

ecclesiastical decree had been dismembered from the parish of L'Assomption, and joined to that of St. Paul.

His excellency, the Governor General has been pleased, by order in Council, dated 29 October last, to re-establish the School Municipalities of North and South Stukely, and to give them the same boundaries, and place them in the same position, as held by them previous to the order in Council of the 4th June last.

APPOINTMENTS.

His Excellency, the Governor General, has been pleased to approve of the following appointments:

LAVAL NORMAL SCHOOL.

The Revd. Octave Biron, to be Regent of the study in the place and stead of Revd. Damase Matte, resigned.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF GASPE.

Messrs. Edouard Guilmet, Silas Cross and John Fauvel, to be members of the Board of Examiners for the district of Gaspé, in place and stead of Messrs. Gingras, Short and S. Milne, who have left the district.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

County of Maskinongé.—St. Justin: Messrs. Charles Boucher, M. D. Jean-Baptiste Grenier, Joseph Morin, Alexis Piet, Amable Clément, David Gagnon and Augustin Vermette.

County of Missisquoi.—St. Romuald de Farnham: Mr. Augustin Guertin.

County of Beauce.—Forsyth: Mr. Etienne Dalaire.

County of Bonaventure.—Ristigouche: Messrs. F. Dumontier and Noël Louizotte.

SITUATION AS TEACHER WANTED.

Mr. Jos. Labelle, who has obtained a diploma authorising him to teach in Model Schools, is desirous of obtaining a situation in an institution of this class. Address: No. 152, Sanguinet Street, Montreal.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

— Charles Watson, a Scotch school-teacher, finding his health injured by the confined air of the school-room, has invented an original mode of ventilation. It is entirely simple, and is based on the fact that if two tubes of unequal length be admitted into a room, the cool air will enter the shortest, and the warm air be expelled through the longest. Watson's application avoid the unpleasant and dangerous draught created by most modes of ventilation.—(*Illinois Teacher*.)

— The following result of a lesson in arithmetic will teach teachers to reflect a little before they put questions to clever boys. *Teacher*.—Suppose I were to shoot at a tree with five birds in it and kill three, how many would be left?—*John*.—Three, sir.—*Teacher*.—Two could be left, you ignoramus.—No there would n't; the three shot would be left and the other two would be fled away.—*Id*.

— A meeting of teachers to establish a teacher's institute, was recently held at Frost village, district of Bedford in the Eastern townships. The Revd. Dr. Nichol's Bishop's College presided and lectured on the occasion. Resolutions were adopted urging a better classification of the academies and schools, and the appointment of local boards of examiners in each county.

— We copy from the *Revue de l'Instruction Publique* of Paris the following statement of the educational institutions supported by the government of Prussia:—6 universities, 3 catholic academies, 122 gymnasia, 40 progymnasia, 1 academy of architecture, 87 schools of arts and manufactures, 143 girls academies, 51 male normal schools, 7 female normal schools, 7 academies of rural and forest economy, 17 commercial schools, 24 polytechnic schools, 25 schools of agriculture, 1100 primary superior schools and 3100 elementary schools, giving a total of 32632 institutions.

— Teachers can afford to live as long as any body else; at least this is what we infer from the following which we copy from a Quebec paper. "Mr. Pierre Descombes died on Monday morning (14th November), at his residence, St. Roch's suburb, at the age of 112 years. Mr. Descombes came to this country from France, when he was about 50 years of age, and took up his abode on the Island of Orléans, near Quebec, where he resided until last year, when he removed to St. Roch. During forty years of his residence on the island he had filled the situation of schoolmaster.

We believe that up to the hour of his death he had retained full possession of all his faculties. He was born at Bordeaux, parish of Ste. Croix, in the year 1746."

— Mr. Rouland, the minister of Public Instruction of France, has renewed the obligation which existed for the aspirants to the medical degrees of being provided with the degree of *Bachelier ès lettres* as well as with that of *Bachelier ès sciences*.

