

records which cannot be sent to the Institution, monthly or other mean results deduced from them are requested, with explanations of the manner in which the observations were made, the character of the instruments, &c.

Proper acknowledgement of all information derived from the records will, in every instance, be given, and the registers themselves will be carefully preserved and returned, if desired, to those from whom they were obtained.

When it is recollected that isolated observations are greatly enhanced in value, and made to yield new results by comparison with other observations it is hoped that the request of the Institution will meet with favorable regard.

DISCOVERY OF COVERDALE'S BIBLE.—A copy of the first complete edition of the English Bible, printed by Miles Coverdale, bearing date 1435, was accidentally discovered a short time since, in the false bottom of an old oak chest, at Holkham Hall, Norfolk, the seat of the Earl of Leicester. There are numerous imperfect copies of this edition of the Holy Scriptures in existence, two being deposited in the library of the British Museum, one in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, one in the Cambridge University Library, and in fact most of the great libraries and public institutions in England, as well as many private individuals possess a volume. The copy now brought to light is the most valuable specimen of Miles Coverdale's labors hitherto known, being in every respect perfect, whereas all the other volumes enumerated are deficient of many leaves both at the beginning and at the end. The proprietor at Holkham has had the book appropriately bound, and enclosed in an oak box, and it now graces the shelves of its magnificent library. A London bookseller is said to have offered £500 for this biographical treasure.

THE PANTHEON.—The Pantheon, which has just been restored to the services of religion, was designed by J. G. Soufflot, in 1757, but the first stone of one of the pillars of the dome was not laid by Louis XV. until the 5th of Sept., 1764. The principal façade is imitated from the Pantheon at Rome. The church was dedicated to St. Génèveève. The national assembly on the 4th of April, 1791, changed the destination of the building, by decreeing that it should become the burying place of Frenchmen illustrious by talent, virtue or public services. All the signs which characterize a religious edifice were in consequence removed and replaced by symbols of liberty and the republic, and the inscription in bronze letters was placed on the front, "Aux Grands Hommes la Patrie reconnaissante." The honors of the Pantheon were awarded to Mirabeau, who died on the 2nd of April, 1791. By decrees of the 14th of July and the 16th of October of that year the same honors were conferred on Voltaire and Rousseau. In virtue of a decree of the 21st of September, 1793, the body of Marat was transferred to the Pantheon, and that of Mirabeau was withdrawn. But after the affair of the 9th Thermidor, an. II, (July 27, 1794,) the remains of Marat were taken from the Pantheon and thrown into the common sewer of Montmartre. The national convention on the 20th Pluviose, an. III. (Feb. 2nd, 1795,) declared that the honours of the Pantheon could only be accorded to a citizen ten years after his death. Napoleon by decree of the 20th of February, 1808, enacted that the Pantheon should be restored to public worship, but still retain the destination fixed by the national assembly. The inscription, however, "Aux Grands Hommes la Patrie reconnaissante," was only re-established after the accession of King Louis Philippe. Under his Majesty considerable works were undertaken, and at this moment the monument is entirely finished, with the exception of placing bronze doors in the nave. The cost of the edifice altogether has exceeded 25,000,000*fr.*

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H. RUTTAN.

Cobourg, 29th April, 1853.

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