

for their consideration, that one great fault in the system of instruction in the schools of the country *lies in the want of proper teaching in the art of writing*. The great bulk of the middle and lower orders write hands too small and indistinct, or do not form their letters; or they sometimes form them by alternate broad and fine strokes, which make the words difficult to read. The handwriting which was generally practised in the early part and middle of the last century was far better than that now in common use; and Lord Palmerston would suggest that it would be very desirable that the attention of schoolmasters should be directed to this subject, and that their pupils should be taught rather to imitate broad printing than fine copperplate engraving.—I am, &c. A. WADDINGTON.—Whitehall, May, 24." This is a fit pendant to Lord Ashburton's lecture on the need for teaching "common things."

## UNITED STATES.

### MONTHLY SUMMARY

An eminent merchant of New York, Mr. Cooper, proposes to erect at his own cost an institution in that city, to be called the "Cooper Institute," and to be devoted to the promotion of science and art among all classes of the citizens. Cooper's proposed outlay for the Institute will amount to \$500,000. Such instances of noble generosity now becoming frequent in the Republic are only equalled by that of a Gresham, an Owen or a Wandesford in England, and are worthy of admiration and imitation in Canada. . . . The legislature of Connecticut has concurred in a resolution to appropriate \$10,000 of the public funds in aid of the Wesleyan University in that State, provided the proposed endowment of \$90,000 be raised by subscription by the friends of the institutions, thus increasing the contemplated endowment to \$100,000. . . . The Colleges in the United States number 120; of these 16 are under the direction of the Baptists; 7 are Episcopalian; 13 are Methodist; 11 are Roman Catholic; while in most of the remainder the religious sect having control, is either Presbyterian or Congregationalist. These 120 colleges have 1,000 professors, and about 11,700 students. In the New England Colleges last year, there were 2,163 students, of whom about one-sixth were reported as preparing to become clergymen.

## Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

### MONTHLY SUMMARY.

The Rev. Dr. O'Meara, of Mohntonaheng, Lake Huron, has just completed a translation of the New Testament into the Language of the Ojibwa Indians, under the patronage of the Christian Knowledge Society of London. . . . The Rev. Dr. Ryerson, of Canada, has been elected a corresponding member of the New York Historical Society. . . . Chevalier Bunsen, who has long been distinguished in England for his Literary, as much as for his diplomatic abilities, has recently resigned the post of Prussian Ambassador, into the hands of his Sovereign. Pro-Russian intrigue, at Berlin, is stated to be the cause of this step. . . . Electrical communication has been effected between the Observatory of Paris, with that of the Observatory of Greenwich. . . . Martine has lately been engaged in writing a series of Biographical Sketches of all the eminent characters that have appeared. . . . Madam Sontag, the celebrated Singer, died on the 16th of June, from an attack of Cholera, while on her way from the City of Mexico, to Vera Cruz. . . . "The Storm Birds" is the name of a collection of vigorous songs, which have just appeared in Stockholm. One of them is entitled "Sir Charles Napier;" it is full of energy. . . . A French inventor has contracted for the erection of a large hydraulic machine at the Crystal Palace, by which 1,000 pints of tea and coffee may be made per hour. The hot water will be supplied by a steam engine outside the building. . . . The Earl of Rosse (celebrated as the author of the monster telescope), who has been president since 1848, when he succeeded the late Marquis of Northampton, will resign his office at the ensuing anniversary of the Royal Society, in November next; and Lord Wrottesley, who enjoys a very extensive astronomical reputation, and has already acted as one of the Society's vice-presidents, will be put in nomination as Lord Rosse's successor. . . . One column of advertising in the London Times is worth £6000 a year to the proprietors. The surplus profits of the Times, are £80,000 a year, sterling. . . . A French Steamer is being fitted out in the port of Varna, for the purposes of scientific inquiry: for English and French interests alike demand such a scientific examination of the Euxine. The tides, currents and winds

which prevail there, are to be carefully observed and noted down, the charts, with the rocks, shoals, and other impediments to the navigation. . . . Mr. Layard's ancestors emigrated from France. His father filled for many years a high judicial post in Ceylon, and largely contributed to the propagation of Christianity in that island; his grandfather Dr. T. Layard, Dean of Bristol, was one of the most eminent of English Philologists.

