

the Episcopal Bench. She has 70 foundation, and 16 non-foundation scholarships, 30 sizarships, 14 studentships, and 117 permanent exhibitions, amounting to £2,000 per annum, of which only studentships, sizarships, and non-foundationships are available for Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and other Dissenters. Yet only 16 students out of 4,000,000 Roman Catholics, and only 12 out of half a million of Presbyterians, are found among her *alumni*. A corporation so circumstanced should be slow to encourage an agitation against the Government because its extension of academic education to the mass of the middle classes, including the members of the Established Church itself, who form one third of the students of the Queen's University."—We believe we are right in saying, that the revenues of Trinity and St. John's alone at Cambridge, amount to very nearly as much as the income of the Irish University.—*Educational Times*.

— ROMAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, DUBLIN.—The liberal aid offered to the Queen's Colleges by Sir Robert Peel has stimulated the zeal of a Roman Catholic gentleman in Dublin, who has given £100 a year for the next ten years for five scholarships in the Catholic University. Dr. Woodlock, the rector, in acknowledging the gift, expresses a hope that others will follow the example thus set.

COLONIAL.

— THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK, established under an Act which received Her Majesty's assent in January, 1860, is now in successful operation. The University is under the Government of a Senate, appointed by the Governor in Council, and comprises what was formerly known as King's College, but now absorbed into the New University. The *Endæmia*, or festival in honour of the founders and benefactors of the University, was celebrated in June last, in presence of the Governor and the various Colonial authorities.

IX Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

— THE ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.—The correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Naples on December 24, says:—"Since Sunday morning Vesuvius has been in a state of more violent eruption than ever. It was about noon, or a short time before, that we saw the cloud of smoke and ashes rise higher and higher; and though at Naples we perceived no other indication of its increased activity, at Torre de li'Annunziata there was a violent shock of earthquake, which spread consternation among the people. Those who were in church rushed out, many losing their prayer-books, and one lady, as I am informed, being crushed to death. Towards evening the eruption had attained gigantic proportions, and yesterday morning when we rose, the mountain, sky and bay were completely enveloped in a cloud of smoke. A north-east wind, accompanied with a slight drizzle at intervals, brought over the city a shower of sand, which splashed against our windows and covered our streets; and, when the drizzle had ceased, the ashes fell, on our coats, and penetrated into our houses, sensibly affecting the eyes. You may judge of the quantity of ashes that were thrown out when I tell you that the Exmouth, which lies about a quarter of a mile out, was covered with a coat of wet ashes and that the officer on guard during the night was compelled to take shelter under the poop. It was my intention to go over to Torre yesterday evening, but I do so before I despatch my letter, and if so, I will send you fresh details. At this distance everything is wrapped in a cloud of mystery, but it is pretty evident that another large crater has been formed at the foot of the old crater, and to the right of the Hermitage. The necessities of the people are very great, but funds are coming in, and the authorities are indefatigable in relieving suffering and in providing work for the thousands who are thrown out of employment. I cannot but contrast the honest administration of the supplies on this occasion with the peculation which was practiced on the occasion of the great earthquake in Potenza. Nearly a million of ducats were collected at that time, of which a third was devoted to the restoration of the churches, a third was given to the religious houses, and that the other third was swallowed up by God knows whom—certainly the sufferers did not get it.

— PRINCE NAPOLEON'S LIBRARY DONATIONS.—A late number of the Quebec *Canadien*, states, on the authority of a Paris letter, that Prince Napoleon has selected a number of very rare and interesting works, in all

some thirty-four volumes, intended as a donation to the Parliamentary Library of Canada, and to be forwarded shortly. The collection is said to include a copy of the "Correspondence of Napoleon the First," published by order of the Emperor. The President of the Canadian Institute of Montreal, has also received, through the medium of Baron Gau'dle-Boilleau, French Consul at this port, a case containing one hundred and fifty-six volumes of rare and interesting works, being a present from His Imperial Highness, Prince Napoleon, to the Institute.

— THE PRINCE IMPERIAL OF FRANCE, though only five years and a half old, already speaks three foreign languages—English, German, and Italian. M. Thiers has been spoken of as one of the future schoolmasters of the Prince.

— FRENCH COMMERCIAL DICTIONARY.—A valuable work has been brought to a conclusion in Paris. It is entitled "A Universal Dictionary of Commerce and Navigation."

— A STATUE OF ESCULAPIUS has been unearthed near Tivoli. It is said to be a master piece of sculpture, and when discovered, only an arm was wanting, and this limb was subsequently found.

LONDON PNEUMATIC DESPATCH COMPANY.—Some experiments on a rather large scale have been made on the right bank of the Thames and immediately below the railway-bridge, Battersea, with a view to testing the efficiency of the novel mode of transmitting goods and parcels proposed by the Pneumatic Despatch Company. The mechanical arrangements in connection with the experimental line of cast-iron tubing—which, like a huge black snake, stretches for more than a quarter of a mile along the river side—are few and simple.

— ELECTRIC CABLE BETWEEN AFRICA AND EUROPE.—The submersion of the cable between Africa and France has solved the question as to the great obstacle to be met in this kind of enterprise, and has set the scientific world at work in the research of means to overcome it. This obstacle resides in the weight of the cable, and its want of elasticity. It has been ascertained that at the depth of between two and three thousand yards the wires would break by their own weight. If to this we add the tossing and pulling produced by the motion of the ship on the sea, we must come to the conclusion that a far lesser depth can cause the rupture of the cable, and defeat in a second the whole operations. The French have been obliged to struggle at their own expense against these obstacles, and it is but by dint of repeated attempts that they have succeeded. Three expeditions were sent, one after the other; the first two were unsuccessful, and lost two cables. The third succeeded; but only by giving up the original line and by making an angle westward, in the direction of Spain, so as to avoid too great depths. Formerly, the line was direct from Toulon to Algiers—about six hundred miles—through the Balearic Islands; now, the cable runs from Toulon to Port Vendres, in the Pyrennees, thence to Mahon, and from Mahon to Algiers. The English and French *savans* are busy in finding a kind of cable uniting lightness to flexibility. Mr. Bovett, a Captain of the English navy, has imagined a very light cable, covered with hemp, and Dr. Evans, a well known American, residing in France, has added to it so many improvements that they may, in themselves, be looked upon as inventions. These labors having been accomplished since the laying of the cable between Africa and Europe by the French, it is hoped that future undertakings of the kind will not have to pass through the same experiments and trials.—*New York Times*.

— THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.—The experiments with the electric light which have now been made for a long time past at the Palais Royal, Paris are still continued every evening with increasing success. Lately, instead of two burners fed by divided currents from the magneto-electric machine, one burner, fed by a single current, has been used. It is raised sixteen metres, and illuminates, as with the light of the full moon, the whole square in front of the Palais Royal and the two Rue St. Honoré. Two Hyperbolic reflectors—one above the light, the other below—increase and diffuse the light. By certain improvements in the prisms or cylinders, of artificial carbon, which are used in the production of light, U. Curmer is now able to make electric lamps which will burn five or six hours without requiring any attention. The lamp of M. Serrin, placed before the house of Prince Eugène, also burns brilliantly. M. Serrin has succeeded lately in causing his lamp to burn under water almost as well as in the atmosphere. Thus we may now light the bottoms of rivers, or of the sea, or the bottom of floating vessels, sunken wrecks, the foundations of piers and other submarine structures. It is expected that we shall soon be able to apply this method of illumination in our lighthouses, ships, and generally