

of tailor and wool-comber, which he did not much like, he was advised to study law, and in 1823 was admitted to the Bar, settling and practising at first in Aurora, N. Y. He was elected to the New York Assembly, and subsequently to the Federal Congress. Being a Whig, he had no opportunity to come to the front till 1841, when, owing to financial embarrassments into which the Union had been plunged under Democratic ascendancy, that party were overthrown, and the Whigs swept the country. In the subsequent measures to retrieve the financial position he took a leading part as Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. He was elected Vice-President under General Taylor in 1848, and on the subsequent death of the latter became President. The N. Y. Herald says of him:

It is a noteworthy fact that Millard Fillmore became a prominent figure in politics with the advent of the Whig party as a political power in 1840, and that the party expired with his Presidency in 1852. He was essentially a man of compromises. Had he been a strong man, as Chase was, for instance, he would have seized upon the opportunity to make the Whig party an anti-slavery party. As the leader of the House in the Twenty-seventh Congress, Mr. Fillmore had the opportunity of becoming the great anti-slavery leader of the country. In failing to grasp the distinction he attained the highest dignity in the Republic; but that other distinction brought him no marked honors.

SENATOR SUMNER,

The eminent American Statesman, died at Washington, on the 11th inst., at the age of 65.

He was born at Boston, on the 6th of January, 1811, graduated at Harvard and studied law there after taking his degree. He practised at Boston in 1834, when he was called to the Bar, visited Europe three years later and was in Paris at the time of General Cass' embassy. At his request it was that he wrote a defence of the rights of the United States in reference to the questions at issue between the two governments. His opposition to the annexation of Texas, his support of Van Buren's candidature for the Presidency in 1848, and above all his determined policy in the matter of abolitionism, brought him into notoriety both on this continent and in Europe. In 1841 he succeeded the Great Webster in his place in the Senate, and when the war of Secession broke out, became known as one of the bitterest opponents of England. Nevertheless when the Trent affair threatened to embroil the United States in a war with Great Britain, he recommended the surrender of Mason and Slidell, albeit he maintained the right of the Federal Government to retain the captured envoys. He was a warm advocate of the metric system and recommended the throwing out by the Neutrality Laws Abolition Bill, passed unanimously by the House of Representatives out of hostility to England. He was for several years Chairman of the Congressional Committee of Foreign Affairs, and his name has frequently been associated of late with important measures.

THE REV. JOHN IRWIN.

It is with feelings of regret that we record to day the death of the Rev. John Irwin, which took place at Nanticoke, Ontario, on the 19th instant. In these feelings we will, doubtless, be joined by many of our readers in this city and elsewhere, who were acquainted with the deceased—more especially by the members of that congregation (St. Luke's) to whom for many years he ministered. To his family and more intimate friends the news of Mr. Irwin's death will have been a sad surprise, as he was but a short time ailing, having caught cold during the delivery of a series of lectures or addresses, which resulted in an attack on the lungs. The deceased clergyman was born in the County Tyrone, Ireland, and received his collegiate and theological education at Trinity College, Dublin. Subsequently he held the position of Principal of the College in Ballinasloe. On his first arrival in this country in 1847 he was appointed assistant minister in Christ Church Cathedral, and served subsequently as incumbent of St Thomas's. After the great fire of 1852 he went to Boston, where he did duty, not only as a clergyman, but also as assistant editor of the *Christian Witness*. He was for a considerable time Rector of St. John's, P. Q., after resigning the charge of which place he became incumbent of St. Luke's and chaplain to the gaol. He also held an appointment for some time in Port Dover, Ont. During his residence in Montreal he held the appointment of Commissioner on the Protestant Board of School Commissioners. For some years past Mr. Irwin was engaged in writing for the religious press of this city and elsewhere. He had always the reputation of

being an excellent scholar, a ready penman and skilful controversialist. He was the editor of the Rev Dr. Falloon's History of Ireland, to which he wrote an ample and learned introduction. But his chief power was in the pulpit and on the platform. Indeed, in his best days, as a preacher and writer, he had few superiors—(*Montreal Gazette* of March 23.)

MR. WILLIAM STEWART,

For many years a school teacher in Aylmer, but of late years of Ottawa, died in that city on the 12th inst. On the 14th inst., a special meeting of the Board of School Trustees, and also a special meeting of the Teachers' Association of that city were convened to make arrangements for attending the funeral of this worthy teacher, and to express sympathy with the bereaved family of the deceased. The following resolution was passed by the Association, and one couched in almost the same words by the Board of School Trustees:

"This Association learns with profound regret of the death of Mr. William Stewart, one of the staff of teachers for 1874. For twenty-three years Mr. Stewart has acted as a teacher in Ottawa, and has been intimately associated with Public School matters. In this capacity he gained for himself, and leaves behind him, a record worthy of our emulation. Long will his name be remembered by his pupils, grateful for his many acts of kindness to them. His sincerity, zeal, and upright walk gained for his memory both respect and esteem. As a valued member of this association, taking a prominent part in its working, he will be remembered for his hearty support of all that tended to our welfare. In Mr Stewart's decease, we have lost an upright teacher, distinguished for zeal and perseverance; we earnestly sympathize with his family in their bereavement, and sincerely trust that our merciful Father will give strength to sustain them in this hour of trial and sorrow."

Meteorology.

—OBSERVATIONS taken at Halifax, Nova Scotia, for the month of February, 1874; Lat: 44° 39' North; Long. 63° 36' West; height above the Sea, 175 feet, by Serg't John Thurling, A. H. Corps.

Barometer, highest reading on the 2nd.....	30.449 inches.
"    lowest    "    "    11th.....	28.883    "
"    range of pressure.....	1.616
"    mean for month (reduced to 32°).....	29.791
Thermometer, highest in shade on the 14th.....	47.2 degrees.
"    lowest    "    "    2nd.....	12.3
"    range in month.....	59.5
"    mean of all highest.....	29.8
"    mean of all lowest.....	10.0
"    mean daily range.....	19.8
"    mean for month.....	19.9
"    highest reading in sun's rays.....	104.2
"    lowest reading on the grass.....	-15.0
Hygrometer, mean of dry bulb.....	22.2
"    mean of wet bulb.....	20.9
"    mean dew point.....	12.4
"    elastic force of vapour.....	.075
"    vapour in a cubic foot of air.....	0.9 grains.
"    weight required to saturate do.....	0.5
"    the figure of humidity (Sat. 100).....	63
"    average weight of a cubic foot of air.....	574.0
Wind, mean direction of, North.....	6.00 days.
"    "    East.....	3.00
"    "    South.....	5.25
"    "    West.....	12.25
"    "    Calm.....	1.50
"    daily force.....	3.8
"    daily horizontal movement.....	333.9 miles.
Cloud, mean amount of (0-10).....	6.1
Ozone, mean amount of (0-10).....	2.8
Rain, number of days it fell.....	5
Snow, number of days it fell.....	11
Amount collected on ground.....	8.40 inches.
Fog, number of days.....	4

Wanted

The School Commissioners of Cape Despoir, Gaspé, want, for 1st July next, three Teachers holding First Class Elementary School Diplomas and capable of teaching English and French—to whom liberal salaries will be paid. Apply to

REVD. FRANCIS McDONNELL, Pres.,  
or  
PHILIP AHERN, Sec.-Treas.