

present system was formed in 1835, when the school system was entirely revised, and a state superintendent was appointed. whose term of office was three years. There are now from twenty to thirty colleges in operation, many of which are respectably endowed and provided with suitable buildings, and managed by able faculties. Within nine or twenty years past, nearly a million of dollars have been received or pledged for the endowment of colleges, more than three-fourths of which have probably been subscribed in Ohio. Fifty or more academies, or seminaries are in active operation, and fifteen or twenty female seminaries.

The common schools have been regularly and gradually improving since '38. Union schools are just coming into vogue, salaries of teachers rising, and the cause of education is now moving on with an impetus heretofore unknown.

Mr. Potter said that the most important occurrence, educationally, in Rhode Island was the revival of the school law. Each district has the power to vote a free school. In most parts of the state this plan is adopted.

Mr. Wharton, of Philadelphia, said that the most important improvement in the Philadelphia schools was that an evening school was taught in which the vagrant class that have no home, but spend their evenings in the street, are brought and educated. Another class that were pupils in this school were those who were industrious and virtuous, who spent the day in earning a subsistence, while in the evening they came to get food for the mind. He thought such a system should be adopted in every state.

Mr. Barnard, of Conn., said the colleges of Connecticut were never in a more prosperous condition than at present. The free school system was the same there as in Rhode Island. There was one normal school in the state, which was endowed by the inhabitants of the town of Britain with twenty thousand dollars. "Teachers' institutes" had been held in different parts of the state, and would be held this fall.

Mr. Thayer, of Boston, said that in Boston there was a board of education, and it had the Governor of the state at its head. There was a normal school in Boston, which was endowed with some eight thousand dollars. In Boston, there was a city superintendent whose salary was \$2,500. He said there were now twenty grammar schools in the city; the salary of each of the teachers of these schools was \$2,400.

Mr. Mahew, of Michigan, said that the schools in that state were not free, but they soon would be, for in the new constitution it is provided that within five years free schools shall be established.

Mr. Boukley, of Albany, said the convention were probably as well aware of the free school system of New York as himself. He said that the law at first was passed in an unlimited manner, that it was now modified, but the friends of education were making great efforts to have the law re-passed. Teachers' institutes did not succeed well in that state. The reason of it was that educators did not enter into the cause with spirit enough. He thought institutes might be supported in New York as well as in Ohio if the teachers would only wake up.

Mr. Read, of Indiana, said the state of education in his state was a deplorable one. The Legislature had given to each county a right to vote for free schools; about three-fourths of the state had adopted the free school system. Teachers' institutes had been held in one or two counties, and more would be held in that state this fall.

The Association have resolved to make Newark, N. J., their place of meeting on the second Tuesday of August, 1852. Bishop Porter was re-elected president of the Association, and Mr. TRAYER, of Boston, was chosen chairman of the standing committee.

THE INDIANS OF THE SOUTH WEST.—A chapter of reminiscences published in the New Orleans *Picayune*, gives the following sketch of the Indian tribes of that vicinity, at the time of the settlement of Louisiana:—

Louisiana contained many Indian tribes. The first settlement of the French was at Fort St. Louis, on the river Mobile. The original name was Mouvill, and it was turned by the French into Mobile. North of this was the Texas tribe.

The most eastern nation in Louisiana, was the Alapaches, who inhabited near the mountains which took their name. To the north of the Alapaches were the Alebamas, and to the north of these were the Abeikas and Conchas. To the east of the Abeikas, and very near the Appalachian mountains, were the Cherokees. All of these tribes were united to protect themselves from the troops, or the Five Nations of the north.

West from Mobile the first nation was the Paen Ogoula, which signifies nation of bread. North of this nation was the Chalkas, or Flat Heads, that had twenty thousand warriors. The Chickasaws, a very warlike people, were distant from the Chalkas about one hundred and eighty miles. Many of the other tribes spoke the Chickasaw language.

On the Bayou St. John, there was a small nation called Agueloennes, which signifies men who bear and see.

The first nation above New Orleans, on the river, was the Oumas, which signifies red nation. The Texas were above Red River.

But, perhaps, the most remarkable of all these tribes, was the Natchez. They had temples in which the celestial fire was constantly kept. They worshipped a fire spirit, and retained something of the Moenic account of the creation of the race. This nation was very badly treated by the French. The first war with them was in 1723. An old warrior was shot by a soldier, under aggravating circumstances, and they took satisfaction. The war was over in a few days, and a treaty of peace was

made. In 1731, during the coldest winter known in the south, Gov. Bienville went up with a force and attacked without just cause and without notice.

