

peculiarities of the "National Public Schools' Association," or Free School System; the "Manchester and Salford Borough" Educational Scheme, and the various other denominational systems at present in operation in England. The writer also strongly urges the necessity of legislative interference, in order to render efficient and diffuse the advantages of the vast number of endowed schools scattered over England, now so inefficient and valueless, owing to the various legal and testamentary restrictions, or the arbitrary closeness of the corporations. . . . Mr. G. Rickards, M.A., has been elected professor of Political Economy at Oxford, in room of Mr. Nassau, senior, whose term of office had expired. The votes in convocation were—for Mr. Rickards, 211; Mr. Neale, Oriel, 158; Mr. Lowe, Magdalen, 133. Mr. Rickards gained the Newdegate Prize Poem in 1830. . . . The motion for abolishing tests in regard to the non-theological chairs of the Scottish universities has been thrown out, on the second reading in the House of Commons, by 172 to 157 votes. . . . Dr. Maclure, one of the masters of the Edinburgh Academy, has been appointed by the Crown to the Professorship of Humanity in Marischal College, Aberdeen, vacant by the translation of Mr. Blackie to the Greek Chair at Edinburgh. . . . Among the candidates for the Chair of Moral Philosophy in Edinburgh, vacant by the resignation of Professor Wilson, are Professor Ferrier, of St. Andrews; Professor Macdougall, of New College, Edinburgh; Professor M'Cosh, of Belfast; Mr. J. D. Morell; Mr. George Ramsay, late of Trin Col. Cam, now of Rugby; and Dr. W. L. Alexander, of Edinburgh. . . . The Commission for Inquiry into the University of Oxford, have finished their report, which has been forwarded to her Majesty. . . . The first stone of some new schools in connection with the church of St. Thomas, Charterhouse, was laid by Lord Lansdowne. . . . M. Villemain, Professor of French Eloquence, and M. Victor Cousin, Professor of History and Ancient Literature, have resigned their Chairs in the Faculty of Letters of the University of Paris. On application they have been placed on the retired list, with pensions, by a decree of May 3. Two years ago M. Guizot resigned, the university thus losing her three most illustrious literary men by voluntary retirement. All of these professors were appointed in 1828. . . . The first visitation of the Queen's College, Cork, was held this week in the Examination Hall, Archbishop Whately presided. The number of students at present in College is 147; and Sir Robert Kane reported the state of the institution as highly satisfactory. . . . The foundation stone of the new buildings in Victoria Street, for the Westminster Training Institution of the National Society, was laid on the 11th of May, by His Royal Highness Prince Albert. . . . The question of the repeal of the annual Parliamentary grant to the Royal College of St. Patrick, Maynooth, has recently been discussed with considerable warmth in the British House of Commons. . . . Archdeacon Law, rector of Weston-super-Mare, proposes to establish in that town a college for the youth of the middle classes at his own expense, the cost being estimated at from £4,000 to £5,000. . . . During the past year the grants by the Education Committee of the Privy Council to normal and elementary schools amounted to £142,229 8s. 9d., and in the preceding year to £160,097 7s. 10d. . . . The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have given notice that they are willing to assist, as far as the means at their disposal will permit, in establishing elementary drawing classes in connection with existing schools or otherwise in various localities, with a view of diffusing a knowledge of the elementary principles of art among all classes of the public. . . . It has been decided by the Lords of the Privy Council Committee on Education, (following the recent practice of our own legislature) to supply each school under their direction, and each teacher, having "certificates of merit," with a printed copy of the minutes of the Committee, or Annual Report, on the state and progress of popular education in England. . . . At Paris, on the 24th of May, the Council of State, Louis Napoleon presiding, adopted the bill on public instruction, and ordered it to be sent to the Legislative Body.

Persecution of Professors in Europe.—A decree has been issued in Paris, enacting that Professors in the College of France should no longer enjoy the privilege of irremovability, but might be revoked by the Minister of Public Instruction. This decree has been enforced by revoking three Professors—Michelet, Edgar Quinet, and Mickiewicz. Jules Michelet had belonged to the University since 1821, and has professed successively the dead languages, history, and philosophy. His histories and biographies have given him a wide-spread and enduring reputation. His course of lectures was suspended on the 12th of March, 1851, by M. Giraud, Minister of Public Instruction, at the instigation of the Jesuits, against whom M. Michelet had waged a most unremitting warfare. Since that period he has not resumed his functions. Quinet was made professor of the languages and literature of southern Europe in 1841, and in 1846 received a public censure from M. Guizot for his tendency to democratic opinions. His popularity with the students was so great, that it was not judged advisable to molest him. He was elected to the Chamber in 1848, where he always voted with the Republicans. He wrote two pamphlets, one on the State of Siege, and one on the Expedition to Rome, which made a lasting impres-

