

tion for his subject. We must not forget to mention also a disquisition on two mummies from Thebes. What next? In his essay, Mr. Langton treated the same question as to the relative advantage of classical or scientific studies in the training of the mind, that we have alluded to above in noticing Mr. Atkinson's lecture. We shall give extracts in our next.

TAYLOR.—Portraits of British Canadians.—The second and third parts of this work contain biographies and photographs of Sir Fenwick Williams, the late Sir Etienne Taché, the late George Moffatt and Wm. Morris, the late Jean Jacques Lartigue, first R. C. Bishop of Montreal, Rev. Dr. Mathieson, the Hon. Messrs. Cartier, Sanfield McDonald and Ferrier, and Principal Dawson.

There is no attempt at classification or system in the publication. The dead and the living, the native and the European, the soldier and the priest, are launched *pêle-mêle* on the highway to posterity. Although defective in some respects, this mode is not by any means unattractive; the style—of which we gave a specimen in our last number—continues elegant and pleasing, perhaps sometimes a shade too *recherché*.

## MONTHLY SUMMARY.

### NECROLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—Sir Etienne Paschal Taché, the late Premier, was born at St. Thomas on the 5th September, 1795. At the commencement of the war in 1812, he entered the 5th Battalion of embodied militia as ensign, and was soon afterwards promoted to a lieutenancy in the *Chasseurs Canadiens*. He was present with this corps at several engagements, at one of which—the battle of Plattsburg—his company lost eighteen men. While the war still continued, he had turned his attention to the study of surgery in the camps, and on the return of peace he adopted medicine as his profession, and settled at St. Thomas, where he married Mlle Sophie Morency and had fifteen children, of whom six only survive. In 1837, being a partizan of Mr. Papineau, he was suspected of complicity in the insurrection which then took place, but although his domicile was searched, no proofs were found against him. Immediately after the union of the Canadas, Mr. Taché was elected a representative for the County of l'Islet, and from that time until he accepted the office of Deputy Adjutant General of Militia in 1846, he acted with the Baldwin-Lafontaine party. In Parliament he advocated municipal government and public instruction, incurring without hesitation a certain degree of unpopularity in his county, where he had to struggle against those who were opposed to all local taxation. He held the office of Deputy Adjutant General of Militia until 1848, when he resigned it to join the Lafontaine-Baldwin Cabinet as Commissioner of Public Works, taking his seat in the Legislative Council at the same time. He also formed part of the Hincks-Morin and of the MacNab-Morin Ministry. On the resignation of Mr. Morin in 1855, it was to Mr. Taché that the task of forming the Lower Canadian section of the new Ministry was confided. In the following year, Sir Allan MacNab having retired, he formed the Taché-McDonald Cabinet. In the autumn of 1857, he withdrew, but gave his support to the McDonald-Cartier Administration. In 1858, he was called to England and received the order of knighthood; in 1860, he was made a Colonel in the army and appointed Aide-de-camp to Her Majesty; he was elected President of the Council of Public Instruction and, in 1862, received the order of St. Gregory from the Sovereign Pontiff; at the time of the "Trent affair" he was appointed on the commission charged with the duty of preparing a bill for the reorganisation of the militia. During the crisis which marked the fall of the Sanfield McDonald-Dorion Ministry in 1864, Sir Etienne Taché was applied to by both parties, but having refused to enter into a coalition with the Lower Canadian opposition, he consented to form, with the conservatives, the second Taché-McDonald Ministry, in which he discharged the duties of Receiver General and Minister of Militia. He presided at the Convention for the confederation of the Provinces held in 1864.

Sir Etienne Taché was undeniably the architect of his own fortune. But partially educated in his youth, it is to his natural abilities and studious habits, to his energy and the happy combination of rare qualities in his character, that he was indebted for success. In the Legislative Council, where he was charged with the duty of explaining and defending the measures of the Government, he was often called upon to speak in a language which was not his own, and in this difficult position, though unable to display his oratorical powers, he always acquitted himself of his task with success.

He died at the age of seventy, and leaves two sons and several daughters. A lecture on Physical Education, from his pen, will shortly be reprinted in the *Journal de l'Instruction Publique*.

—It is with pain that we have to record the death of the Hon. Mr. Justice Morin, which occurred on the 27th July, at St. Adèle, county of Terrebonne.

Augustin Norbert Morin was born on the 12th October, 1803, at St. Michel de Bellechasse, and had therefore attained his 62nd year when he died. Born of an honest and pious family who cultivated the soil, he gave at an early age, unmistakable signs of talent and of a happy disposition.

