

on entering his carriage, the pupils, numbering upwards of 1,400, assembled on the lawn, and "made the welkin ring" with their hearty and continued cheers.

### IX. Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

— THE RAILWAY AND STEAMBOAT ROUTES IN CANADA.—JOHN LOVELL, MONTREAL.—Mr. Lovell has conferred a public benefit by the publication of this work, the preparation of which must have cost him immense labor and expense. The explanation of routes is very full, and the information given with regard to the best methods of reaching different parts of the country is invaluable. The work contains an excellent map of Canada, and the "Canadian Time Indicator," showing by a number of dials the difference of time between Montreal and other parts of Canada, and New York, Portland, Boston and Buffalo, is worth itself the price of the book. It ought to sell extensively.—*Peterboro' Review*.

— THE TORONTO CRYSTAL PALACE.—From the *Leader* we learn that the foundation stone of the building intended for the purpose of the Provincial Agricultural Association was laid by the Hon. Mr. Vankoughnet, Minister of Agriculture. Long before the time had arrived at which the stone was to be laid, the building—which is partly erected—was covered with human beings, and every conceivable space about the stone occupied. The Royal Canadian Band played during the intervals. The body of the building itself is to be composed of cast-iron pillars, and obscured glass; and the roof is to be covered with tin. It will cover an area of ground of 256 feet in length. Its extreme width will be 144, which includes an entrance on the Southern front of 32 feet by 16. On looking at the building from the side it presents an appearance very similar to the Sydenham Crystal Palace—the main portion of the structure having a covered roof, and the centre presenting an appearance somewhat like the main transept of the great Exhibition. When constructed, so far as we can now judge, it will be a handsome building, and one well adapted for the object for which it is intended. At present the greater portion of the pillars are erected, and the main part of the Western section covered with wood prior to being tinned. The castings are by Wm. Hamilton & Son of Toronto. About six o'clock, every thing being ready for laying the stone, Colonel Thompson, President of the Board of Agriculture, called on the Mayor to address the meeting.

— THE COLOSSAL CHURCH IN ST. PETERSBURGH.—A German letter, from St. Petersburg, June 16th, gives some items of interest respecting the monster church, which has just been dedicated at Saint Petersburg: The writer says, "An immense concourse of people continued to visit the Place of St. Isaac, notwithstanding that the dedication ceremonies were concluded, and the Imperial family had repaired to the summer palace. Crowds still passed into the building to feast their eyes upon the splendours of the great oriental cathedral, composed as it is, of granite, marble, iron, malachite, alabaster, and lapis-lazuli, of bronze, and silver and gold,—wood having been altogether excluded from the building, except in some of the doors. The lightning rods are made of platina; while the great dome and the five crosses, visible at a distance of forty versts, are plated with 274 pounds of gold. The interior area is 60,000 square feet. The entire structure as it stands, including the 112 gigantic pillars with Corinthian capitals, the dome, and the immense bell of 75,000 weight—with all its interior splendors of porphyry, of Carrabrian marble and gold, the "Inconostase," with its gilt decorations, and the works of art in painting and sculpture—represents an expended capital of nearly ninety million thalers (nearly \$60,000,000). The granite monoliths, measuring 55 feet in height, and 7 feet diameter at the base, cost each 12,000 thalers; 400,000 thalers were expended on gold ornamentation. There is no organ, as the Greek Church allows no instrumental music of any kind, and likewise interdicts female voices in the house of God; (the bells, too, must only be sounded by striking, not by ringing); at the dedication, however, four principal voices were each represented by 250 male singers, and the grand choral resounded through the vast building like the swelling notes of a monstrous organ."

### X. Departmental Notices.

#### PRIZES IN SCHOOLS.

The Chief Superintendent will grant one hundred per cent. upon all sums not less than five dollars transmitted to him by

Municipalities or Boards of School Trustees for the purchase of books or reward cards for distribution as prizes in Grammar and Common Schools.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

"Township and County Libraries are becoming the crown and glory of the Institutions of the Province."—*Lord Elgin at the Upper Canada Provincial Exhibition, September, 1854.*

The Chief Superintendent of Education is prepared to apportion *one hundred per cent.* upon all sums which shall be raised from local sources by Municipal Councils and School Corporations, for the establishment or increase of Public Libraries in Upper Canada, under the regulations provided according to law. Remittances must not be in less sums than five dollars.

#### SCHOOL MAPS AND APPARATUS.

The Chief Superintendent will add 100 per cent. to any sum or sums, not less than five dollars, transmitted to the Department from Grammar and Common Schools; and forward Maps, Apparatus, Charts, and Diagrams to the value of the amount thus augmented, upon receiving a list of the articles required by the Trustees. In all cases it will be necessary for any person, acting on behalf of the Trustees, to enclose or present a written authority to do so, verified by the corporate seal of the Trustees. A selection of articles to be sent can always be made by the Department, when so desired.

#### PENSIONS—SPECIAL NOTICE TO TEACHERS.

Public notice is hereby given to all Teachers of Common Schools in Upper Canada, who may wish to avail themselves at any future time of the advantages of the Superannuated Common-School Teachers' Fund, that it will be necessary for them to transmit to the Chief Superintendent, without delay, if they have not already done so, their annual subscription of \$4, commencing with 1854. The law authorizing the establishment of this fund provides, "that no teacher shall be entitled to share in the said fund who shall not contribute to such fund at least at the rate of one pound per annum."

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