

from him 69 millions of miles. The third is the *Earth*—at a distance from the sun of 95 millions. The fourth *Mars*—145 millions. Then follow the eleven small planets called *asteroids*, but too close together to be individually identified. *Jupiter* is the large planet below the sun, with four moons, and distant from him 495 millions of miles. *Saturn* is shown above the sun, with his *rings* and eight moons—distant from the sun 900 millions. *Herschel* is far on the left in the outer circle, with his six moons, and at a distance from the sun of 1,800 millions. Lastly, *Neptune*, the planet lately discovered by the calculations of the French Astronomer *Le Verrier*, is not shown on the map, for want of room. He may be imagined more than 1,000 millions of miles beyond the orbit of *Herschel*, or 2,850 millions of miles distant from the sun. Beyond these planets, in the immensity of space, are situated the fixed stars, or *sidereal heavens*—supposed by theologians to be the *third heavens* of the Sacred Writings.

Now according to the *Copernican Theory*, these planets all move around the sun, as their centre of motion; and so conclusive is the evidence of the theory, that eclipses of the sun and moon are calculated upon it, and astronomers are able to predict their commencement, duration, &c., to a minute, hundreds of years before they occur.

The distances of these planets from the sun are not easily conceived; but some conception or faint impression of it may be found from the following calculations:—Imagine the construction of a Railroad from the sun to Neptune, with a station for refreshments and supplies at each of the other planets; and imagine the rail cars to travel at the rate of 30 miles an hour, day and night; the time table of the rail train on such a journey would be as follows:—From the sun to

Mercury,	152 years.	Jupiter,	1,884 years.
Venus,	264 "	Saturn,	3,493 "
Earth,	361 "	Herschel,	6,933 "
Mars,	554 "	Neptune,	10,650 "

Had a train of cars started from the sun at the morning of his creation (about 5,852 years ago) to visit the planet *Herschel*, and travelled day and night ever since at the rate of 30 miles per hour, they would still have 284 millions of miles to travel before they could reach the end of their journey. To finish the passage would require 1,081 years longer—the whole of time past since the creation and more than a thousand years to come! To reach Neptune the same train, proceeding at the same rate, would require nearly 7,000 years longer! Such is the vast area embraced within the orbits of the planets; and such are the spaces over which the sunlight travels, to warm and enlighten its attendant worlds!

Yet beyond these distant orbs, in the amplitudes of space, there are suns, and worlds, and systems! How appropriate and forcible are the words of the Sacred Writer—"When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him? and the Son of man that thou visitest him?"

Miscellaneous.

The following, says the *The Episcopal Recorder*, strikes us as being one of the most beautiful passages in the whole compass of English literature:

THE KNEEL OF TIME.

Heard you that knell? It was the knell of time!
And is Time dead? I thought Time never died.
I knew him old, 'tis true, and full of years;
And he was bald, except in front—but he
Was strong as Hercules. I saw him grasp
The oak; it fell—the tower; it crumbled—the stone,
The sculptured monument that mark the grave
Of fallen greatness, ceased their pompous strain
As Time came by. Yes, Time was very strong;
And I had thought too strong for death to grapple.
But I remember now his step was light.
And though he moved at rapid rate, or trod
On adamant, his tread was never heard.
And there was something ghostly in the thought,
That in the silence of the midnight hour
He trod my chamber, and I heard him not.
And I have held my breath, and listened close
To catch one footfall, as he glided by
But nought awoke the echo slumbering there.
And the thought struck me then that one whose step
Was so much like a spirit's tread: whose acts
Were all so noiseless like the world unseen,
Would soon be fit for other worlds than this,
Fit for high converse with immortal minds,
Unfettered by the flesh, unchained to earth.

IMPORTANT STATISTICS OF EUROPEAN STATES.

In connexion with the ordinary amount of instruction afforded in school geographies in regard to the different kingdoms and states of Europe, the following statistical information, compiled from an elaborate table given in the *Kolner Zeitung*, a German publication, will prove eminently useful to teachers.