— The minister of public instruction in Prussia has decided that henceforth Terence and Plantus shall not be used as class-books in the public schools of that country.

— The *Echo du Pas de Calais* states that the mistresses of the ladies' schools at Arras, have just come to an understanding to prohibit their pupils from wearing crinoline.

— The Russian government has decreed that twenty military schools shall be established for teaching surveying, topography, engraving, gymnastics, also that the sons of poor nobles and functionaries shall be educated in them gratuitously, subject to the condition of their undertaking to serve the state gratuitously for a certain number of years.

— The whole amount of the vote for public education in Great Britain for the year 1858 was in round numbers £663000, of which sum £157000 might be considered as being expended under the head of building and for schools, and £40000 in defraying the cost of inspection.

— The Michigan state normal school reports 478 students. At the commencement exercises of the New York city normal school 115 young ladies graduated.

— On the 4th of October, the highly interesting ceremony of placing the coping-stone on the turret of the Toronto University building, took place in that city. The ceremony was performed by His Excellency, Sir Edmund Head, Governor General. It was followed by a dejeuner in the large hall destined for the library of the institution. Speeches were made by H. E.; J. Langton, Esq., M. A., Vice-Chancellor; Dr. McCaul, Dr. Ryerson, Lord Radstock, and several other gentlemen present.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

— Mde. Ida Pfeiffer, the great traveller, is at a hospital in Hamburg, receiving treatment for chronic ague, contracted at Madagascar. Alexandre Dumas is in St. Petesburg engaged in the translation of a Russian historical romance entitled "*Palace of ice*"

— Mr. F. X. Garneau of Quebec, is preparing a third edition of his excellent History of Canada, in three volumes. The first volume it is expected, will be published shortly.

— The library of Howard university is the largest in the United States. It contains 112,000 volumes. The Indiana state library contains 20,000 volumes. The largest state library is that of the state of New York in Albany.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

— *Adventure in the Mammoth Cave, Kentucky.—The Maelstrom explored.*—The hero of the exploit thus reported in the *Louisville Journal* of September 11th is William C. Prentice, the son of George D. Prentice.—"At the supposed end of what has always been considered the longest avenue of the Mammoth Cave, nine miles from its entrance, there is a pit, dark and deep and terrible, known as the Maelstrom. Tens of thousands have gazed into it with awe whilst Bengal-lights were thrown down it to make its fearful depths visible, but none ever had the daring to explore it. The celebrated guide Stephen, who was deemed insensible to fear, was offered six hundred dollars by the proprietors of the cave if he would descend to the bottom of it, but he shrank from the peril. A few years ago a Tennessee professor, a learned and bold man, resolved to do what no one before him had dared to do: and making his arrangements with great care and precaution, he had himself lowered down by a strong rope a hundred feet, but at that point his courage failed him, and he called aloud to be drawn out. No human power could ever have induced him to repeat the appalling experiment. A couple of weeks ago, however, a young gentleman of Louisville, whose nerves never trembled at mortal peril, being at the Mammoth Cave with professor Wright, of our city, and others, determined, no matter what the dangers and difficulties might be, to explore the depths of the Maelstrom. Mr. Proctor, the enterprising proprietor of the cave, sent to Nashville and procured a long rope of great strength, expressly for the purpose. The ropes and some necessary timbers were borne by the guides and others to the point of proposed exploration. The arrangements being soon completed, the rope, with a heavy fragment of rock affixed to it, was let down and swung to and fro to dislodge any loose rocks that would be likely to fall at the touch. Several were thus dislodged, and the long-continued reverberation, rising up like distant thunder from below, proclaimed the depth of the horrid chasm. Then the young hero of the occasion, with several hats drawn over his head to protect it as far as possible against any masses falling from above, and with a light in his hand and the rope fastened around his body, took his place over the awful pit and directed the half-dozen men who held the end of the rope to let him down into the Cimmerian gloom. We have heard, from his own lips, an account of his descent. Occasionally masses of earth and rock went whizzing past, but none struck him. Thirty or forty feet from the top he saw a ledge, from which