

States, and the efforts of her lettered men, in establishing a reputation for their country.

#### SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, IN THE UNITED STATES.

The federal government have granted over forty-eight millions of land for school purposes, and over four millions for universities. Maine has a larger proportion of scholars at school than any other State or country in the world. Denmark exceeds the United States; the United States exceeds all other countries even including the slaves.—*Washington Commonwealth.*

#### COMMON SCHOOLS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Among the important official reports which have recently been laid before the Legislature is that of the superintendent of common schools of this state for the past year. The last twelve months have exhibited nothing to change the convictions previously entertained, of the flourishing condition of the common school system of Pennsylvania; but much to strengthen confidence in its early and certain success. The Superintendent remarks that the great scarcity of well qualified teachers is still a source of complaint in almost every county of the Commonwealth. It is an evil that lies at the very root of the system, and until it is entirely removed the schools cannot attain a permanently flourishing condition. Much has been done during the past Summer by means of teachers' institutes and kindred associations to infuse a proper spirit of emulation among teachers, and the examinations by the county superintendents have, doubtless, contributed to the same result. But the state superintendent holds that the only practical remedy, under present circumstances, is to increase the salaries of teachers; thereby holding out to persons properly qualified, the inducement of a comparatively adequate compensation. The whole number of districts is 1,581 schools 9,507; average number of months taught 5; male teachers 7,590; female teachers 3,640; average salaries of males per month, \$19.25; average salaries of females \$12.08; male scholars 260,269; female scholars 214,286; number learning German 11,121; average number of scholars in each school 42; cost of teaching each scholar per month 43 cents.—*Correspondence N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.*

#### EDUCATION IN MISSOURI.

The abstract of the annual report of the superintendent of common schools shows that within the sixty-five counties included in his report there are about 200,000 children between five and twenty years of age; of this number 67,000 were taught within the past year, at an aggregate cost of \$240,000; the average number, however, attending school the whole time being only 20,000. In St. Louis county particularly, the whole number taught the past year was 8,500, but the average attendance during the whole term was only 865. The superintendent looking at the general result, finds nothing therein "very gratifying to the friends of education." The report draws a sad picture of the "district school-houses," describing them as "ten by twelve log-cabins, with one oblong window; low, dismal, dreary things, the very appearance of which is sufficient to produce fever and ague."

#### THE NEW WINTHROP SCHOOL, BOSTON.

The old Winthrop and Johnsons schools in Boston having been merged into one, it was determined that a new and superior school "to bear the honored name of Winthrop" should be erected. This having been done, the new edifice was "dedicated" early this month. Among the speakers present was the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, a lineal descendent of the famous Ex-Governor of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay. After making some eloquent remarks appropriate to the occasion he remarked: I am sure that I need feel no delicacy in speaking of the distinguished person in whose honor the school has been primarily named. Five entire generations have now intervened between him and myself. More than two hundred years have passed away since he was laid beneath the sod in what is now King's Chapel Burying Ground. Within a few feet of the City Hall, where an humble tomb-stone may be seen bearing the inscription "John Winthrop, 1649." Coming over here in 1830, as the leader and Governor of the Massachusetts Company, with their charter in his hand, he was identified, perhaps beyond all other men, at once with the foundation of our Commonwealth and of our city. And there is not a page in our colonial records, or of our town records, during the nineteen years of his living here, which does not bear testimony to his labors and zeal for the public service. The very first entry in the records of Boston, if I mistake not was in the handwriting still extant of John Winthrop. The first voluntary subscription for the support of *free schools*, in 1836, bore his name, as one of the three equal and largest contributors. The first statute for the establishment of a system of education in New England, was passed under his auspices as Governor of the Commonwealth. The neighbouring common, the pride of our city, the play place of our children, and the source of so much health

