

an extended one. He quotes freely from the Chief Superintendent's Annual Reports.... The Royal Academy of History of Madrid is about to undertake a work of the greatest utility for the national history. It is the publication of the principal laws, statutes, and municipal privileges (*fueros*) of the provinces and the large towns of Spain. In order to collect these documents, the Academy has appointed a commission composed of 20 historians and others, who will examine the local archives for this purpose. M. Pascual Gayangos, who is already celebrated for his researches on the ancient history of Spain under the Moors, is the President of this commission.... It cost Lord Lytton twenty years to write the Life and History of Henry II.; the historian Gibbon was twelve years in completing his Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire; and Adam Smith occupied ten years in producing his Wealth of Nations.... The French Government has resolved to send a new scientific mission into the interior of South America; and instructions as to the investigations and observations in natural history, botany, astronomy, geology, meteorology, &c., which it may be desirable to make, have been demanded from the Academy of Sciences. The mission is specially to occupy itself with the provinces of Brazil, Paraguay, and Bahia.... Let us mention that we have found the children of the Sovereign, at nine in the morning, at the Museum of Practical Art; and, on another occasion, at the same hour, amidst the Elgin marbles; not the only wise hint to the mothers of England and Canada to be found in the highest place.... A letter from Vienna of the 17th, says:—Several European powers have accepted the proposition of the English Government to convoke a congress at London, in order to come to an agreement respecting the regulating of the coin. France, Denmark, Sweden, Spain, and Portugal, have been specially nominated. The invitations have been ulteriorly addressed to the states of Germany. The congress will not commence its deliberations till November next; meanwhile a statistical bureau will be established for the purpose of making the necessary preparations.... Great preparations are being made for the Industrial Exhibition of 1853, to be held at Dublin. The opening of the Exhibition has been fixed for the first week of May, and circulars have been addressed to every exhibitor whose name appears on the official catalogue of the Exhibition of last year; also, to the chief magistrate of every city, town, and burgh, throughout the United Kingdom, asking their co-operation.... There was a rule in an old debating society which might be advantageously recommended to some of our public bodies—"That any gentleman wishing to speak the whole evening should have a room to himself.".... The Manchester Free Library, which has been established at a cost of £12,000, raised by public subscription, was opened on the 2nd of September. Lord Shaftesbury, Mr. Charles Dickens, Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, and other eminent men were present. The proceedings were of a highly interesting character.... The local committee at Belfast has been actively making preparations for the accommodation and entertainment of the British Association in that town. Various excursions have been arranged during the meeting. On Thursday, the day after the meeting, a steam-boat excursion is projected to the Giant's Causeway.

Pensions to Literature and Science.—A report has been issued this week of pensions on the Civil List granted from June, 1851, to June, 1852. The following are in consideration of services in literature or science:—To Mrs. Jameson, £100 for her literary merits; To Mr. James Silk Buckingham, £200 for literary merits and useful travels in various countries; Mr. Robert Torrens, F.R.S., £200 for his valuable contributions to the science of political philosophy; to Professor John Wilson of the University of Edinburgh (Christopher North of "Blackwood") £300 for his eminent literary merits; to Mrs. Reid, the widow of Dr. James Reid, Professor of Ecclesiastical and Civil History in the University of Glasgow, £50, and £50 to his family, in consideration of Dr. Reid's valuable contributions to literature; to Mrs. Macarthur, widow of Dr. Alexander Macarthur, Superintendent of Model Schools and Inspector of Irish National Schools, £50; to Mr. John Britton, £75. We learn, also, that to Mr. Hinds, the Astronomer, a pension has been granted of £200; to Dr. Mantell, the Geologist, £100; and to Mr. Ronalds, of the Kew Observatory, £75.—*Literary Gazette.*

Schools of Design.—From a return which just has been printed, it appears that, in the five metropolitan schools there are 16 professors, masters, and assistant masters. The highest salary is £300 with a portion of fees; the lowest, £32 with a portion of fees. The head master, who receives £390 a-year, is engaged 22½ hours per week; and the assistant master with £32 a-year and fees, is engaged only five hours in the week. In the provincial schools there are 41 masters, and the salaries vary from £25 to £300. One is engaged 40 hours in the week, and all the masters receive portions of the fees, and their hours of attendance vary in number.

Fate of Books.—In a work published in 1822, it is said there are 1000 books published per annum in Great Britain, on 600 of which there is a commercial loss, on 200 no gain, on 100 a trifling gain, and only on

100 any considerable profit; 750 are forgotten within the year, another 100 in two years, other 190 in three years, not more than 50 survive seven years, and scarcely 10 are thought of after twenty years. Of the 50,000 books published in the seventeenth century, not 50 are now in estimation. And of the 80,000 published in the eighteenth century, not more than 300 are considered worth reprinting, and not more than 500 are sought after in 1822. Since the first writings, 1400 before Christ, i. e., in thirty-two centuries, only about 500 works of writers of all nations have sustained themselves against the devouring influence of time.

Editorial and Official Notices, &c.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL TEACHING.

The new Normal School Buildings will be completed during the month of October. The exercises of the Winter Session of the Normal School (which will commence on the 15th November and close the 15th April,) will take place in the new buildings, where every facility will be provided for the improvement of the student-teachers in training. Any information as to the terms of admission to the Normal School, and form of application, can be obtained by addressing the Chief Superintendent of Schools, Education Office, Toronto.

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S. HEWSON.

Hamilton, 4th October, 1852.

We would direct attention to the foregoing advertisement of Mr. Hewson, who is the resident Agent at Hamilton for the *Journal of Education*.—Ed.

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