

these show nothing more than that the natives could re-cast bronze articles, just as the American Indians can forge fish-hooks and knives out of nails and iron hoops. Other considerations might be adduced in proof of this view, but the limits of our article will not permit us to refer to them. The important questions still remain: when was this trade commenced, and how rapidly did it extend itself from the sea-coast across Europe. The British tin trade must have been in existence in the time of Herodotus, though his notion of the locality was not more definite than that it was in the extremity of the earth. The Phœnician settlements in the western Mediterranean must have existed as early as the time of Solomon, when "Ships of Tarshish" was the general designation of sea-going ships for long voyages. How long previously these colonies existed we do not know; but considering the great scarcity and value of tin in those very ancient times, we may infer that perhaps only the Spanish, and not the British deposits were known thus early; or that the Phœnicians had only indirect access to the latter. Perhaps we may fix the time when these traders were able to supply the nations of Europe with abundance of bronze in exchange for their products; at, say 1000 to 1200 B. C., as the earliest probable period; and probably from one to two centuries would be a sufficient allowance for the complete penetration of the trade throughout Europe; but of course wars or migrations might retard or accelerate the process; and there may have been isolated spots in which a partial stone period extended up to those comparatively modern times, when first the Greek trade, and afterward the entire overthrow of the Carthaginian power by the Romans, terminated forever the age of bronze, and substituted the age of iron. This would leave, according to our ordinary chronologies, at least ten or fifteen centuries for the post-diluvian stone period; a time quite sufficient, in our view, for all that part of it represented by such remains as those of the Danish coast, and the still more remarkable platform habitations, whose remains have been found in the Swiss lakes, and which belong properly to the recent period of geology. In connection with this we would advise the reader to study the many converging lines of evidence derived from history, from monuments, and from language, which Dr. Wilson shows, in his concluding chapter, to point to the comparatively recent origin of at least post-diluvian man. Let it be observed, also, that the attempts of Bunsen and others to deduce an extraordinarily long chronology from Egyptian monuments, and from the diversity of languages, have signally failed; and that the observations made by Mr. Horner in the Nile alluvium are admitted to be open to too many doubts to be relied on.

"Before leaving the recent period, it is deserving of note that Sir C. Lyell shows on the best evidence, that in Scotland, since the building of the Wall of Antoninus, an elevation of from twenty-five to twenty-seven feet has occurred both on the eastern and western coast; and consequently that the raised sea bottoms containing canoes, &c., in the valley of the Clyde, supposed by some to be of extremely ancient date, were actually under water in the time of the Romans; a fact of which, but for their occupation of the country, we should have been ignorant.

"From the Recent period we pass, under the guidance of Sir Charles, to the Post-pliocene, geologically distinguished from the Recent by the fact that its deposits contain the bones of many great extinct quadrupeds; as for instance the mammoth, *Elephas primigenius*, the woolly rhinoceros, *R. tichorhinus*, and others, heretofore, (but it would seem on insufficient evidence,) supposed to have disappeared before the advent of man. The evidence now adduced that primeval man was really contemporary with these creatures is manifold, and apparently conclusive, and in the work before us is carefully sifted and weighed in all its bearings, much being rejected as inapplicable or uncertain."

MORGAN.—*The Canadian Parliamentary Companion*. Desbarats & Derbyshire, Publishers, Quebec; 1863.—16mo, 88 pp.

This is the second year of the publication of Mr. Morgan's little Parliamentary annual. Besides a biographical sketch of each member of the Canadian Legislature, it contains a concise account of the fundamental principles of the British Constitution and the forms and usages observed by both Houses of Parliament.

FRÉCHETTE.—*Mes Loisirs, poésies par L. H. Fréchet*. Léger Brousseau, Publisher, Quebec; 1863.—12mo, 200 pp. Price 50 cents.

The poetry of Mr. Fréchet has already attracted the favorable notice of the French Canadian press. An extract will be found in the *Journal de l'Instruction Publique* for January.

DE COURTENAY.—*The Culture of the Vine and Emigration*; By

J. M. De Courtenay. Joseph Darveau, Publisher, Quebec; 1863.—8vo, 53 pp.

The author is of opinion that as the vine grows spontaneously in Canada, we should endeavor to improve it by culture, with a view to the production of wine for home consumption. He gives an account of his own experiments and those of other amateurs, from which he draws a favorable conclusion.

DE GASPÉ.—*Les Anciens Canadiens*; By Philippe Aubert de Gaspé. Desbarats & Derbyshire, Publishers, Quebec; 1863.—8vo, 411 pp. Sold for \$1.

This is an historical romance in which many old legends and family traditions are wrought into a connected story. The narrative is enriched by many graphic and peculiarly interesting descriptions of the old manners of the country; and the dénouement is, we are assured, founded on fact. Many historical anecdotes and documents are added in the notes that accompany the work.

ALBUM HISTORIQUE.—This album, completing the last number of the *Transactions of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec*, is just published, and our acknowledgements are due to Mr. Faribault for his attention in placing two copies at the disposition of the Department of Education. It contains a fine portrait of Jacques Cartier; a fac-simile of the roll or list of the names of his companions, bearing also his signature; Jacques Cartier and his vessels ascending the St. Lawrence, from a painting by Gudm; the arrival of Jacques Cartier at Quebec, and his interview with the Indian Chiefs at Stadacona; the manor house of Jacques Cartier at Limoilou (interior view), and the same (exterior view). All these engravings were executed at Paris, and are very fine.

GEO. HODGINS.—*Easy Lessons in General Geography*; By George Hodgins, L.L.B., F.R.G.S. John Lovell, Publisher, Montreal; 1863.—Large 8vo, 80 pp. With maps and illustrations.

This little work though complete in itself, is designed as introductory to Lovell's General Geography. We have no hesitation in recommending it to teachers; the simplicity of the language and conversational freedom in the mode of expression will not fail to please the junior class, for whose special benefit, we need scarcely add, it was written.

DR. SMITH.—*Principia Latina, a first Latin Course*. Comprehending Grammar, Delectus and Exercise-Book; By Wm. Smith, LL.D. Harper & Brothers, New York; 1863.—8vo, 187 pp.

This grammar is the first of a short series of elementary works on Latin by Dr. Smith, author of a Dictionary of Biography and Mythology, of Greek and Roman Antiquities, &c. It has been written expressly for the use of schools and is, we believe, the result of many years' practical teaching. The synthetical method has been strictly adhered to, and all complicated rules, which invariably tend to perplex young students, avoided. Short and concise vocabularies, to be committed to memory, are interspersed throughout the grammar and will no doubt tend greatly to facilitate the work of the learner.

A. WOOD.—*Leaves and Flowers; or Object Lessons in Botany*. With a Flora. Prepared for beginners in academies and public schools. By Alphonso Wood, A. M. Barnes & Burr, Publishers, New York. 1863.—8vo., 1 vol., 322 pp. Sold for \$1.

Radiant with the untold beauty and delicacy of all the flowers of the earth, and enjoying, moreover, the powerful protection of the fair sex, the delightful science of botany can never want votaries. A very instructive account of its wonderful intricacies will be found in the book now before us, which, we may add, forms a complete elementary treatise. The illustrations are executed with much care and elegance.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

—A communication from Lennoxville puts us in possession of the gratifying reception given to the Bishop of Quebec elect, upon his return to the site of his former labours. The Rev. J. W. Williams received a welcome, on his return home on Saturday evening, of which he may be justly proud. It was a scene that will long be remembered by those who witnessed it, as a spontaneous outburst of the love and respect he has gained in the position of onerous responsibility he has so long held, with increasing credit to himself and advantage to his pupils. The