

—In connection with the Ragged-School Union there were in 171 school buildings 201 Sunday-schools, with 25,000 scholars, 172 day-schools, with above 18,000 scholars; and 211 evening-schools, with above 9,000 scholars. The industrial schools were 3,600, and the voluntary teachers numbered 2,800. The appeal for a special fund of £3,000 had been responded to, to the extent of £2,000, and it was hoped that the other £1,000 would soon be forthcoming. The gross income had been £3,600.

—The Scotch papers contain an interesting account of the annual commemoration of Trinity College, Glenalmond, which, under the management of its Warden, Dr. Hannah, who has this year been elected Bampton Lecturer at Oxford, seems fast winning its way to the foremost rank among the educational institutions of Great Britain. Amongst the pupils to whom Honours were awarded, we observe with pleasure the name of young Lord Bruce, Lord Elgin's eldest son, who was born at Quebec in 1849. Lord Bruce is noted as Dux of the Third Form, also as First in his class of Modern Languages, and the gainer of a First Prize determined by the general examination. It is gratifying thus to see the son of our former distinguished Governor, giving such early promise of thus honourably maintaining the dignity of his ancient house. —*Journal of Education for Upper Canada.*

—The Committee of the Privy Council have issued the report of their proceedings in 1861, of which the *Times* of this morning gives the following summary:—In the course of the year the number of schools, or departments of schools, under separate teachers, which were inspected, increased by 497, the number of children by 65,758, of pupil-teachers by 742, of certificated teachers by 987, of students in training for teachers 43; new school accommodation was created for 47,103 children. The 60 inspectors visited 10,900 daily schools, or departments of schools, and found present in them 1,028,690 children (five boys to four girls,) 8,069 certificated teachers, and 15,498 apprentices. The inspectors also visited 9 training colleges for teachers, occupied by 2,869 students, and examined these and 2,782 candidates, besides visiting 442 schools for pauper children, containing 30,000 inmates, and 58 ragged or industrial schools, containing 4,411 inmates. The Privy Council Committee notice that while making a certificated teacher a condition of annual grants, they have provided for the granting of certificates to younger and humbler classes of candidates for service in small schools, and that they are now engaged in revising the subjects wherein teachers are required to be examined. Teachers' certificates are not the monopoly of a class, they are not confined to former pupil-teachers or to students from normal schools, but any teachers whatever, who have obtained two favorable reports by the inspector upon their schools, may be presented by their employers as candidates. The Committee express their hope that by the encouragement they have given to the instruction of infants, as a foundation, and to the instruction of evening scholars, as a continuance of the elementary day-school, a road has been marked out for the solid and suitable education of the classes who support themselves in independence by manual labour. This, indeed, is not the whole of the work to be done; but the education of the pauper class, on the one hand, and of the emigrant or criminal class, on the other, are now rigidly dealt with by legislation as separate parts of the question: and with, by way of supplement, the Missionary action of Sunday-schools and ragged-schools, the Committee feel justified in expressing a confident hope that no part of the great field of education for the poor remains unknown or uncared for, and that in the midst of many difficulties and more differences progress is being everywhere made. A subsidiary measure of great importance consists in the increased powers now vested in the Charity Committee for dealing, by a cheap and expeditious process, with small endowments; and the responsibility thrown by recent measures upon the local managers of schools is likely to direct their attention to their resources derivable from an improved application of existing endowments.—*Ed. Times.*

—We (says the *N. Y. Observer*) noticed last year, the violent measures of the Russian Government in closing the University and imprisoning some of the students. Letters from St. Petersburg to the 15th of October, report upon the still unsettled state of affairs. The soldiers were out on the 14th, and were actively engaged in driving the people and students from the ground between the University and the Academy of Fine Arts. The secret police tried to seduce the students to attend a meeting called by the spies themselves but had failed, the students having even postponed a meeting called by themselves. It is reported that the young gentlemen are behaving very well. There were still about seventy in the fortress. The University is now not only shut, but dissolved. An order is placarded all over St. Petersburg announcing the dissolution, and directing all who wish to become students at the University, as it is about to be reconstituted in accordance with the regulations lately issued, to send in petitions to that effect before Saturday. A letter from St. Petersburg, dated 25th October, says:—Last Wednesday the gates of the University were re-opened under the protection of two squadrons of gendarmes and a company of Cossacks. On Thursday a strong manifestation was made. The police doubtless expected it, as the number of corps had been increased. Some refractory students were arrested in the halls of the University, which they had entered without the permission of the authorities. About 200 others were driven into the court, surrounded, and then seized. Blows were given with the butt ends of muskets, and blood was shed. This is attributed to various causes. Some say the

head of police ordered a charge. Others that the students were wounded while endeavouring to rescue their comrades.

