

quite attainable, and, to a great extent, in his own hands and under his own control. He insisted upon a high degree of attainment, as necessary to the teacher's efficiency, and an essential prerequisite to his elevation to that status in society to which his vocation justly entitles him. While inculcating the importance of self culture, he insisted upon the solemn duty of teachers to maintain a blameless walk and conversation; to cultivate a familiar acquaintance with the branches of Common School instruction, in order to teach them well; to educate their own minds, by entering on a systematic and well arranged plan of study; taking one at a time, and going through it in the most thorough and exact manner possible; to promote the interests of the profession, and to improve the art of teaching.—All those points were insisted upon at some length, and pressed home with a good deal of earnestness. The chair then submitted the question:—"Whether reading can be well taught without neglecting the thoughts." This question gave rise to an interesting discussion, which was carried on at considerable length, by the Rev. Mr. Fraser, the Rev. Mr. Caulfield, Messrs. Treble, Campbell, Potts, Howard and Munro. The discussion resulted in the unanimous adoption of the following resolution: "That in order to teach children to read with ease, elegance and expression: it is necessary that the subjects for exercise should be level with their comprehension, and calculated to interest them." The afternoon session was opened by a lecture from Mr. Treble on the "Utility of Teachers' Associations." He dwelt upon the responsibility the teacher incurred in engaging to impress upon the susceptible mind of the child, the features of intellectual and moral beauty. He drew attention to the fact, that we have no warrant to believe, that the impressions made in the schoolroom will be effaced in time or eternity, and inferred the duty of making due preparation for the proper discharge of the arduous and responsible duties that devolve upon us, as educators of the rising young; and pressed upon the attention of those present, the opportunities that teachers' Associations affords for mutual encouragement, and for diffusing more widely the mature dictates of experience. The Association then engaged in a discussion on the best method of teaching writing, which resulted in the adoption of the following resolution; "That the practice, which appears to prevail of making beginners commence with a small, instead of a free round text hand, militates against improvement, and should be discouraged." The Rev. Mr. Fraser, the Rev. Mr. Caulfield, Messrs. McLachlin, Treble, and Black, are engaged to lecture and to conduct discussions at the next meeting, which will take place in October next.—*Weekly Despatch*.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

At the recent prorogation of the Imperial Parliament, the speaker of the House of Commons thus announced to the Queen the passage of the Act relating to the University of Oxford:—"We have given the most attentive consideration to a measure for the good government and extension of the University of Oxford, by which certain oaths now required to be taken by students have been abrogated, provision made for the establishment of private halls, and enlarged powers given both to the University and to its colleges."...In the royal Speech from the throne Her Majesty thus graciously replies:—"The means you have adopted for the better government of the University of Oxford, and the improvement of its constitution, I trust will tend greatly to increase the usefulness and to extend the renown of this great seminary of learning."...Mr Hamilton has proposed in the House of Commons that all matriculations, degrees and certificates shall in future be free of stamp duty so far as regards the University of Dublin.—Similar concessions as regards Oxford and Cambridge are also proposed in other forms; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer has consented to the principle involved....It is in agitation to establish a university in Wales, to accomplish which it is further proposed to unite and incorporate the College of St. David's at Lampeter, the Llandovery Institution, the Brecon College and the various endowed Grammar Schools in the Principality, and that students from all the above shall be admissible for degrees in art and divinity. The idea has been mooted by the Anglo Welsh Clergymen—that is the clergymen employed in Wales where the English language is spoken and preached.... There are four state universities in Sardinia, with 3,000 pupils, and over 12,000 pupils in the secondary schools. That little kingdom is trying to keep up with the age....A Cape Town correspondent of an English paper thus speaks of the recent elections at the Cape of Good Hope:—"In their respective addresses nearly all the members have spoken largely and well in favour of all kinds of improvements and reforms. Judging from present ap-

pearances, we are, ere long, to have breakwaters, docks, railroads, bridges and other public works for the advancement of commerce and agriculture, and for the development of the vast mineral wealth of this continent. As all are in favour of education, we may expect the establishment of colleges and schools on a scale never before witnessed at the Cape; and so far as the respective Christian churches are concerned, there is to be a more equal distribution of Government grants for educational and ecclesiastical purposes. Under our New Government we are to have no State Church, no sects, no parties, as such; but every man is to be regarded according to his moral and intellectual worth, and not according to his church, nation or color. The first Cape Parliament is to assemble at the close of the present month, and we shall see."

UNITED STATES.

MONTHLY SUMMARY

The Trustees of the People's College for the State of New-York recently met at Binghamton and organised the Board by the appointment of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. After the appointment of various committees, the Board adjourned to meet again at Elmira on the 22nd of November next....The season of College Commencements has just closed. The interest usually excited on these occasions has been well sustained in most of the Colleges....In an oration made at William's College, Massachusetts, Hon. Edward Everett speaking of Common Schools remarked "I would rather occupy the bleakest nook of the mountain that towers above us, with the wild wolf and rattlesnake for my nearest neighbours, with a village school, well kept, at the bottom of the hill, if I must bring up my children in lazy, pampered, self sufficient ignorance."...The effort determined upon a year or two since to raise a fund of \$50,000 to strengthen and improve Williams College, has succeeded so far that \$28,000 is subscribed, of which \$10,000 has been paid over to the college. Morris Ketchum of New York gave \$5,000, which, aside from Amos Lawrence's generous benefactions, is the largest contribution to the college from any single person. Had Amos Lawrence lived a week longer, probably the whole of the desired fund would have been made up long ere this.

Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

A Correspondent of the Arts Society Journal, suggests the erection of a cast-iron statue of Shakespeare one hundred feet in height! The interior to consist of three stories, on each of which, there would be an apartment eighty feet in circumference and fifteen feet high; that by an ingenious contrivance, light should be admitted at various places not visible from the outside; and the top room lighted by a roof of glass fixed in the head, and by the apertures of the eyes,—which would each be two feet wide....The M.S. of Gray's *Elegy in a Country Churchyard* was sold at auction in London last month for £130 sterling....The glass of the Crystal Palace, when illuminated by the Sun, can be seen at a distance of twenty six miles....The Rev. Dr. Livingston, the eminent African Missionary Traveller, supposed to have been lost, has at length reached the Portuguese Territory of Angola in Africa, Lat. 14° 10' S., and Long. 23° 35'. He had made his way up through the interior from the Cape of Good Hope. In the course of his travels he discovered a very large river, which he navigated in a canoe, from lat. 14°, to lat. 18°. He also found that Lake Ngami is situated two degrees westward of the place assigned to it in the map. The interior of Africa, will no longer be a *terra incognita* owing to Dr. Livingston's researches....A guild of Literature and Art, projected by Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, has recently been established in England, the object of which is to encourage Life Insurance and other provident habits among authors and artists; to render such assistance to both as shall never compromise their independence, and prospectively to found a new institution, where honourable rest from arduous labour shall still be associated with the discharge of congenial duties....A complete manuscript copy of the celebrated Penal Code, promulgated by Charles V. in 1532, has been discovered by Dr. Schletter of Leipzig, in a library of that City. As fragments of this Code only were known to exist its discovery is important, as, apart from its historical interest, the Code is the foundation of the criminal law in Germany....A Mr. Merryweather, as stated by the *Journal de Quebec*, has been enabled to form a Barometer by means of the Horseleech. The simplest barometer has