

Commissioners will now be to look for some suitable building or site for the museum. Seeing that the interest of the surplus funds in the hands of the commissioners amounts to nearly £5,000 a year, there can be no difficulty in making all the necessary arrangements upon such a scale of efficiency and completeness as may render it worthy the commercial character of the country.—[Observer.]

Telegraphic Time in England.—The latest developement of the electric telegraph system is at once useful and beautiful. It is a plan for distributing and correcting mean Greenwich time in London and over the country every day at noon. Every holiday taker knows the ball which surmounts the Royal Observatory, and has watched with interest its descent as the clock gave the first stroke of noon, thereby telling the sea-going men in the river the exact state of the chronometers which were to become their guides over the pathless waters. Such a ball is to be raised on a pole on the telegraphic office, near Charing Cross, and at noon each day is to drop by electric action simultaneously with that at Greenwich—both balls being in fact liberated by the same hand—and, falling on a cushion at the base of the pole, is to communicate standard time along all the telegraphic wires of the country. At the same instant, the bells will ring out noon at the most distant places,—Hull, Holyhead, Aberdeen, Harwich, and Devonport. The great metropolitan clocks, such as the Horse Guards, the Exchange, the New Palace, are to be regulated on the same principle. It is said that all the railway companies have agreed to avail themselves of these means of obtaining an exact uniformity of time.

Telegraphic Alarms in Boston.—A novel application of the telegraph has been invented by Dr. Wm. F. Channing, of Boston, and introduced in that city for a general system of fire alarms. Electricity corresponds to the agent of vitality which traverses the nerves, in its rapid transmission of impressions or impulses, as in the common electric telegraph, and in its power of producing attractions as in the electro-magnet. These are the two functions of the nerves of sensation and motion. Hitherto the sensitive function of the telegraph has been developed almost exclusively. A peculiar feature of the fire-alarm system is the development of the motor function of the telegraph, that is, its application to the production of important mechanical effects by means of artificial muscles and limbs, either directly by its electro-magnetic energy, or by acting through the medium of other machinery. In the system constructed in Boston, there are two distinct classes of electric circuits, radiating from a common centre, the one conveying signals, and answering to the sensitive nerves, extending to the reservoir of galvanic or nervous power for the whole system. This galvanic centre, which corresponds to the brain, presided over by an intelligent will (the single operator watchman) on receiving the impression or indication of a disturbance at the extremities, sends out an impulse to appropriate action over the other circuit, passing through the bellies of the various bells, and thus giving the alarm to the whole city. This is done in the following manner:—At each belfry the electric agent acts upon the electro-magnetic apparatus, corresponding to the human muscles; the result is the release of powerful machinery, which strikes a single and definite blow upon the bell. A combination of such blows can, of course, be made by the intelligent will at the centre, to represent district or any other signals. The system is highly ingenious in the details, and presents a beautiful instance of the application of scientific principles to purposes of practical utility.

Editorial and Official Notices, &c.

APPORTIONMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL GRANT FOR 1852.

For the reasons assigned in the Circular to Wardens of Counties, by the Chief Superintendent of Schools, published in the last number of this *Journal*, page 57., we regret being as yet unable to announce the apportionment of the Legislative School Grant for the current year. Very few abstracts of the audited returns of School Monies have been received by the Educational Department as required by law; and until they shall have been received, no apportionment can be made by the Chief Superintendent to the County in default. Due notice of this fact was given last year, as well as this year; and if delay occurs in receiving the Legislative School Grant, the local school authorities are alone responsible for it.

A HAND-BOOK OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE :

For the use of Students of the Universities and Higher Classes of Schools. By R. G. Latham, M.D., F.R.S. 12mo., pp. 398. New York, 1852. D. Appleton & Co., Rochester, D. M. Dewey.

The mere enumeration of the chapters in this book would induce a person to procure it. The work is divided into seven parts, and the subjects

are discussed in eighty-six chapters. It is furnished with a list of questions and notes on each part at the end of the book. The author was formerly the professor of English language and literature in University College, London.

