

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

—Mr. Rogier, minister of the Interior and of Public Instruction in Belgium, announced to the House of Representatives during a debate on the subject of public instruction, that it was the intention of the Government to increase the Professors' salaries, with a view to raising the standard of studies, and to induce learned foreigners to repair to that country.

—The *Institut Polytechnique* of Montreal, on motion of Mr. Ossaye, Professor of agriculture in the Jacques Cartier Normal school, has resolved to petition Parliament to the end that certain scholarships be founded by Government to be given in competition to the students in the different colleges, so as to enable the successful competitors to enter special schools of arts and trades in Europe, in order that in course of time the knowledge they will have acquired may be diffused in Canada.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

—Mr. Leopold Ranke, the celebrated German historian, whose *History of the Popes* is, in France, the most popular of his works, has been elected a foreign member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences.

—The widow of the late Jolu Paul Richter, the celebrated German author, died at Munich, on the 28th of January last, at the age of 84 years. The only son left by this great writer, died long ago in great poverty, when a student at Heidelberg.

—Mr. Monmerqué, member of the French Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres, died in Paris, aged 80 years. His obsequies took place on the 3rd of March. The funeral oration was pronounced by Mr. Berger de Xivrey. His first historical and literary publications appeared in 1818. He had been for some time occupied in finishing a new and carefully compiled edition of Mme. de Sévigné's Letters, an authoress whose life and writings he, for many years, had made the object of his minute inquiries, and it was while thus engaged that he was snatched from his labours. The memory of Mr. Monmerqué will be cherished by Canadians. He, on all occasions, took the liveliest interest in every thing relating to Canada, and it was partly through his exertions, we believe, that donations of books and works of art were procured for the Canadian Institute of Montreal, by Mr. Barthe, while in Paris, some years ago.

—Mrs. Jameson, the distinguished authoress, died on Saturday, aged sixty. Her illness lasted but a few days. After a visit to the reading-room of the British Museum she complained of a cold, and in two or three days a severe attack of bronchitis succeeded, from the effects of which she never rallied. Mrs. Jameson was the eldest daughter of Mr. Murphy, painter in ordinary to the Princess Charlotte, a well known artist in the early part of the present century. She married Mr. R. Jameson, the late Vice-Chancellor of Canada, whom she survived six years. Her literary labours commenced with the 'Diary of an Ennuyée' in 1826, followed by numerous volumes on various subjects of biography and art. Her principal and most popular publications were her 'Characteristics of Women,' chiefly studies from Shakspeare; 'Visits and Sketches at home and abroad,' 'Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada;' the latter work she regarded as peculiarly a record of her own social views and convictions. In 1842 she published the 'Hand-Book to the Public Galleries of Art in and near London,' which was the first of a series of artistic works of subsequent production,—viz., on 'Sacred and Legendary Art,' 'Legends of the Madonna,' &c. One of her last publications was a revised and enlarged edition of 'Memoirs of the Early Italian Painters,' published by Mr. Murray. For two years past she had been engaged on a laborious and elaborately illustrated work, announced by Messrs. Longman, and nearly completed, the 'History of Our Lord and of his Precursor, St. John the Baptist, with the Personages and Typical Subjects of the Old Testament as represented in Christian Art.' In the completion of this labour she had re-visited Italy, and passed several months in Rome and other continental cities. As an art-critic Mrs. Jameson was almost unrivalled. But her intellectual excellence extended in other and nobler directions—in a deep interest in all social and moral questions, as evidenced in her printed lectures on 'Sisters of Charity at home and abroad' and the 'Communion of Labour,' prefaced by an earnest and eloquent introduction. —*London Paper.*

THE MCGILL NORMAL SCHOOL LITERARY ASSOCIATION.—This Association is composed of the young-lady students of the McGill Normal School. We had the pleasure of assisting, as the French say, at the Annual Meeting of its members, held in the hall of the School, on Tuesday evening. Where all were so good it would be invidious to make selections and we shall, therefore, content ourselves with recording the gratification which we derived from the exercises of the evening. Some of the essays read were extremely creditable to their authors, displaying much sound

