

present the hot-beds of crime, ignorance, and insubordination. And to those who have formed their notions from the aspect of calm seclusion in the parlour or in the nursery, such necessity for so mighty an expenditure, in providing moral machinery, may appear strange. But to those who have been accustomed for twenty or thirty years to visit the abodes of wretchedness, and crime, and ungodliness, so fearfully general in our city lanes, such a sum, and such a sacrifice, on the part of the country for its moral renovation, will appear small indeed. Did we say *sacrifice*? We ought not. Twenty millions sterling, thus expended, would prove an incalculable blessing to the working classes themselves, and would be thrice repaid to Government in their superior industry, sobriety, and good order.

We will venture to predict, that not many years will elapse ere the present calculation will be considered quite too low. Our legislators propose thousands, when millions are needed, as if a city on fire could be extinguished by a few buckets of water.

Early school training, on correct principles might be the means, in one generation, of altering the face of society. Let parents train their own children: we affirm the statement with this addition, *at all times and on all occasions when they can, i. e., when they are with them*; but if we hope to have parents capable of morally training their offspring, we must train the *whole youth* of the present day, who will become the parents of a future generation.

## Educational Intelligence.

### CANADA.

**Schools in Bowmanville.**—The *Messenger*, of the 15th instant, contains an extended account of the examination of Messrs. Rogerson and Moorcroft's Schools, in that village. He remarks: "We never observed better order among children than was manifested on that occasion, as the dropping of a pin might have been heard during the whole entire proceedings—a rare circumstance in a school of upwards of 70 small children." In the afternoon, the township Superintendent delivered an interesting lecture upon Free Schools. In regard to this educational question, the Editor observes: "The free school system is the best, take it as a whole, that has yet been adopted in Canada, and all it wants is a fair trial to convince the most stubborn opponents of the principle of its general utility and applicability to a country like this. We know that in some instances the system bears heavily on certain individuals, but that is no reason why it should be abandoned; besides, those individuals on whom the system bears heaviest are, in every respect, the best able to bear it. It is impossible to frame a law that will exactly meet the wishes of all parties, and consequently we must endeavour to secure and carry out such laws as will confer the greatest amount of good to the greatest number—and the law in regard to free schools is certainly of that description. It is the duty of the rich to assist the poor to educate their children, and if they will not do so by voluntary contributions, it then becomes the duty of Government to take the matter in hand and adopt such measures as will secure to every child in the country a good English education." The *Messenger* also announces that the "Darlington Grammar School is now in operation, under the superintendence of Mr. King, whose reputation as a teacher is excellent, and who, no doubt, will make this grammar school equal to any in the province."

**Victoria College.**—We learn from the *Guardian* of the 29th instant, that the recent effort to endow Victoria College has been thus far highly successful, and that "already a considerable number of Scholarships have been disposed of." The value of a Scholarship is £25, tenable for 25 years, and entitles the holder to free tuition for that period for one pupil. This is a near approach to the adoption of the free School principle by the authorities of the College.

**Knox's College.**—The session of 1851-'52 was opened on Thursday last the 16th instant. The number of students who were present was not quite so large as on previous occasions. Several ministers and a considerable number of ladies and gentlemen who take an interest in the Institution, met to witness the interesting services. After singing and prayer, Dr. Willis, the talented head of the College, addressed the Students in an impressive, vigorous, and appropriate style.

**King's College, Nova Scotia.**—The Act for repealing the Grant to King's College, passed in the last session, has been disallowed by the Colonial Secretary.—[Halifax Sun.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

**Items.**—Mr. Birch has resigned the situation of preceptor to the Prince of Wales. He is to be succeeded in his office by Mr. Gibbs, barrister-at-law, and fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. Her Majesty has granted a pension of £100 a year out of the civil list to the widow and family of the late Dr. Reid, of Glasgow University. The Bombay Board of Education have offered a gold medal, of the value of 200 rupees, for the best essay on the following subject:—"On the advantages which would result to India by the establishment of a serai, or public bungalow, in London, with compound, wells, &c., suitable for native travellers." This is evidently intended to draw out native ideas upon the subject of a visit to England. The Clergy of St. Barnabas, London, propose to establish a college in connection with their church, for the reception of young men living apart from their parents, as students, apprentices, or clerks. Each young man is to pay, for board and lodging, a sum not exceeding from 25s. to 30s. a week. As soon as a sufficient number of young men shall have been applied for admission, suitable premises will be engaged, and the college opened under the superintendence of the Rev. J. Skinner, M. A., late Fellow of University College, Durham, and the Hon. and Rev. R. Liddell, M. A., Incumbent of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge.

**Proposed New Educational Franchise in England.**—At the present moment—and we believe no alteration will be conceded in this particular—it is contemplated to recognize a certain educational test, apart from occupancy of houses, as conferring a right to vote. Clergymen, lawyers, merchants, literary men, clerks, the higher orders of mechanics, &c., will, we believe, although non-householders, be invested, under certain conditions, with the privilege of voting. These conditions will suggest themselves to our readers without explanation. As respects the franchise and householders, as the law at present stands, very considerable alterations, we believe, will be made. The £10 qualification in boroughs will be reduced in amount, while a variety of other popular concessions will be made, which will increase the constituency of this country at least one-fourth. We have no doubt that the great difficulty encountered by Ministers relates to the counties; but we believe that those difficulties will be overcome, and that the various county constituencies will be popularised to a greater extent than at present anticipated.

**Insanity in the Pentonville Prison.**—Insanity increases in the solitary cells of Pentonville Model Prison. Such is the dreadful fact conveyed in the appendix to the last report of the commissioners, to whose control this model gaol of model gaols is confided. The tendency to cause insanity has ever been urged, and unfortunately with reason, against the separate system of imprisonment. Experience has however raised a hope that by judicious treatment, this tendency may be neutralised, or at least lessened. Every report, therefore, from our model gaols is looked for with deep interest by all who have the courage to think on that most difficult of social subjects—the punishment of our criminals. During the past year the cases of insanity in Pentonville prison have risen seven per cent. Thirty-five cases of insanity out of an average daily number of 500 prisoners. Of these, one resulted in suicide, five in confirmed mania, 13 in delusion, and 16 in such a disturbed state of mental health as to necessitate the removal of the sufferers from the prison. In the seven years that ended 1849, the cases of severe mental delusion were under 40; in the one year 1850, they had risen to 18.

**Universal Education in Ireland—A new Advocate.**—His Excellency, Abbot Lawrence, the American Minister at the Court of St. James, in reply to one of the numerous addresses presented to him during his recent tour in Ireland, remarks:—"I am one of those that believe that all that nations require to be friends with each other is intercourse. (Hear, hear.) Let us come together—let us be one family, one nation; let us maintain peace and good-will among each other, for I believe it is the interest of all to maintain peace. (Hear, hear.) I do not believe in war or 'rumours of war.' I believe the true interest of mankind rests on giving the greatest amount of employment to the greatest number of people. I believe in the utility of universal education. (Great cheering.) And I would teach every man, woman, and child in Ireland to read and write if possible. (Hear, hear.) Give the people universal education—and I beg to be understood on this point—living in a country, as I do, that is ruled by self-government—hear, hear—a government of the people, and from the people our only security lies in universal education founded on religion. (Loud cheers.)"

**Queen's College, Ireland.**—The second report of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland, just issued, gives a most satisfactory account of the progress of these institutions for the education of the middle classes. Sir Robert Kane congratulates the friends of liberal education, that, notwithstanding the exertions made to prevent students from availing themselves of the advantages of the Cork College, the number of the matriculated students is almost double that exhibited in the reports submitted at the end of last year.