

was represented by the Rev. Messrs. Young and Jeffry; and the Presbyterian Church of Canada by the Rev. Messrs. Gray and Muir. The Chair was occupied by the Rev. Professor Williamson, who opened the proceedings with prayer. The attendance of citizens was hardly as great as usual.—*Kingston Daily News.*

— UNIVERSITY OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON.—During the past few years, Queen's College has been rapidly gaining ground and rising in public estimation. New chairs have been established in all the departments, which are filled by gentlemen eminently qualified to impart instruction of a very high order; and last winter the University was rendered complete, by the commencement of a fourth faculty—that of law. We are glad to learn that private letters have been received from the Rev. Principal Leitch, in Scotland, announcing that he has commenced preparations for his immediate return to Canada. This is the more welcome to Dr. Leitch's many friends, as rumours had gained ground that he could not break the many ties which bound him to his native land, and that another appointment to the office of Principal would be necessary. The new Observatory, building in the Park, is rapidly advancing, and will be completed before winter. Dr. Leitch has purchased some very valuable astronomical instruments in Great Britain, which are now on their way out. The Kingston Observatory may therefore be expected to take up a position among similar institutions, and to render good service in promoting astronomical knowledge. The Botanical Society have commenced laying out a Botanical Garden, for which ample scope is afforded by the grounds in front of Queen's College. Near the new gateway on Arch Street, the first ground was broken only a few days since, and already a large collection of specimen plants has been placed in the ground.—*Kingston News.*

— NEW SCHOOL IN KINGSTON.—The new school house in Wellington Street, Kingston, was opened on the 2nd ult., for the purposes of instruction. The building is entered through a capacious play-ground for boys—the left door leading to the apartments for the girls, and the right door to those of the boys. The rooms have ample means of warming and ventilation. The furniture of all these apartments is of a superior kind, and speaks well for the liberality of the School Trustees. In the boys' rooms there are rows of desks with drawers and every essential. At each desk seats are arranged for two pupils. The desks are of black walnut, with iron feet. The chairs have circular iron feet, and are screwed to the floor. These articles are well adapted to their respective purposes. The opening proceedings were very simple and unpretending. At ten o'clock the children of the district, to the number of 80 or 90, under the charge of their teachers, were assembled in one of the upper rooms of the school-house, where were also present several members of the Board of School Trustees. W. W. Ford jun., the chairman, presided on this occasion. The proceedings were commenced with prayer, by the Rev. Professor Weir; followed by addresses to the children by the chairman and others. Mr. Ford strove to impress upon the minds of the pupils the necessity of proper attendance at school and attention to their duties whilst present therein. They were cautioned to take special care of the furniture of the rooms; and were warned of the consequence of expulsion which would attend any one of them who might be found defacing or injuring the desks and seats. The chairman said also a few words of encouragement and admonition to the teachers; and next directed his remarks to the parents and visitors, saying that such occasions as these were the times of reward for the members of the School Board. The pleasure to be derived from witnessing an assemblage of this kind, and of showing to parents that the rising generation were possessed of ample facilities for receiving the best instruction, in well ventilated and well appointed rooms, was more than a compensation for the taunts of those few grumblers and croakers who found fault with the free school system and the extra taxation it occasioned.—The Local Superintendent next occupied the attention of the scholars. His remarks were of practical importance, suited to the audience and to the occasion. He urged that not only should it be the aim of the common schools to disseminate an intellectual education, but, so far as our Protestant differences would allow, the teachings should be religious and moral as well. Notwithstanding their differences on many points, the Protestant sects were agreed upon one particular, and no objection would be urged against instructions of a religious and moral, though unsectarian character. He held it to be of the highest importance that children in the city schools should be taught ideas which would give them honesty of purpose, and induce them to love both God and man.—Mr. Paton addressed the children in a pleasing and familiar way, with language and matter suited to their young capacities. He recited two stories—one adapted for girls and the other for

boys—each inculcating some good habit and enforcing a moral precept.—The proceedings terminated after a benediction by the Rev. Prof. Weir. The names of the children were recorded, and they were dismissed for the day.—*Kingston News.*

