

sections were all represented on the occasion; eight of them sent their entire schools—teachers and children—each of which provided separate tables, sumptuously spread with all the substantial and delicacies of the season. The speakers—Mr. Douglass Griffin, Revs. Messrs. Bell, Haney and Griffin, Dr. Callendar, and A. Morse, Esq.,—were generally remarkably felicitous and interesting in the speeches which they delivered. Without particularising upon the speeches, arrangement, numbers present, general appearance and order, we may just say, all things combined to render the occasion one of unusual profit and pleasure. It is worthy of remark, that there is a perfect union of feeling and operation among all the schools of the township. They appear to be carrying out, literally and energetically, the present school system of the province, and the interest displayed by the children, the rapid improvement made in the various branches of Common School education, afford a very pleasing testimony to its efficiency and adaptation to the wants of the youthful community. The superintendent, Jacob Kennedy, Esq., is unquestionably endowed with the qualifications essential to the office he is called to fill. He manifests an unusual degree of interest in the prosperity of the schools under his care, and seems fruitful in suggesting plans of operating peculiarly calculated to secure general prosperity. The want of such men is seriously felt in many parts of the country, and we have no doubt that the greatest proportion of complaints which have been urged against our school system would never had an existence if it had received, in every instance as fair a trial as it is now receiving in Gainsborough.

Malahide School Celebration.—From the letter of a school Visitor in the *Prototype*, we learn that the annual school celebration, of the township of Malahide, was held on the 25th ultimo, at the village of Aylmer, in a beautiful orchard. By ten o'clock our fine village was all alive, every street, road and avenue being crowded with persons of every age, sex and condition in life, clad in their best attire. There must have been about two thousand persons present. At half-past ten o'clock, a procession was formed, extending a mile in length; in front was the Vienna band, discoursing in sweet strains; then followed the school divisions of the township, in regular order, accompanied by their respective trustees and teachers, drawn by twenty-five four-horse carriages, each division bearing a beautiful banner, with an appropriate motto. How many two-horse and single vehicles, exclusive of the cavalcade, I could not correctly ascertain, being so attracted by the lovely banners, and endeavoring to catch a glance of their mottos, as they passed, a few of which I shall here give—Dig deep in the mines of knowledge; Knowledge is our guide; Knowledge is power; The road to eminence; We seek a treasure more precious than gold;—and all the rest equally as appropriate. The good things of this life being disposed of, the public examination of the scholars was the order of the day. Two hours being spent in this exercise, enlivened at proper intervals by the "voice of melody." Where all acquitted themselves well, it would be almost invidious to single out any one on which to bestow merit; yet, I cannot omit noticing two, the one in ancient history, the other in geography; the former taught by a young lady. The pupils of this school seemed quite at home among the kings of Israel, Assyria, Rome, &c. The latter was the Aylmer school, taught by Mr. McIntyre: they seemed to have the whole globe imprinted on their minds. How delightful to see these two branches of knowledge go hand in hand, in close alliance with each other. An acquaintance with the surface of the globe is the preface to the study of human nature, manners, and institutions which have figured upon it—the empire of the one being place; that of the other, time—the one fixing the scene, the other delineating the events which have marked the progress of mankind. The great statesman, Burke, says, "Geography, though an earthly subject, is a heavenly study:" and, says another, "He that knows, history adds the experience of former ages to his own: he lives the life of the world." Especially, he learns the origin and character of his country's laws and institutions, the sources of its prosperity, and therefore the means and duties required for the advancement of its interests. Lord Bacon has therefore appropriately said, "Histories make men wise:" and, in accordance with the mottos of the children's banners, "Knowledge is power, and the sure way to eminence." From the specimens of vocal music, given by Mr. McIntyre's children, one cannot but rejoice that it is being introduced into the elementary instruction of our entire country population. Music, it must be remembered, is one of the fine arts: "It therefore deals with abstract beauty," from finite to infinite, and from the world of matter to the world of spirits, and to God. A few nice little pieces were spoken by the children on Sabbath-breaking, innocence, politeness, temperance, and a visit to the tavern. Thus ended this part of the exercises. Two or three gentlemen had been engaged to deliver addresses, but, from the lateness of the hour, and the impossibility of being heard by more than one-half of the vast assemblage, it was found inconvenient to fulfil this part of the engagement, and, at the request of the committee, the Rev. Mr. Kennedy gave an address of about fifteen or twenty minutes' length, at the close of which a general procession of the children through the village closed the scenes of the day, to be remembered with pleasure by the children and their

parents, till the next returning anniversary. I was proud to see such an excellent staff of teachers—young ladies and gentlemen, of intelligence and moral worth. Under such tuition, and with such facilities for the improvement and development of mind, the rising generation must be far in advance of the present in intellectuality.