The Rev. Prof. F. D. Maurice, Chaplain of Lincoln's Inn, London, whose writings and social efforts have of late attracted so much attention, owing to his recent dismissal from King's College, commenced a series of lectures on "Learning and Working," the object of which, from the syllabus, is to insist on the necessity for adult education, in connection with the explanation of a plan for the formation a Working Man's College. . . . The Rev. Hugh Stowell, of Manchester, has brought out a series of lectures on the character of Nehemiah, devoted to the far too rarely handled theme of the relation between religion and business. . . . From the pen of the Rev. James Smith, M. A. the editor of the *Family Herald*, we have a large volume on the "The Divine Drama of History and Civilization," an elaborate exposition of the philosophy and facts of universal history, from a novel point of view, and displaying great research and eloquence. . . . His brother, Dr. R. Angus Smith, of Manchester, the well-known Chemist, has also re-printed, from the Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, an essay "On some ancient and modern ideas of sanitary economy," full of curious and well applied lore, and, though brief in its compass, most suggestive reading to the friend of sanitary reform. . . . The application of "Chemistry to common life," is one of the chief facts in the history of the science, and Professor Johnston's series of tracts on that subject, (published by Messrs. Blackwood, of Edinburgh,) is re-printed by Appleton and Co., of New York. . . . The Bible presented by George Fox to the Swarthmore Meeting-house, near Ulverstone, and long chained to the reading-desk, is about to be restored to its place, after having for some time been in private hands. The Swarthmore Meeting-house was the first place of worship erected by the Quakers. . . . A gentleman is preparing to publish an illustrated memorial of the poet of Royal Mount, to be called "Wordsworth's Wild Flowers." The work will extend to about sixty pages of letter press, and will be illustrated with four coloured engravings of groups of the flowers mentioned in Wordsworth's poems, an engraving of Royal Mount, and a fac-simile of the poet's autograph. . . . Messrs. Kerr, Binns, and Co. have manufactured a perfect fac-simile of the "Shakspeare jug." It is of cream coloured earthenware, ten inches high, and sixteen inches around the largest part. The exterior is divided longitudinally into eight compartments, each horizontally subdivided, and within these the principal deities of the Grecian Mythology, are represented in rather bold relief. Jupiter and Juno, Bacchus, Diana, Mercury, Apollo, Mars, &c. are all plainly distinguishable by their thrones and chariots, and characteristic attendants. The jug is well executed, and its descent from Shakspeare's possession is said to be established in a pamphlet which has been issued by the manufacturers. . . . There was a large attendance of booksellers at the Crystal Palace the other day, bargaining for space, and very hard bargains the directors drove with them, £100 being asked for a miserable little stall. . . . A society has been formed in London, under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury, "for the diffusion of pure literature among the people." It is not the purpose (says the prospectus) of the committee to publish, but to countenance and actively support the various excellent periodicals now existing, and of which a supply can be found at the dépôt. . . . So heavily is the dearness of paper pressing upon the large London daily newspapers that the proprietors of a leading metropolitan journal have offered, through Messrs. Smith and Son, the well-known news-agents, of the Strand, £1000 reward to any person who shall first succeed in inventing or discovering the means of using a cheap substitute for the cotton and linen materials now used by paper-makers. . . . In Russia, there are this year in course of publication ninety-five newspapers, and sixty-six magazines and periodicals, devoted to the proceedings of learned societies. Of these, seventy-six newspapers and forty eight magazines are in the Russian language; fifteen newspapers and ten magazines in German; two newspapers and six magazines in French; three newspapers in English; one newspaper in Polish; and one in Latin; two newspapers in Georgian; and two in Lettish; also, three newspapers in Russian and German, and two in Russian and Polish. In St. Petersburg, twenty-six newspapers and forty-two magazines are published in the languages above mentioned. Of the different newspapers in the Russian language published in St. Petersburg, one resembles the French *Moniteur*, and publishes a collection of the laws and orders of the Government twice a week. Another publishes the decrees and decisions of the imperial