living in London. Some large profits on very extensive contracts with the Imperial Government, in connection with the navy, induced him to retire, about thirty years ago, from the exportation of timber, with a princely fortune, amassed in very few years. He then became a most extensive purchaser of real estate, owning at this moment some of the most valuable stores and wharves in the Lower Town. About 1830, Mr. Atkinson, who was distinguished by a strong taste for travelling literature and fine arts, sailed for Europe and devoted four years of his life to travelling through France, Germany and Italy, locating himself for a whole year at Venice, and visiting the most fashionable watering-places. He then returned to Canada, and immediately purchased the most picturesque seat on the shores of the St. Lawrence, Spencer Wood, from the Heirs Percival, where he resided in magnificent style for nearly twenty years, his large rent-roll permitting him to indulge without stint in his fancy for embellishing his grounds and introducing the newest and choicest European adornments of which the park-like scenery of the place was susceptible; his ranges of glass-houses covered acres; his exquisite entertainments, and store of rare books, *objets de vertu*, his picture gallery, representing several thousands of pounds, purchased in Rome and elsewhere, for many years made a visit to his country seat one of the chief attractions of strangers visiting Quebec. In 1854, the man whose whole existence had seemed to centre in literature, rural beauty, flowers, and the society of friends, suddenly decided to sell Spencer Wood to the Government, as a residence for the Earl of Elgin, returned to business with more zeal than ever, and invested large sums in the purchase of the St. Henry saw, grist and carrying-mills, oil factories, timber limits. A few years afterwards he became the purchaser and still holds the very extensive mills at Etchemin, formerly Sir Henry Caldwell's. The deceased's power of application was, we may say, something extraordinary, no amount of head-work, writing or business could weary him; and until within a few months of his death, he would spend a toilsome day in his counting-house, in St. Peter street, take his papers home, write until midnight, then three hours of sleep, and write again until breakfast-time, summer and winter; such was his every-day life. Gifted with a mind of great vigor, a sagacity scarcely ever at fault, a most retentive memory, he possessed a rich store of knowledge on all points—was well acquainted with English, French and Italian literature; in one word Henry Atkin-

son was a polished, educated gentleman of the old school. With all that, he was of so retiring, so shy a nature, that he shrank from anything having even the semblance of display. This peculiarity became a fault in him, as it instantly closed to him the door to high offices for which his talents, business habits and wealth eminently fitted him. Mr. Atkinson had spent last winter at Nice, in company with some valued old Quebec friends, Mr. John Fraser and Mr. Peter Burnet, who left this city to reside at Nice some thirty odd years ago. Mr. Fraser was with him in Paris at his last moments. Henry Atkinson was close, at the time he died, on to 73 years. Our commercial community, a very few months back, had to mourn over the loss of one of its brightest luminaries, the late G. B. Symes, Esq. Another Quebec merchant, as eminent by his position, now follows.—*Morning Chronicle*.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

—The wind is a musician by birth. We extend a silken thread in the crevices of a window, and the wind finds it and sings over it, and goes up and down the scale upon it, and poor Paganini must go somewhere else for honor, for lo! the wind is performing upon a single string. It tries almost anything on earth to see if there is music in it. It persuades a tone out of the great bell in the tower, when the sexton is at home and asleep; it makes a mournful harp of the giant pines, and it does not disdain to try what sort of a whistle can be made out of the humblest chimney in the world. How it will play upon a tree until every leaf thrills with the note in it, and the wind up the river that runs at its base in a sort of murmuring accompaniment! and what a melody it sings when it gives a concert with a full choir of the waves of the sea, and performs an anthem between the two worlds, that goes up, perhaps, to the stars, which love music the most and sung it the first. Then, how fondly it haunts old houses; mourning under eaves; singing in the halls, opening the old doors without fingers, and singing a measure of some sad old song around the fireless and deserted hearths.—*California Teacher*.

—The *Dublin Evening Mail* says: The circumstances under which Canada is represented at our great Exhibition are such as to deserve from all interested in its success special mention and consideration. The Parliament of that great province, before adjourning in March last, was occupied daily and nightly in considering the momentous questions of colonial union and the colonial defences. The former project was adopted by a vote of three to one, and in relation to the latter a prorogation was asked and obtained till the summer, to enable a delegation of the Canadian Cabinet to proceed to London, in order to come to some definite arrangement at once with Her Majesty's Imperial Government. A vote of credit was then voted, the sole and only item specified being the sum granted for the Dublin International Exhibition. This grant was placed at the disposal of the Hon. Mr. McGee, Minister of Agriculture, with whom were subsequently associated, by order in council, the Rev. William Agar Adamson, LL.D.; and Thomas Devine, Esq., F.R.G.S.—all three being natives of Ireland. The portion of the Exhibition building occupied by Canada, and indicated by the very handsome flag of that Province, forms the north-west gallery angle immediately fronting the grand staircase. One of the principal—if not the principal—feature of the collection is the very full display of economic and other minerals. We have here iron ores from Lakes Huron and Superior and from Marmora, in Central Canada, and from Three Rivers in the neighbourhood of Quebec; copper, both native and in the ore from the great lakes, and from the district known as the Eastern Townships, which lies between Montreal and the American frontier, galena, plumbago, and phosphate of lime from Upper and Lower Canada. Building stones and marbles from Annapolis, Gloucester, Montreal, Portage-du-Fort, and Point Claire. A map specially prepared and colored for this exhibition, showing the various localities where the minerals are found, affords a pleasing index to the collection. Of the agricultural products of Canada there is also a fair display. Very fine samples of wheat, barley, rye, and other grains from almost every section of the province, are conveniently exhibited in large glass vials. Specimens of flax, which is now coming generally into cultivation in the provinces, will also attract attention, as well as several specimens of native tobacco. In building and ornamental works, the province is well represented. There are samples, in solids and veneers, of oaks, pines, walnut, maples, &c., &c. There is also what must prove to the ladies a very attractive object—a collection of choice Canadian furs arranged in mosaic. Several articles of fancy and ornamental work made by the aborigines may be said to possess a similar interest. There is a large collection of photographic views, for which the climate of Canada is so favorable, and a few water-color drawings of more than common merit; the subjects in both cases being mostly Canadian.