sion. Adam Mickiewicz is a Lithuanian by birth, and a Frenchman by adoption. The publication of a *Hymn to Truth* drew upon him the attention of the Russian authorities, and he was requested to retire to the Crimea, and remain there till further notice. His friends, however, obtained his pardon, on condition that he should never return to Poland. He went to Germany, where he became intimate with Goethe. In 1841, he was appointed Professor of the Slavonic language and literature at the College of France. He is dismissed, like his colleagues, for his democratic opinions. A work written by him during his wanderings, entitled "Book of the Pilgrims of Poland," has been translated by M. de Montalembert.

Prizes on Eastern Subjects.—Mr. W. Parker Hammond, of the firm of Hammond & Co., London, offers the following premiums:—£50 for the best "Essay on China," as it relates to trade and commerce and the opium trade, and its effects upon the commerce and morals of China and India; general remarks on the empire of Japan, and the prospects of trade therewith; suggestions as to the most efficient mode of extending Christianity in China. £50 for the best "Essay on the Eastern Archipelago," including the Philippines and the Gulf of Siam, embracing the following points:—Piracy, its extent and effect on the price of Straits produce and the consumption of British manufactures; the best means of suppression or prevention; the commercial capabilities of the countries alluded to, and existing impediments to their expansion; Christianity—the best means of extension therein. The object of Mr. Hammond in offering these premiums is, to promote the interests of religion and commerce in the China Seas and Eastern Archipelago, in connection with the design of the Great Exhibition.

UNITED STATES.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

At the Annual Exhibition of the junior class of Yale College, last month, the highest prize for English composition was bestowed on a native Chinese, named Yung Wing. . . . The late Hon. George Howland, of New Bedford, in his will, has bequeathed \$50,000 to establish a Female Seminary, and also left it discretionary with his executors to bestow \$50,000 more upon the institution upon the decease of his widow. The school is to be established where the executors or trustees may decide. . . . Since the commencement of the Ladies' Society for the promotion of Education at the West, not less than \$200,000 have been contributed to its treasury in the middle and Eastern States, and as large an amount has been contributed by individuals in the Western States. Ten Colleges have been aided by the society, and there are now eight upon its list, which is three more than there were eight years ago. . . . In California they have set apart 500,000 acres of land for school purposes. . . . The capital of the School Fund, on the 2nd day of December, 1851, as certified by the State Auditors, amounted to \$2,049,482 32. The receipts into the Treasury the past year have been \$138,184 15, which exceeds the receipts of any previous year. The number of children returned by the Comptroller, as entitled to participate in the dividends of the year, was 94,851. This enumeration gave \$1 40 to each child. . . . The Corporators of the Tufts College, a new college in Massachusetts, have held their first legal meeting. They voted to accept the acts of incorporation passed at the last session of the legislature. Over one hundred thousand dollars have been subscribed to establish this college, which, by the acts of incorporation must be located either in Somerville or Medford. A large and beautiful property has been given for such an institution by Charles Tufts, Esq., situated at the place known as Walnut Hill.

Popular Education in California.—From a communication recently received at the office of the U. C. Educational Department, from the Superintendent of Public Instruction in that State, we learn that "As yet but little has been done for popular education in this State. Our Legislature," says the Superintendent, "is now in Session, and before it is a bill providing ample means for the establishment and support of Free Schools in California."

Education in Buenos Ayres.—We mentioned in this *Journal* last month, page 77, that some movement had been made by the new Government in favour of Education. The following is the substance of a decree on the subject:—March 6th. Decree issued organizing the normal school of elementary education. Besides a normal School, in the strict acceptance of the term, it is virtually a nursery of teachers for the Province and Republic. The claims of the schoolmaster are at last distinctly and handsomely recognised; 1,500 dollars per month salary, with half the fees, and the prospect of a retiring pension of two-thirds the stated salary after ten years service, or of full pay after twenty-five years, are terms that cannot fail to exalt the status of the profession; besides other collateral inducements held out to good conduct, talent and perseverance. The curriculum of studies is comprehensive, embracing, in addition to the usual