

branches of school education, vocal music, gymnastics, drawing, agriculture, chemistry, mechanics, the English and German languages, &c., and above all, to the honour of the Government and the community be it recorded, the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures.

The "Great Exhibition at New York."—The design and plans for the projected exhibition at New York, in imitation of the recent Great Exhibition in Hyde-Park, have been presented to the committee of management by Sir Joseph Paxton, and have been sent out to America, in order to be carried into effect as quickly as possible, it being understood that the exhibition is to be opened about the middle of April next. The proposed site of the building is Madison-square, at the end of the Broadway. Its length is to be 600 feet, its width 150 feet, and its height 100 ft. The materials employed will be glass and iron, but the roof will be slate, and as it is intended to be a more lasting structure than its celebrated prototype, it will be erected on a foundation of arches. The building will be more picturesque than the original one, turrets in the Romanesque style being placed at the corners, and the ends being embellished with pediments and emblematical ornaments, the whole edifice to be surrounded with a terraced walk, illuminated with lamps. There will be no transept, but the plan is such that the building can be lengthened if more space should be required.

Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

The Canadian Institute has issued a circular transmitting papers explanatory of the objects of the Institute; a series of questions relative to the Indian remains in the form of mounds, &c., in Upper Canada; another series regarding the various kinds of lime-stone throughout the Province; and a fourth containing the prospectus of the contemplated *Canadian Journal*, the organ of the Institute. We look forward with much interest to the success of the Institute. It has long been a desideratum in Upper Canada. . . . Mr. Paul Kane, whose pictures excited so much admiration at the Provincial Fair, Brockville, last September, has nearly completed a series of beautiful paintings, on which he has been engaged for several years, illustrative of the scenery and Indian life of the great Northwest. Mr. Kane wandered for several years in that extensive region, sketching and observing as a preparation for his work, and his pictures are intended to give a complete view of the country through which he passed and of the people who inhabit it. He intends to exhibit the whole series in Canada at an early day. He also intends exhibiting them in London, but desires that ultimately they should remain in Canada, and would be willing, in order to keep them together as a series, to dispose of them to the provincial Government at a much lower price than he could get by selling them singly. It is to be hoped that the Government will see fit to purchase them as a commencement of a national picture gallery, and thereby secure them to the country, as well as gratify the patriotic desire of the talented artist. . . . The U. S. Congress have just purchased Cullen's similar celebrated collection. . . . The British Admiralty have published full directions for signal lights to be carried by all British vessels at night on the ocean, and which, being worked uniformly by a code, will render collisions nearly impossible. . . . Mr. W. Hughes, the governor of the Manchester Blind Asylum, has patented a typograph, an ingenious instrument, which will materially facilitate communication between the blind. . . . The poet Rogers has presented to the British Museum the original covenant between "John Milton, gent., and Samuel Symons, printer," for the sale of *Paradise Lost*, dated the 27th April, 1667. By the terms of the covenant, Milton was to receive five pounds after the sale of thirteen hundred copies of the first three editions. The sum actually received by Milton was eighteen pounds, for which the receipts still exist. . . . There is a plant in the island of Sumatra, the circumference of whose fully expanded flower is *nine feet*—its nectarium calculated to hold nine pints—the pistel are as large as a cow's horn, and the whole weight of the blossom is computed to be fifteen pounds! . . . John Howard Payne, U. S. Consul at Tunis, recently deceased, was the author of the celebrated song "Home, Sweet Home." In his early life he was a distinguished dramatic performer, and a man of versatile genius. He was appointed Consul in 1851, and had just established himself under his flag. The United States papers claim the honour of his birth-place for Boston. . . . The Geographical Society of London is warmly engaged in getting up a scientific exploration of the Niger and Gambia, by means of small propellers. Lieut. McLeod, of the Royal Navy, proposes to take charge of the expedition. . . . The celebrated German geographer, Karl Kitter, proposes to visit Great Britain, for the purpose of studying the physical conformation and structure of England and Wales. The veteran professor has more than once visited Great Britain, but hitherto for the purpose of studying the physical peculiarities of Scotland. He will remain with us about three months, returning to resume his winter lectures at Berlin. . . . The jet of glowing lava from the Manna

