

rules of Algebra, simple and quadratic equations. 5. Geometry, (the first four books of Euclid.) 6. Grammar. 7. History, (as far as it is taught in the 5th book of the National Reader.) 8. Natural Philosophy. 9. Geography. 10. Astronomy.

"That all the scholars intending to come forward at the competition shall cause their respective names, the names of their respective teacher and school, to be entered with the clerk of the council at least three days before the day of such competition: that the clerk do enter the names, numbering the scholars accordingly as they are entered; and that each scholar coming forward for such competition have the number under which he or she has been entered attached to the collar on the day of the examination.

"That the amount of £25 granted by the county council be expended in purchasing useful books for prizes; and that there be ten different prizes, of the respective values of 30, 20, 15, 10, 8, 6, 5, 3, 2, and 1 dollars. That the best general scholar receive the highest prize, the next best the second, and so on in rotation.

The liberality of the council and the proposal of the board are both highly commendable, and will doubtless stimulate the pupils to greater exertion and improve the education of the youth of the county.

Dr. Scott, Warden of the County, offers a prize of "The Warden's Medal," to be contested for by the Common School Teachers of that County, for the best essay on "The Analogy between the cultivator of the soil and the human mind." This liberality is worthy of imitation.

Wm. Spotton Esq., of Port Hope has addressed the following proposition to the schoolmasters of Hope and Port Hope:—I cannot but think that whatever promotes education, and places it in a favourable light before the public, must also promote your own interests: and therefore I take the liberty of saying to you that I wish to be one of three or more, who will offer, as a prize to the best Common school scholar within this town or township, the best silver watch that can be had for a sum not greater than eighteen dollars. The time, place, &c., of examination to be agreed upon.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

### MONTHLY SUMMARY.

The authorities of King's and Marischal Colleges at Aberdeen have agreed upon a bill for the union of these two colleges into one University which will shortly be introduced into Parliament. At present there are double professorships of some subjects and none at all of others. With the spare professors this defect will be remedied. . . . Two large volumes have just been issued by the printers of the House of Commons, containing the evidence taken before the select committee of the House of Lords on the subject of the practical working of the system of National Education in Ireland. . . . A letter having been addressed to Lord John Russell from a religious society in Dublin, pointing out his alleged inconsistency in supporting two different systems of education, one in England and the other in Ireland, his lordship thus replies:—"My support of the British and Foreign School Society has been publicly given as a member of that society. My support of the National System of Education in Ireland, as introduced by Lord Derby, has been also publicly defended by me as a minister and a member of parliament. In supporting both systems, I have endeavoured to promote education in a manner that was practicable. The great majority of the people of England are content to read the Bible in the authorised version, and accept that version as a true exposition of the word of God. This is unhappily not the case in Ireland, and hence has arisen the system of the National Board, which, since its establishment by Lord Derby, has done great good, and will, I trust, by the blessing of God, diffuse still more widely than it has hitherto done, very useful, although very imperfect instruction." . . . During the recent sitting of the British Association for the advancement of Science in Liverpool, the Rev. Mr. Hume read a paper "Upon the Education of the Poor in Liverpool." This paper was supplementary to the more elaborate paper read last year before the association at its meeting at Hull. Mr. Hume commenced by stating that the purpose of his paper last year was to direct attention generally to the educational wants of Liverpool, and the extent to which they were supplied, and the deficiency. In the lower parts of the town particularly, where education was specially needed, and vicious instruction always at hand, the want was lamentably great. In five ecclesiastical divisions in the lower part of the town, and having a population of 40,000, there is no provision for the education of a single Protestant child. That deficiency, he was happy to be able to say, was about being remedied. The Rev. gentleman proceeded to discuss the means of support of the Liverpool

schools—the principle of voluntary and compulsory support of education, and concluded by enforcing the latter principle, which he hoped would find legislative adoption.

### THE QUEEN'S COLLEGES IN IRELAND.

The *Cork Reporter*, alluding to the fact of Government having just added to the collegiate endowments a sum sufficient to enable all the internal arrangements to be considerably improved, as well as to allow of a reduction in the fees payable by students, thus points out the beneficial results consequent upon the enlarged grant to the three colleges:—

"At the October entrance examinations the Council is empowered—and will certainly exercise the power very gladly, if afforded an opportunity—to confer on deserving candidates 55 senior and junior scholarships—viz., 10 senior, value £40 each, and 45 junior, value from £15 to £24 each, 30 of the 45 being of this latter amount, and only four—in agriculture—of the former. The winners of these prizes will not only have their year's education free of charge, but many of them a handsome aid towards their general expenses too. And to win them all that is requisite is attention and talent; favouritism the candidates need not fear, and the son of the humblest man will have his chance equally with the competitor whose worldly prospects are best, and whose friends are most influential. The past history of the college sufficiently proves this, and remarkably in the winner of its most splendid prize. That prize, obtained for it by Lord Clerendon—a writership in the East India Company's Service, of emolument from the start, and opening to its possessor the way to the most magnificent positions in our Eastern empire—was awarded to a young student, unknown and unfriended, from a remote district of the county, who competed for it thus successfully against the sons of men of influence and station, who were scarcely inferior to him in their mental character or general acquirements. The aspirant to a superior education therefore however limited in means, will find himself in no difficulty about obtaining it in the Queen's College, to partake of whose advantages, in fact, he is courted by honourable rewards. Within its halls he may inexpensively acquire the foundation of a character which, whatever his position in life, he will find of inestimable value to him; and we trust sincerely that the entrances in October will prove that our population is not indifferent to, or incompetent to avail of, the great and lasting benefits thus placed within their reach." The appointments at the Queen's Colleges to fill up the vacancies occasioned by the loss of those professors who have accepted chairs in Australia have been made. Mr. Bagley, of Cork, takes the Professorship of Latin, in Galway; Mr. Thomson, at present filling the chair of Natural History in Cork, takes the Professorship of Geology, Belfast College; Mr. Tait, of Cambridge, Senior Wrangler of the year 1852, takes the Professorship of Mathematics, Belfast.

### NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

The 20th report of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland has just been presented to the Lord Lieutenant. The following extract, in reference to the number of schools and attendance of pupils, is of interest:—

"On the 31st of December, 1852, we had 4,875 schools in operation, which were attended by 544,604 children. At the close of the year 1853 the number of schools in operation was 5,023, attended by 556,478, showing an increase in the schools in operation of 148, and an increase in the attendance for the year 1853, as compared with the year 1852, of 11,874 children. Besides these 5,023 schools, there are 42 upon our lists, although not yet in operation, towards which, at various times, we have made building grants; of these grants, 16 (involving liabilities to the extent of £2,655 6s.) were made during the year 1853. When the buildings for these 42 schools shall have been completed, they will afford accommodation to 4,016 additional pupils. The number of schools struck off during the year 1853 was 106; 10 schools were suspended, which, however, may hereafter be reopened; and 218 schools were added to the list. The entire number of schools on our rolls, on the 31st of December, 1853, was 5,075, including those in operation, those suspended, and those towards the building of which we have promised aid.

"There has been a steady increase in the attendance at the national schools every year, except in 1847 and 1849, in which the decrease is attributable to the causes adverted to in our reports for those years.

"The total number, in 1853, of 556,478 children, in the 5,023 schools in operation, gives an average on the rolls of 11,078 to each school. The average daily attendance of pupils for the half-year ended the 30th of September, 1853, was 271,364; and the number on the rolls for the same period was, as we have already stated, 550,631.

"The average daily attendance of pupils for the half-year ending the 30th