

SMALL.—*The Animals of North America. First Series: Mammalia*; By Beaumont Small. John Lovell, Publisher, Montreal; 1861.—8vo, 108 pp.

We have here the first work of a series intended to enlighten the youth on the Natural History of the country. It is embellished with woodcuts.

ANNUAIRE de l'Université Laval pour l'année académique 1864-65. Côté, Publisher, Quebec; 1864,—39 pp.

DRAPEAU.—*Coup-d'œil sur les ressources productives et la richesse du Canada, suivi d'un plan d'organisation complet et détaillé relatif à la colonisation, destiné à faire suite aux Etudes sur la Colonisation*; By Stanislas Drapeau. Brousseau, Publisher, Quebec; 1864.—8vo, 36 pp.

NESBITT.—*Directions de navigation pour l'île de Terre-Neuve et la côte du Labrador et pour le Golfe et le fleuve St. Laurent, compilées spécialement d'après les inspections faites par ordre des gouvernements anglais et français, traduit de l'anglais*; By Thomas T. Nesbitt. Elzéar Vincent, Publisher, Quebec; 1864.—Large 8vo, 203 pp.

LES URSLINES DE QUÉBEC. Volume II. Darveau, Publisher, Quebec; 1864.—362-xv-38 pp.

As the title implies, this is a chronicle of the Ursuline Convent of Quebec. It is to be completed in three volumes. The present portion of the work carries the narrative down to the taking of the city by the English, and will be read with interest by all students of early Canadian History.

LATOUR.—*Annuaire de Ville-Marie, origine, utilité et progrès des institutions catholiques de Montréal*; By H. Latour. 1st Year, 1863. E. Sénécal, Publisher, Montreal; 1864.—8vo, 192 pp. Price, 25 c.

This is the first part of a work on the Roman Catholic Institutions of Canada, to be published annually. It will be principally descriptive of the churches, chapels, brotherhoods, charities, societies for mutual assistance, and educational, literary and national institutions. The historical, biographical, and statistical information which Mr. Latour has already compiled in this little book is very valuable, and its collection must have cost him much time and labor. It would appear from data which he has laid before his readers that the development of the religious communities of females established at Montreal, has been very great during the last decade, as the following figures, borrowed from his pages, will show:

In 1853 there were at the *Hôtel-Dieu*, 53 nuns and novices, and the number of patients admitted during the year was 2,946. In 1863 the figures had risen to 83 and 3,659 respectively.

The *Sœurs Grises* had, at the first mentioned period, besides their principal convent at Montreal, 4 missions, or branches, in other parts of America; in 1863 they were in possession of 16 establishments.

The *Sisters of the Congregation* increased the number of their establishments from 25 to 35 during the decade, and of the members of their order from 149 to 383 during the same period. The number of children attending their schools in Montreal also increased from 1,820 to 3,953 (1). Total attendance at present at all the schools conducted by this community, 10,331.

LA REVUE CANADIENNE.—The character which this interesting review has already earned for itself is very well sustained in the numbers for June, July, and August, though we miss the continuation of several articles commenced in former numbers. Among the contents of the issues now at hand we may mention an article on the political career of the late Chief Justice LaFontaine, by Mr. Royal; another on the Church of England and Rationalism, by Mr. Lamarche; and two pretty little poems by Messrs. Lemay and D. H. Sénécal. Mr. Garneau, also reproduces with corrections and additions, the conclusion of his History of Canada.

CARTWRIGHT.—*Remarks on the Militia of Canada*; By R. J. Cartwright, M.P.P. 1864.—46 pp.

Starting from the proposition that a distinct understanding is necessary between this and the mother country to fix the numerical force each would be called upon to furnish for the defence of

Canada in the event of hostilities, the author goes on to discuss the means available to bring our contingent creditably into the field.

The system which has hitherto been regarded with most favor in the efforts made to organize our militia, i. e., drilling as many men as possible for a few days in each year, is altogether discarded by the author, who recommends the more perfect disciplining of a comparatively small force annually. In the following propositions, set down in the pamphlet, the views of the author are presented in so concise a form that we reproduce them:

"1st. That, taking into consideration the peculiar position of Canada, it is indispensable to have a distinct understanding—most probably a formal convention, treaty if any like to call it so—with the Imperial Government, in which the contribution which Canada, as a Province of the Empire, ought to make towards her own defence, should be precisely defined.

2nd. That it should be laid down as a fundamental principle that the volunteers were to be regarded purely as an auxiliary body, and that the chief portion of our expenditure ought to be devoted to disciplining a certain proportion of the regular first class militia, the total number to be fixed by convention as above stated, but supposed likely to range from 50,000 to 100,000 men.

"3rd. That as the number required would probably be too large to admit of their being called out simultaneously—even were it desirable to do so—they should be drilled in annual instalments of so many thousand a year, each detachment to serve for say six months in open field.

"4th. That these militiamen, after having once received six months' instruction, should be thenceforward free from all further duty in time of peace, but should continue liable for actual service for a period of ten years, and thereafter be formed into a reserve, not to be called out except in extreme emergency.

"5th. It was further proposed—though not at all as part of the original system, which contemplates the formation of a well organized militia on a footing suited to the resources of the country, and so adjusted that it might be kept up by ourselves without any extraneous aid—that as Canada was very much in arrears, and a sudden emergency might arise before such a scheme could be fairly carried out, a special offer should be made to the English Government, agreeing to train a double or treble number of men in the first two or three years, provided they would assist us with a loan of money for that purpose at three per cent., and allow a portion of the troops in garrison here to be brigaded with and act as instructors to our militia—by which means, without any actual outlay on their part, we could probably afford to drill twice as many men as we could otherwise."

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

—The committee appointed by the Legislative Assembly to enquire into the means of promoting agricultural instruction, made a report which has recently been published. This committee was presided over by Mr. Perrault and composed of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Bourassa, Cornellier, Coupal, Daoust, Dorion (Arthabaska), Gaudet, Houde, Lajoie and Pinsonneault. After an elaborate sketch of the means employed in other countries to promote agricultural learning, and a review of what has been done in Canada in the same direction, the report proceeds with a long series of questions and answers, categorically arranged, and concludes as follows:

(Translation.)

Your committee having studied 1st, the progress and condition of agricultural instruction in other countries, and 2nd, the progress and condition of agricultural instruction in Canada, viz.: in our primary schools, colleges, universities and special agricultural schools, has come to the following conclusions.

1st. That agricultural instruction is imperatively demanded by our population, as all men who are in a position to form an opinion on the value of this important question have declared to your committee.

2nd. That to secure a broader diffusion of agricultural knowledge and to predispose a greater number of pupils in our colleges to its study, the Government should call the attention of all educational institutions receiving a grant from the Fund in aid of Superior Education, to the opportuneness of giving a more specially agricultural application to the courses in natural science followed by the advanced classes.

(1) The Report of the Superintendent of Education places the number at 4005.