knowledge and correct reasoning, conveyed in appropriate and forcible language. The musical exercises, as well vocal as instrumental, were also rendered in a manner alike creditable to the young performers and to their instructors, and elicited repeated rounds of applause from a large and discriminating audience. At the close of the exercises, Miss Costigan, the President of the Association, read a well-considered address, in which the advantages to be derived from the voluntary labors of its members were clearly explained and eloquently urged upon her fellow—or rather, we should say, sister-students. On Miss Costigan's resuming her seat, the Rev. Mr. Kemp, on the part of the company, thanked the ladies for the pleasing entertainment they had provided, adding a few kind and considerate words of encouragement and advice to the young associates. The national anthem was then sung and the company dispersed to their homes, animated, we have no doubt, one and all, with the kindest wishes for the welfare and professional as well as social advancement of their interesting and accomplished entertainers.—*Montreal Herald of 12th instant.*

—We have to record the death of two remarkable men, both from Quebec, whose names deserve to be held in honor by all who know how to appreciate virtue or talent.

The Rev. Mr. Gingras, a theologian of high merit, died at Paris, aged 51 years. All Canadians in that city at the time, attended his funeral. Mr. Gingras had received his education in the Seminary of Quebec, where, in 1831, after going through his studies with great success, he entered the holy orders. In the following year he became Professor of belles-lettres, and was, from 1833 to 1834, successively appointed Director of the Seminary and of the College of Quebec. In 1844, he visited Europe and the Holy Land, in company with Mr. Bélanger. When in Rome the degree of Doctor in Divinity was conferred on him. On his return to Canada he published two volumes containing an account of his travels in Egypt, Arabia, Palestine, Turkey, and Greece. In this work no account of his travels in France, Italy, Germany, Belgium, and Ireland is given, and this is the more to be regretted especially with regard to Germany and Ireland, as but very few French Canadians ever visit these two countries.

Having returned to Quebec, he, for sometime, had charge of a class of philosophy, and also of a Theological Conference. He became once more Director of the Seminary, but as he found it necessary to undertake another voyage for the benefit of his health, he had to abandon this post, which he did accordingly, in May last. His illness was one, however, not to be overcome, and the consolation of breathing his last in the midst of his old school-fellows, of his friends and pupils, was denied him. His meekness, piety, devotion, and countenance expressive of deep piety had acquired for him the name of *saint*, an appellation by which all were happy to know him.

Mr. Réal Angers, one of the most eloquent advocates of the country, died in his 47th year. He had been admitted to the bar at an early age, and by his brilliant imagination and energetic mind soon attracted notice. His taste for literature was strong, but he had to yield to that necessity which had directed his course toward the sterner and somewhat thorny practice of the law. He has left testimonials of his literary talent in the form of pleasing poetical essays, and of two short works in prose. His *Révélation du Crime* might have laid him open to the reproach of having attempted an imitation of the *Mysteries of Paris*, were it not well known that it was written long before that of Eugene Sue, and that the fearful descriptions it gives, unfortunately are realities. His other production is a treatise on stenography, written at the time he was engaged reporting parliamentary debates. To him,—and to Mr. Aubin,—are due perhaps the only able reports extant of the speeches delivered in the Lower Canada House of Assembly during its three or four last sessions. Mr. Angers was, together with Mr. Loranger, entrusted by the Government with the defence of the *Censitaires* before the *Seigniorial Court*. In the fulfilment of this duty he showed much learning, and sound and eloquent argumentation. As one of the Editors of the periodical in which are published the Lower Canada Law Reports he has likewise contributed highly to the fund of our jurisprudence. His health, through over-exertion, had become impaired, and great efforts were necessary to enable him, for some years, to attend to the duties of his profession. His death has caused universal regret, although, under the circumstances, the sad event could not but have been anticipated. We may add that, in the next number of our French journal, some stanzas of his poetry will appear.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

—Up to the present time the moon had been considered as a heap of dried earth, without water, without an atmosphere, without inhabitants. But popular opinion has always given these last to the moon, to the great perplexity of many, who were troubled at the thought that its inhabitants had no air. Euler, however, had found an atmosphere for them. His observations, however, were not able to satisfy astronomers. Lately, Mr. de la Rive, and still more recently, Father Secchi have, they think, been able to confirm Euler's opinion. An atmosphere, they say, really exists though of a very inconsiderable height.

Mr. Schwabe, a distinguished German astronomer goes further: he announces in one of the last numbers of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, that he has seen in the moon a kind of vegetation, and the following are his reasons: The surface of the moon presents to the view numerous