— MOLSON HALL, MCGILL COLLEGE, MONTREAL.—PRINCELY GENEROSITY.—Under this most appropriate heading, the *Gazette* of Sept. 4, announces an additional donation from a member of the Molson family—so well known, and so highly esteemed in this city. Four years ago three brothers—John, William, and Thomas—gave the University \$20,000 to endow a chair of English language and literature. Since then, the Hon. John Molson has left this mortal sphere for an eternal home; but his brothers are not behind him in well doing. Last year Mr. William Molson undertook the erection of the south-west wing of the University Building, at an estimated expense of \$18,000. This was done, says the *Gazette*, in the hope that other friends of the University, blessed with an abundance of this world's goods, would have been induced to come forward and add the corridors necessary to connect the wings with the central edifice, and so complete the University building as originally designed. But while others hesitated, Mr. Molson's desire to see this done increased day by day. The appetite for giving seems to have increased by what it fed on, and he has now announced his intention of completing the buildings himself, at a cost, we fancy, of some \$15,000 to \$20,000 more, making in all well-nigh \$40,000 given by him. No praise that we could give would be too much to bestow on the generous man who is devoting his means to such good purpose. Generations to come will honor his name, and the youth of Canada will call him blessed. His brother—Mr. Thomas Molson—the *Gazette* remarks, has already spent a large sum in building a church and endowing another College. But, if we are not misinformed, the latter institution has no present existence; and the building remains unoccupied. It has been suggested to us by a friend that Mr. Thomas Molson would add to the already immense benefits he and his family have conferred upon the city, if he would lease the building to the Corporation to be used as a House of Industry and Refuge. We know there is such thing as encroaching upon good nature; and it is possible this suggestion may not meet the views of Mr. Molson. If it did, it would then crown the work the three brothers—worthy imitators of Charles Dickens' brothers Cheerbyle—have commenced. It would be the means of educating and training the habits of industry the many houseless and homeless vagrants who now infest our streets, and finish their career in the Provincial Penitentiary or on the gallows: it would be a receptacle for those whom poverty has overtaken; it would afford a shelter for old age, until the grim messenger came. And beside it would be the church to which those whom we shall always have with us, might day by day, and evening after evening resort; to thank the Almighty that He hath put it into the heart of His servant to do this good thing, and to prepare for their latter end. The picture our friend draws is a beautiful one; would that it could to the fullest extent be realized.—*Pilot.*

XV. Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

— THE FIFTH CONGRESS OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION met at Dublin on Wednesday, 14th August, and terminated on Wednesday the 21st. There were present a great many distinguished persons, including Lord Brougham, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Carlisle, M. Chevalier of Paris, &c. &c. Papers were read each day, except Sunday, on all the departments—jurisprudence, education, punishment and reformatories, social economy, and international trade. Many of these papers were of much interest, and excited considerable discussion. The principal papers read in the department of education were by Miss Carpenter, of Bristol, "On the Application of the Principles of Education in Schools for the Lower Classes of Society;" by Dr. M'Cosh, of Belfast, "On Intermediate Education in Ireland;" by Miss L. Twining, "On the Education of Pauper Children;" followed by a paper on the same subject by Mr. Senior, the Poor-Law Commissioner; by J. Heywood, Esq., F.R.S., "On the Recommendation of the Royal Commissioners on Popular Education respecting Primary Instruction and the better application of Educational Charities;" by the Rev. Dean Graves, "On the question 'Whether the system of competitive examination gives an advantage to persons of an inferior physical development?'" and by Professor Hennessy, "On the best mode of removing any disabilities which impede the advancement of learning." The next meeting of the Association will be held in London.