Having completed his studies at the Seminary of Quebec, where he won many honors, he hesitated for a time between the church and the bar, but finally decided in favor of the latter. He studied law under the late Hon. D. B. Viger, and was admitted to practice in 1828. Three years before, he had published a *Letter* in pamphlet form addressed to Mr. Justice Bowen and defending the use of the French language in the courts of Justice. He also founded the *Minerve* newspaper about this time, and was its first editor. In 1830 he was elected a member of Parliament for the County of Bellechasse. Four years later, he, together with the Hon. L. J. Papineau, drafted the manifest known as the 92 Resolutions, and was delegated to England with an address founded thereon and exposing the grievances of Lower Canada. His mission failed, however, and he returned to Canada with Mr. Viger, determined upon resistance. A schism having taken place in the ranks of the liberal party in 1836, Mr. Morin went to Quebec to marshal those who still adhered to Mr. Papineau. In the following year, on the dispersion of the insurgents, he was forced to fly, but after remaining in concealment a few months he delivered himself up and demanded a trial, which request it was not, however, thought necessary to grant, and subsequently having been set at liberty, he was among the first representatives returned to Parliament after the Union. He was soon afterwards made a Judge of the Circuit Court, but resigned this office in the following year to enter the Baldwin-Lafontaine Cabinet as Commissioner of Crown Lands. In the elections which followed the resignation of that Ministry, he had the honor of being returned simultaneously for two counties, and on the opening of Parliament in 1841 was the opposition candidate for the Speakership of the House of Assembly. Resisting every offer that was made to detach him from his party, he steadily declined to essay the formation of a coalition. On the success of Messrs. Lafontaine and Baldwin in 1848, he was elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, which position he held up to 1851, when the Hincks-Morin Ministry came into existence. In this cabinet Mr. Morin was, at first, Provincial Secretary and afterwards Commissioner of Crown Lands. Having, in 1854, lost his election in Terrebonne, he was immediately returned for the County of Chicoutimi, but the Cabinet of which he formed part was soon compelled to resign, having encountered two adverse votes. In forming a new ministry Sir Allan MacNab at once applied to Mr. Morin, who according to his request, became a member of the coalition,—a position he resigned in the month of January following, to accept of a Judgeship in the Superior Court. Four years later he was appointed on the commission for the codification of the laws,—a great work, presenting formidable difficulties and involving immense labor, which he lived to see completed.

—The late Hon. Georges René Saveuse de Beaujeu, whose funeral took place on the same day as that of the late Premier, was born in 1810. The death of the late Count de Beaujeu a few years ago in France had left him heir to the title. Mr. de Beaujeu was appointed Legislative Councillor in 1848. Well read in Canadian history, he had long been engaged in making researches into historical and genealogical subjects, and was one of the most active members of the Historical Society of Montreal, having collected a great number of valuable works and documents bearing on American history. He died at the age of 55, and leaves a wife and several children to mourn his loss.

—Mrs. Sigourney is dead. She died at 10 o'clock this morning, June 10, after a lingering decay. We believe there was no particular disease, aside from the failing powers of old age. She grew very thin, and wasted away. Her death, like her life and character, was marked by a quiet peace and a clear Christian trust. Lydia Huntley Sigourney was born at Norwich on the 1st of September, 1781, and was, consequently, in her seventy-fourth year. During the quarter of a century ending, perhaps somewhere about 1850, her name was more widely known in either hemisphere than that of any other American authoress. Latterly her poetry has given place in most libraries to that of a more modern and varied school, though it will never be wholly superseded. She was early addicted to verse making, possessed a temperament which, while it never marred her sound and solid health, was, nevertheless, keenly susceptible to the varied beauties and subtle influences of nature. She removed to this city in 1814, where she opened a select school for young ladies, and where her poetical talent and many lady-like and Christian graces soon attracted the notice and engaged the personal interest of the late Daniel Wadsworth, a gentleman whose artistic and literary taste was fortunately equalled by his pecuniary means; and he was the means of introducing her to the public, in a volume of "Moral Pieces in Prose and Verse." In 1819 Miss Huntley became the second wife of Charles Sigourney, a well-known merchant of this city; and since that time she, while engaged in the domestic cares of rearing a family of children, found time to contribute largely to the serious literature of the country, both in prose and verse. Her published works, in all, number nearly fifty volumes. Her prose is marked by vigor, beauty, and good sense, and, like her poetry, is full of