In December, 1729, the Natchez massacred all the French in the neighbourhood of Fort Rosalie. The commandant had demanded of them to give up their lands and to abandon to the French their villages. They finally consented to submit, and gave up all the land, and the title of a tribute for the delay. In the meantime they entered into an extended plot with all the neighbouring tribes to rise and kill all the French on a given day. The day was to be designated by bundles of rods, from which one was to be drawn every day by one of each tribe.

A woman of the Natchez tribe discovered the plan, and drew rods from the bundles. She then saved the lives of the French at the other place. The Great Sun and the Strong Herpet, with their warriors, accomplished fully their fatal work at Natchez, and the other tribes became much offended with them, for taking the start in violation of the compact between them. This led to the examination of the Natchez tribe. In 1730 the West India Company gave up their possessions, and the King of France was enabled by the King as Governor, with the rank of Lieutenant General, Claudefleur's beautiful romance, "Atala," was suggested by these wars of the Natchez. In that story he retained the original name of the Mississippi, which was Meach-Chippiqui—signified, literally, the Ancient Father of Rivers. The French corrupted Meach-Chippiqui into the name it has ever since borne.

LAMARTINE'S OPINION OF NAPOLEON.

In Lamartine's new work on the Restoration he portrays the Emperor Napoleon, as, perhaps, never Frenchmen before has depicted that extraordinary man, at one time so emphatically and literally the *idol* of the whole people of France:—

What Napoleon was for FRANCE AND FOR HUMANITY.—He left freedom chained, equality compromised by posthumous institutions, feudalism parcelled out, without power to exist, human conscience re-echoed, prejudice entrenched, the human mind diminished, instruction materialized and concentrated in the pure sciences alone, schools converted into barracks, literature degraded by censorship, or humbled by baseness, national representation perverted, election abolished, the arts enervated, commerce destroyed, credit annihilated, nation oppressed, international hatred revived, the people oppressed, or enrolled in the army paying in blood or taxes the ambition of an unequalled soldier, but covering with the great name of France the contradictions of the age, the miseries and degradation of the country. This is the founder! This is the man! Napoleon instead of a revolution!—a man instead of an epoch!—a man instead of a country!—a man instead of a nation!—No glory after him—nothing around him, but his shadow, making sterile the nineteenth century, absorbed and concentrated in himself alone. Personal glory will be always spoken of as characterizing the age of Napoleon: but it will never merit the praise bestowed upon that of Augustus, of Charlemagne, and of Louis the XIV. There is no age where there is only a name—and this name signifies not his humanity but his glory.

False in institutions, for he retrograded—false in his policy, for he debased—false in his morals, for he corrupted—false in civilization, for he oppressed—false in diplomacy, for he isolated—he was only true in war! for he shed torrents of human blood. But what can we then allow him in? His intelligence was vast and clear; but it was the genius of materialism.—He counted, he weighed, he measured; but he felt it not; he loved not; he sympathized with none; he was a statue rather than a man. Therein lay his inferiority to Alexander and to Cæsar; he resembled more the Hannibal of the Aristocracy. Few men have been thus moulded and moulded cold. All was solid, nothing gushed forth, in that mind nothing was moved. His mental force was his strength, in his style. He was, perhaps, the greatest writer of human events since Machiavelli. Much superior to Cæsar in the account of his campaigns, his style is not the written expression alone, it is the action. Every sentence in his pages is, so to speak, the counter-part and counter-impression of the fact. There is neither a letter, a sound, nor a colour wasted between the fact and the word, and the word and the fact. His phrases conceive, but strike off with ornament, recall those times when Boissier and Charlemagne, not knowing how to write their names at the bottom of their imperial acts, dipped their hands in ink and blood, and applied them. With all their articulations impressed upon the parchment. It was not the signature; it was the hand itself of the hero thus fixed eternally before the eyes; and over his pages his campaigns dictated by Napoleon—the very soul of movement, of action, and of combat.

This fame, which constituted his morality, his conscience, and his principle, he merited by his nature and his talents, from war and from glory, and he has covered with it the name of France. France, obliged to accept the odium of his tyranny and his crimes, should also accept his glory, for a serious gratitude. She cannot separate her name from his, without lessening it, for it is equally increased with his greatness and his faults. She wished for renown and he has given it to her; but what she principally owes to him is the celebrity she has gained in the world.

HIS PORTRAIT IN 1814.—The empire had made him old before his time. Gratiated ambition, satiated pride, the delights of a palace, a luxurious table, a voluptuous couch, youthful wives, complaisant mistresses, long nights, sleepless nights, divided between labour and festive pleasure, the habit of constant riding, which made him corpulent—all tended to deaden