and happiness to us all, was originally laid out while he was at the head of the old town government, and by a committee of which he was chairman. The evidences of his services and of his sacrifices might be multiplied on every side. He spent his whole strength and his whole substance in the service of the infant colony, and died at last a poor man; poor in everything but that good name which is above all price. But it is not so much what he did, but what he was, that entitles him to the grateful remembrance of the sons and daughters of Boston and of Massachusetts. He was a man of the purest life, of the sternest integrity, of the loftiest moral and religious principle; and he has left an example of moderation and magnanimity, of virtue and piety, second to none which can be found in the annals of our country. I know not how, Mr. Mayor, I can do anything more appropriate to this occasion, or furnish any more striking illustrations of the principles of him whose name has been inscribed upon these walls, than to read you a few brief sentences from one of his own letters. The letter is dated on the 16th of October, 1622, and was addressed to his eldest son, then a lad of 16 years old, who was pursuing his studies at Trinity College Dublin. "*My dearly beloved Son* :—I do usually begin and end my letters with that which I would have the *alpha* and *omega* of all thy thoughts and endeavours, viz., the blessing of the Almighty be upon thee,—not after the common valuation of God's blessings, like the warming of the sun to a hale, stirring body,—but that blessing which faith finds in the sweet promises of God and his free favor, whereby the soul hath a place of joy and refuge in all storms of adversity. I beseech the Lord to open thine eyes, that thou mayest see the riches of his grace, which will abate the account of all earthly vanities; and if it please Him to give thee once a taste of the sweetness of true wisdom, which is from above, it will season thy studies and give a new temper to thy soul. Remember therefore, what the wisest saith, the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Lay this foundation and thou shalt be wise indeed. Such was the career and such the character of Governor Winthrop, and I need add nothing more, I am persuaded, to show that his name is worthy of being given to your school. The building thus inaugurated is of brick, four stories in height, and is designed to seat 929 pupils. There will be 14 female teachers, besides a teacher of music, a teacher of sewing, and a head master. The entire cost of the school and site is estimated at \$89,000.

### Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

#### MONTHLY SUMMARY.

We understand that sixteen or seventeen Essays have been presented to the Executive Committee for the Paris Exhibition, by candidates for the prize offered. Some of them are said to be the productions of the finest minds of Canada. The appointment of properly qualified persons to adjudicate on the respective merits of the competitors, is a work of delicacy. We hear that the judges are, the Hon. Mr. Morin, Messrs. Robert Christie, Langton, J. H. Cameron, Holton, and E. Parent. . . . The decision of the great literary prizes, founded by Burnett,—one of £1,800, and another of £600—to the authors of the two best treatises on "The Being and Attributes of God," has just been announced. The successful competitors were found to be—for the first prize, the Rev. Robert Anchor Thompson, A.M. Louth, Lincolnshire; and for the second, the Rev. John Tulloch, manse of Kettins. Cupar Angus, Principal of St. Mary's College, St. Andrews, Scotland. There were 208 treatises lodged. The judges were Professors Baden Powell, Henry Rodgers, and Mr. Isaac Taylor. They were unanimous in their judgment. . . . The library of 1,100 volumes used by Napoleon at Elba is still preserved on that Island. Many of the works contain notes in the Emperor's own hand. . . . Great Britain has 5,444 artists, 524 authors, 1,320 editors, and 207 reporters. . . . The taking of the last English census involved the recording of one hundred millions of facts. . . . M. Ede St. Maurice Cabany, who has made the alleged discovery of a romance, said to have been written by Sir Walter Scott while in Paris, says:—"On the 26th November, 1854, I published an account of the extraordinary manner in which the MSS. of the tale or romance, in three volumes, entitled 'Moredun: a Tale of the 1210,' came into my hands, accompanied by a letter of most singular interest. The MSS. and the letter I placed in my bureau, and I invited all whom the discovery interested to come and inspect them, and to judge for themselves of the grounds on which I founded the opinion, which I still entertain more strongly than ever, that Sir Walter Scott alone could have been the author of the romance. Three copies of the letter, addressed by Sir Walter to the German to whom he gave the MSS. are being accurately traced—one for the British Museum, one for the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, and the third for the London publishers of the novel—as soon as the