Loa Mountains (Sandwich Islands) was ascertained to be 500 feet high, and its diameter was supposed to be over 100 feet. It filled up ravines, destroyed forests, and with ruthless impetuosity was making onward to the ocean, some fifty or sixty miles distant, leaving naught but ruin and death in its train. . . . Mr. Burton, Architect, proposes to construct a tower, 1000 feet high, covering one acre of ground, from the Crystal Palace materials. . . . This would be as high as St. Peter's, St. Paul's, and the Nelson Column piled each on the other. . . . The Crystal Palace has been definitely bought by the Directors of the London and Brighton Railroad Company, who intend by the aid of a joint stock company, to re-erect it at Sydenham, about six miles from London, and open it as an Exotic Garden by the first of May next. . . . It is stated that Lord Brougham has commenced collecting materials for the purpose of building a splendid gymnasium in a suitable field at the village of Eamont-bridge, in Westmorland, a great part of which will be glass, after the fashion of the Crystal Palace. . . . The Queen has conferred the dignity of a baronetcy on (Sheriff) Archibald Alison, Esq., in consideration of the high literary attainments exhibited by him in his elaborate *History of Europe*. . . . The late W. F. Stephenson, Esq., F.R.S., has bequeathed the fourth of his personal property to the Royal Society, subject to certain present life annuities. . . . The catalogue of the Easter book-fair at Leipsic contains 4527 works as published, and 1163 to be published. This is an increase of 700 volumes compared to the Michaelmas fair, and of 300 more than the last Easter fair. The number of publishers by whom the works have been brought out is 903. One house at Vienna has produced 113, and the Messieurs Brockhaus 95. . . . There are in Russia 130 Slavonian journals and periodicals, of which nine are political and fifty-three official papers published by the various ministerial departments of the empire, six periodicals are devoted to military sciences, and there are three medical, five industrial, and twelve agricultural periodicals. The Polish journals which are published in Russia amount to the number of twenty-two.

Tomb of Napoleon.—The magnificent tomb of Napoleon, which has been for several years in course of erection at the hotel des Invalides, is progressing rapidly towards its completion. The inscription which has just been engraved in letters of gold upon his coffin, is in the following words:—

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE,

Born 15th of August, 1769.

Major of Artillery at the siege of Toulon, 1793, at twenty-four years.

Commander of Artillery in Italy, 1794, at twenty-five years.

General-in-Chief of the Army of Italy, 1797, at twenty-eight years.

He made the expedition to Egypt, in 1798, at twenty-nine.

Elected First Consul in 1799, at thirty years.

Consul for life, after battle of Marengo, in 1800.

Emperor in 1804, at the age of thirty-five.

Abdicated after Waterloo, in 1815, at forty-six years.

Died the 5th May, 1821, at fifty-two years.

Instinct of the Turtle.—It has been observed that turtles cross the ocean from the Bay of Honduras to the Cayman Isles, near Jamaica, a distance of 459 miles, with an accuracy superior to the chart and compass of human skill, for it is affirmed that vessels which have lost their latitude in hazy weather, have steered entirely by the nose of the turtles in swimming. The object of their voyage, as in the case of the migration of birds, is for the purpose of laying eggs on a spot peculiarly favourable.—[Bishop Stanley on Birds.

We have it on the authority of Mr. McLaughlin, recently returned from abroad, that there is a project on foot at Naples to extinguish the fires of Vesuvius! It is understood that the bottom of the main or grand crater is several thousand feet below the level of the sea. The plan, therefore, is to dig a large trench or canal from the sea to the crater, the expense of which will not exceed two million of dollars, and thus extinguish the fires that have been burning for thousands of years. It is said that the fine lands thus to be reclaimed will more than ten times pay the expense of executing the grand design.—[Lafayette Courier.

Curious Facts in Vegetable Physiology.—I was told in Tallahassee, Florida, that beets would not grow seed, top onions would not grow the bottoms, and black seed would not produce bulbs. Cabbage will produce seed, but that seed will not generally produce heads, but grow into long stalks with a few loose leaves at the top. I have seen such stalks six feet long. Corn from the north, though hard and flinty when planted here, grows light and chaffy. Oats grow lighter and lighter, until they run out. On the contrary, cotton, which is here a hard woody stalk, would grow more like buckwheat in New-York. The Palma Christi has been grown here for shade trees; and tobacco was found as a wild plant all over the country, when first settled by the whites. A little farther down the peninsula, sweet potatoes and arrowroot are now growing wild; and so are pumpkins, and several plants which are only grown with great care at the north. We live in a great country, as yet but little known.—[American Agriculturist.