In the *HAND-BOOK*, the distinguished author's learning and philosophy appear to singular advantage. "It contains the entire results which have been arrived at in his larger treatises, accompanied with sufficient discussion and detail to enable the student to avail himself of the author's method and sources of investigation, without bewildering his mind by reasonings which those only who are somewhat familiar with comparative philology are able to follow."

A DICTIONARY OF THE FRENCH AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES :

In two parts. I. French-English; II. English-French; with a Vocabulary of proper names. By Gabriel Surreure. Abridged from the larger Dictionary. 18mo., pp. 556. New York, D. Appleton & Co.; Rochester, D. M. Dewey.

This has been considered a standard School Dictionary in Europe. It seems to be equally so in America. The system of pronunciation adopted is that of the French Academy, and of the most eminent lexicographers and grammarians.

THE NEW FRENCH MANUAL AND TRAVELLERS COMPANION :

Intended as a Guide to the Tourist and a Class Book for the Student. By Gabriel Surreure. 18mo., pp. 287. New York, D. Appleton & Co.; Rochester, D. M. Dewey.

This Manual contains an introduction to French Pronunciation; a copious vocabulary, and a very complete series of dialogues on topics of every day life, etc., etc.

HISTOIRE DE CHARLES XII. :

Par Voltaire Soigneusement revue par Gabriel Surreure. 16mo. pp. 262. New York, D. Appleton & Co.; Rochester, D. M. Dewey.

Few English students of French but have reason to recollect this beautifully-written History, although they may not have always succeeded in doing justice to the clearness and elegance of the author. This edition is very neatly prepared.

WOMEN OF CHRISTIANITY :

Examples for Acts, Piety, and Charity. By Julia Kavanagh, author of *Women in France*, etc., etc. 12mo., pp. 384. New York, D. Appleton & Co.; Rochester, D. M. Dewey.

A most interesting record of those hundreds of excellent, devoted women, eminent for active charity and Christian benevolence, who have lived during the last eighteen centuries. The author has admirably fulfilled her pledge, "to record those marvels of charity and devotedness which are the greatest boast of the Christian faith, and in which man has not as yet surpassed women." The completeness of her narratives has been a labour of love. The work "does not profess to include those women whose virtues went not beyond the circle of home, and whose piety was limited to worship. Love and adoration are beautiful, but the spirit of sacrifice is the true spirit of Christianity."

THE USES OF SUNSHINE :

By S. M. 16mo., pp. 348. New York, D. Appleton & Co.

HEARTS UNVEILED :

Or, the Pure Pleasure of Pure Minds. By Sarah E. Saymore. 12mo., pp. 300. New York, D. Appleton & Co.

THE SPANISH TEACHER;

And Colloquial Phrase Book. By F. Butler. 18mo., pp. 293. New York, D. Appleton & Co.

PLANE TRIGONOMETRY;

And its Application and Mensuration of Land Surveying, accompanied with all the necessary Logarithmic and Trigonometric Tables. By George R. Perkins, A.M. 8vo., pp. 151 + 175 = 326. New York, D. Appleton & Co.

THE PRACTICAL ARITHMETIC :

Designed for such Institutions as require a greater number of examples than are given in the author's Elementary work. By G. R. Perkins, A.M. 12mo., pp. 356. New York, D. Appleton & Co.

We have to thank the publishers for the above works, kindly sent through our American book agent, D. M. Dewey, Rochester, and regret that want of space prevents us from referring to them more at length.

A MATHEMATICAL TEACHER, who will be disengaged on the 1st October next, is anxious to obtain employment from that time. He is 37 years of age—has been 18 years constantly engaged in teaching the Mathematics and the English Languages—is prepared to stand the test of a strict examination on either subject—holds a First Class Certificate in the Counties of Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington and can give satisfactory references.

Address, WILLIAM DUNNE, Teacher, Centreville.

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All communications to be addressed to Mr. J. GEORGE HODGINS, Education Office, Toronto.