The countries of Europe are burdened at this time with an aggregate national debt of £1,735,056,000 sterling, of which Great Britain owes nearly one-half; there is also in circulation in Europe no less than £189,214,278 in paper money, taken and held upon the credit of the property in the countries in which it is issued. Europe is therefore mortgaged to the amount of £1,924,270,278, constituting a debt of very nearly £7 2s due from every man, woman, or child which it contains, or, reckoning five to a family, of £35 10s. upon each head of a family. At the present there are no less than 2,773,833 men under arms in Europe. To pay the interest of this aggregated national debt; to support the large standing armies; to fit out and man and maintain 2,763 vessels of war; to support the dignity of courts; to meet the expenditures of princes; to provide for the dispensation of the laws, and the administration of justice, and for all the other purposes for which Governments are or should be instituted, a revenue of £232,000,000 is annually raised in Europe, constituting a tax for the support of Government of 17s. 2d upon every person living there. This amount may appear small when thus divided among the entire population of Europe; but, when the annexed table is looked at, it will be found that it bears very hard upon some of the principal countries.

State or Nation.	Debt in Prussian dollars.	Men in Army.	Vessels in fleet.	Guns.	Population.
Great Britain and Ireland	5,000,000,000	129,000	678	18,000	27,500,000
Spain	1,300,000,000	160,000	50	721	13,000,000
Austria	1,100,000,000	500,000	4156	600	36,000,000
Russia	733,000,000	790,000	6615	7,000	70,000,000
Holland	731,000,000	50,000	125	2,500	3,500,000
Prussia	180,000,000	121,000	47	114	17,000,000
France	1,330,000,000	265,463	328	8,000	36,000,000
Belgium	165,000,000	90,000	5	36	5,000,000
Portugal	160,000,000	38,000	36	700	3,500,000
Papal States	120,000,000	19,000	5	24	3,200,000
Sardinia	120,000,000	38,000	60	900	4,250,000
Naples	100,000,000	48,000	15	484	8,500,000
Bavaria	82,000,000	57,000	.....	.....	5,000,000
Denmark	80,000,000	20,000	33	1,120	2,750,000
Saxony	43,500,000	25,000	.....	.....	2,000,000
Turkey	40,000,000	220,000	66	800	12,500,000
Hamburg	34,000,000	1,800	.....	.....	170,000
Baden	33,000,000	18,000	.....	.....	1,500,000
Hanover	30,368,000	21,000	.....	.....	2,000,000
Wurtemberg	28,000,000	19,000	.....	.....	2,000,000
Greece	25,000,000	8,900	34	131	1,000,000
Mecklenburg	10,000,000	4,700	.....	.....	540,000
Tuscany	10,000,000	10,000	10	15	1,700,000
Frankfort	7,000,000	1,300	.....	.....	65,000
Brunswick	6,800,000	3,000	.....	.....	300,000
Duchy of Hesse	6,200,000	42,000	.....	.....	900,000
Electoral Hesse	6,000,000	11,000	.....	.....	800,000
Lubeck	6,000,000	490	.....	.....	50,000
Saxe Weimer	4,000,000	2,000	.....	.....	75,000
Schleswick, &c.	4,000,000	.....	.....	.....	650,000
Anhalt	3,500,000	700	.....	.....	4150,000
Bremen	3,000,000	500	.....	.....	80,000
Saxe Cobourg	2,566,000	1,200	.....	.....	160,000
Saxe Meiningen	2,500,000	2,400	.....	.....	260,000
Nassau	2,000,000	3,500	.....	.....	425,000
Parma	1,800,000	5,000	.....	.....	500,000
Anhalt	1,500,000	300	.....	.....	50,000
Saxe Altenburg	1,500,000	1,000	.....	.....	150,000
Norway	1,500,000	23,000	160	560	1,200,000
Oldenburg	1,200,000	600	.....	.....	80,000
Hesse Homberg	860,000	350	.....	.....	25,000
Schwartzburg	250,000	540	.....	.....	60,000
Sweden	.....	34,000	340	2,400	3,500,000
Modena	.....	3,500	.....	.....	525,000
Lippe Detmold	.....	820	.....	.....	110,000
Reuss	.....	750	.....	.....	130,000
Waldeck	.....	520	.....	.....	60,000
Switzerland	.....	6,500	.....	.....	2,500,000
San Marino	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,000

a, including gun boats; b, 175 vessels, 440 gun boats; c, war-footing, 492,000; d, includes the three divisions of Anhalt.

The totals of the preceding columns sum up thus:

Debt	£11,567,044,000
Men in armv	2,773,833
Vessels in fleet	2,763
Guns	44,105
Population	271,403,000