Barrie Grammar School.—The annual examination of the Barrie grammar school was held on the 28th and 29th of June. A number of ladies and gentlemen from the town and neighbourhood were in attendance, and took a lively interest in the proceedings. His Honor Judge Gowan, and the Rev. Thomas Lowry were present. The trustees were assisted in the examination by the Rev. Garrett Nugent, Messrs. Walker, Newman, Hopkins and Davies. Undoubtedly it speaks most favourably for the educational powers of the head-master of the school, F. Gore, Esq., and it is a gratifying fact to be able to state, that during the past year, several young men, who look forward to filling the situation of teachers of our common schools, have been in attendance at the Barrie grammar school.

Victoria College.—A note received from the Principal of Victoria College, informs us (*Christian Guardian*) that "the present session of this institution has opened under the most encouraging circumstances. About seventy students are already in attendance, and more are daily arriving. The agent, Rev. S. D. Rice has commenced his work, and we trust our friends will be prepared, by the ready purchase of scholarships, to render his agency highly successful. Persons wishing to obtain scholarships, can be accommodated by application to the agent himself, or to the Rev. S. S. Nelles, A. M., at Cobourg."

Union School Peterboro'.—From a letter from Mr. Galbraith (who has been lecturing with some success in Peterboro' on education) in the *Port Hope Watchman*, we make the following extracts:—Having last week visited the Union school of this town, I was delighted with the orderly conduct of the scholars, and the proficiency which they manifested in the various branches which they are taught. The head-master, Mr. Benson, labours hard to teach intellectually; and it must be confessed that his efforts are crowned with success. Further it appears that moral suasion is the grand instrument which he uses to secure obedience. The appeal to the higher faculties of the soul will not only strengthen their faculties themselves, but will repress the activity of the animal feelings. It is gratifying to learn that the "law of love" prevails in the Union school. I was pleased to observe that the study of physiology has been introduced. Physiology is unquestionably one of the most useful sciences. When its principles are better known we shall have less disease and misery in the world. There is no science that more beautifully displays the wisdom and benevolence of the Deity than this. The Union school, under its present management, needs only the fostering smiles of the community, to render it one of the most useful institutions of the country. A general complaint among the teachers is that the public do not appear to take much interest in the success of the school—that they seldom have visitors. This complaint, I am convinced, will not be made when the people become fully aware of the high character which the school merits in an intellectual point of view. Frequent visits from interested friends, and even from strangers, would have a tendency to encourage both the teachers and the taught.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

On the 4th ult., the annual Eton College speeches were delivered in the presence of Prince Albert, and a number of the nobility and foreign ministers. One of the lads, named Evered, boldly recited Burke's celebrated speech against taxing the American colonies. The reporter of the *London Times* says that "this, in the presence of Mr. Abbott Lawrence, had a marked effect, and was loudly applauded.".... Yesterday afternoon, June 22nd, a splendid gold salver was presented to the American Episcopalian Bishops, who are on a visit to England, by the members of the University of Oxford. Mr. Macdougall, professor of moral philosophy in New College, Edinburgh, has been elected professor of the same chair in the university, by twenty votes of the town council, against twelve given to professor Ferrier, of the University of St. Andrews. The Newdigate prize for English poetry, at Oxford, has this year been awarded to Edwin Arnold, of University College, the subject being—The Feast of Belshazzar.

Meeting of the English National School Society.—The annual meeting of the National Society was held at the Sanctuary, Westminster, this year. The Archbishop of Canterbury, (who presided,) in opening the meeting, observed that the wise and vigorous measures commenced more than twelve years ago, for promoting education, by improving the qualifications and character of the teachers, were beginning to tell upon the rising generation. A ballot for four gentlemen to serve on the Committee resulted in the election of Sir W. P. Wood, the Rev. Canon Wordsworth, the Earl of Romney, and Mr. Mathison. The Rev. J. G. Lonsdale, Secretary to the Society, then proceeded to read the report, which contained the follow-