

year 1858 of 3112. Grants amounting to £7345 towards the erection of 44 ordinary national school-houses, not yet opened, which will contain in the whole 59 separate schoolrooms, have been made. In addition to the ordinary national schools not yet built, there are also in course of erection three model school-houses of various kinds, containing in the whole 23 school-rooms. When these 52 buildings shall have been completed they will afford accommodation to 7745 additional children. The report shows the religious professions of the pupils (or their parents) and the teachers. At the close of the year there were 478,802 Roman Catholic pupils, or 83.9 per cent. of the whole number; 29,105, or 5.1 per cent., belonging to the Established Church; 59,873, or 10.5, were Presbyterians; 2508, or 0.44 per cent., were of "other Dissenters;" and there were 263 whose professions were not ascertained. Compared with 1852 these returns show an increase of 4421 pupils of the Established Church; 54,085 Roman Catholics, 19,155 Presbyterians; and 600 other Dissenters.

SCOTCH WIT AND HUMOR.—A young man sitting opposite to a minister in the front of the gallery had been up late on the previous night, and had stuffed the cards with which he had been occupied into his coat pocket. Forgetting the circumstances, he pulled out his handkerchief and the cards all flew about. The minister simply looked at him and remarked—"Eh man, your psahn buik has been ill bund."

THE STUDY OF SCIENCE.—Science is worthy of study by all men, because it is so intimately associated with all the pursuits of life. The whole animate and inanimate creation is embraced within its folds. It affords ample scope for the exercise of the most comprehensive and refined intellects, as well as those of humble and moderate pretensions. The mechanic and chemist, the poet and scholar, the manufacturer and merchant, can find in the pursuit of science, a boundless source of pleasure and profit.

GOOD WORKS will never save you, but you can never be saved without them.

Christian Observer of Public Events.

INQUISITION AT ROME.

Near the Vatican Square, between the Church of St. Peter and the Castle of Sant' Angelo, extends a street which bears a melancholy name,—“The Street of the Inquisition.” There the tribunal resides which makes the altar a stepping-stone to the prison. In that street multitudes of persons crowded in March and April, 1849, and passed through the spacious edifice to which it leads, uttering imprecations and maledictions as they returned, then silently dispersed to their homes, with indignation, fear, and horror contending in their breasts.

On the 4th of April, 1849, the Government of the Republic, moved by a sentiment of justice and Christian compassion, having established, on the ruins of papal tyranny, the legitimate reign of brotherly equality, decreed that the houses of the Holy Office

should become the habitations of poor families, who had only miserable dwellings, in unhealthy and confined quarters of Rome. They intended thus to cancel, on a republican plan, the remains of ancient tyranny, by consecrating to beneficence what papal cruelty had devoted to torture. Consequently the Holy Office, which for three centuries had been closed, except to victims of suspicion and the martyrs of liberty and conscience, whom it buried in prisons or gave to the flames, was thrown open to the people. The people can reason clearly; and in those religious prisons they better understood the necessity of rejecting the shepherd who bears a sword instead of a crook, and more admired and loved the gentle doctrine of the Nazarene, while shuddering at the tortures inflicted in his name.

And what awful scenes did history bring to mind to those who passed