—The Wesleyans having established a Free School in the basement of their church in the Quebec suburb of this city, the Directors invited the pupils to a festival on Christmas eve. Having gone through vocal and other exercises the little guests sat down to a repast and were afterwards addressed by John Dougall, Esq. Among these children were nine Gipsy boys of the tribe lately from England and now enjoying a lull in their itinerant mode of life at the Mile End.

—A reunion of the pupils of the *Academie St. Denis*, St. Denis street, held during the Christmas holidays, furnished an excellent opportunity for displaying the advantages offered by this first-class school, which is conducted by the Sisters of the Congrégation of Notre-Dame. The recitations of two pathetic compositions in verse on the death of one of the young pupils, daughter of the Hon. T. J. J. Loranger, which took place during his absence in Europe, enlisted the warm sympathies of all present, and formed a touching incident in the exercises of the day. One of these little essays was repeated in English by Miss Power, and the other in French by Miss Dorion, daughter of the Hon. A. A. Dorion.

## SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE

—In a paper which will be found in the *Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society* for August, 1862, Professor Ramsay gives reasons for considering that the great Alpine lakes, such as Geneva, Zurich, Constance, Maggiore, Lugano, Como, and others, "do not lie among the strata in basins merely produced by disturbance of the rocks, but in hollows due to denuding agencies that operated long after the complicated foldings of the miocene and other strata were produced." He remarks that none of these lakes lie in simple sinclinal troughs, and that in no case of lakes among the Alps is it possible to affirm that we have a sinclinal hollow, of which the original uppermost beds remain. After showing the objections to various theories of the formation of the lake hollows, he observes, "Now, if the Lake of Geneva do not lie in a sinclinal trough, in an area of subsidence, in a line or fracture, nor in an area of mere aqueous erosion, we have only one other great moulding agency left, namely, that of ice." He then shows that "when at its largest, the great glacier of the Rhone debouched upon the miocene beds where the eastern end of the Lake of Geneva now lies." It was "about 2200 feet thick when it abutted upon the mountains, and when it first flowed out upon the plain at the mouth of the valley of the Rhone, the ice, according to Charpentier, must have been 2780 feet thick. Add to this the depth of the lake of 984 feet, and the total thickness of the ice must have been 3764 feet at what is now the eastern part of the lake." "I conceive, then," he adds, "that this enormous mass of ice, pushing first N. W., and then partly W., scooped out the hollow of the Lake of Geneva most deeply in its eastern part, opposite Lausanne, where the thickness and the weight of ice, and consequently its grinding power, were greatest." He applies similar reasoning to other Alpine lakes and to the great lakes of North America, also to lakes in Cumberland and Scotland, and elsewhere.—*Intellectual Observer.*

—*Cosmos* informs us that in five years terminating with 1859-60 fifty wells have been sunk in the Algerine Sahara, capable of yielding 36,761 litres of water per minute. 30,000 palms and 1000 fruit-trees have been planted. Numerous oases have been recovered from ruin, and two fresh villages established. The expense has not yet reached 298,000 francs, and has been covered by a slight additional tax, and by voluntary contributions from the Arabs. The water is slightly saline, and a little bitter from the presence of Epsom salts, but it is not found to be unwholesome.—*Ibid.*

—The *Chemical News* gives the following, on the authority of the *Journal de Pharmacie*, as an innocent substitute for arsenic of copper in pastrycook's work. Infuse for twenty-four hours 0.32 grammes of saffron in 7 grammes distilled water. Then take 0.26 grammes of carmine of indigo, and infuse them in same manner in 15.6 grammes distilled water. Mix both liquids, and a beautiful green is obtained, 10 parts of which will colour 1000 parts of sugar. To preserve the colour evaporate the liquid to dryness, or convert it into a syrup.—*Ibid.*

## MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The following is an extract from a letter addressed by M. Ryan Esq., to the *Montreal Gazette*.

—Some time since a friend called my attention to an article in the *Boston Pilot*, on "Emigration from Ireland to Canada," in which the worthy editor, being happily free from all anxiety as to affairs at home, evinces much concern for our helpless and benighted condition, and specially exhorts intending emigrants from Ireland to avoid all contact with us. It is scarcely necessary to notice what is sneeringly said in this article about the resources of Canada. These objections, and such as