

## Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

**Items.**—A new medical journal is about to be published at Toronto, by Messrs. A. H. Armour & Co., and will be under the editorship of several medical gentlemen. The first number is to appear on the 15th of April.—Lord John Russell, in a letter to the President of the Royal Society, announces the intention of Government to place £1,000 at the disposal of the society this year for scientific purposes.—Professor Mosley has recently presented to the Admiralty an excellent paper on the rolling motion of ships, which the Admiralty have sent to all their departments for their information.—Three hundred model life-boats have been forwarded to the Admiralty from all parts of Great Britain, in competition for the prize of one hundred guineas, offered by the Duke of Northumberland.—Mr. Maxwell, the well-known author of "Wild Sports of the West" and "The Story of my Life," and largely a contributor to the periodical literature of his day, died at Musselburg, near Edinburgh, on the 29th of last month.—The celebrated Spontini, the author of "La Vestale" and "Fernand Cortez," has lately died at Jesi, his native place, in the Roman States, where he had gone to pass the winter in the hope of re-establishing his health.—Goodrich—the Peter Parley of literature—has been appointed American Consul at Paris, in the place of Mr. Walsh, resigned.—The Professors Silliman, of Yale College, are visiting Europe for the purpose chiefly of making a geological exploration of the central and southern portions of that continent. They will proceed to the continent, and after visiting the volcanic regions of central France, will make the tour of Italy, visiting Vesuvius and Etna, and will return to England in time to attend the meeting of the British Academy of Sciences, which takes place at Ipswich, in July. They will subsequently visit Switzerland and the Alps, and return to this country in the autumn.—Professor Agassiz has just returned, with his assistant, from Cape Florida. He, it is said, has made many interesting discoveries relative to the origin and formation of the Florida Reefs and Keys. Some seventeen different species of the coral insect have been detected, each one of which, under his powerful microscope, is magnified to the size of a hickory nut. For the last few days he has been making examinations in the Everglades, which contain about three millions of acres of land covered with water.—The fine arts are receiving some impulse from the numerous visitors to Rome. The talented Prussian sculptor, Wolff, who is well known in England from having executed, beside many classic groups, some busts of the Royal family, and a statue of Prince Albert as a Greek warrior, has just completed an exquisite figure of Paris. His four statues, personifying the seasons, have been purchased by an English amateur. Mr. Gibson is commencing the models of two very important works, Queen Victoria on her throne between two allegorical figures, representing Justice and Clemency, for the House of Lords, and the colossal statue of Sir Robert Peel.—Her Majesty has been pleased to grant a pension of £50 per annum to the widow of the late Mr. Sturgeon, of Manchester, the well-known writer and lecturer on electricity.—A pension of £100 per annum on the Queen's Civil List has been conferred on Mrs. Liston, the widow of the late Robert Liston, Esq., the eminent surgeon, whose sudden demise was so generally lamented.—Lieutenant's Waghorn's widow has been additionally pensioned by the liberality of Sir Jamset-jee Jujubhoy, the wealthy native merchant of Bombay; the Par-ee Knight has bestowed £20 per annum upon her.—The *Times* states that besides paper and advertisement duty, amounting to £35,000, this journal annually pays £60,000 for stamps alone.—On dit, that the *Daily News* has lately changed hands, having been purchased by the London Water Companies, for the purpose of advocating their interests.—A prefatorial notice in the new edition of Major General Napier's *History of War in the Peninsula*, states that the gallant author is indebted to lady Napier, his wife, not only for the arrangement and translation of an enormous pile of official correspondence written in three languages, but for that which is far more extraordinary, the elucidation of the secret cypher of Jerome Bonaparte and others, by her own untiring perseverance and labour. The value which this discovery has been to the history, speaks for itself.—Sir David Brewster, the eminent Scotch savan, has given in his adhesion to what is called Electro-biology.—Gesner's Kerosene Gas, a recently discovered illuminator, appears to be winning its way to public favour. We observe by an article in the *Scientific American*, that a patent has been taken out at Washington for a further improvement in illuminating gas, recently made by Dr. Gesner, of Nova Scotia, which the scientific editor pronounced to be "one of the most valuable discoveries, ever made in the manufacture of oil, resin, or asphaltum gases."—Prof. Charles G. Page, of Washington, has been engaged for the last five months in applying electro-magnetic power to a locomotive engine.—A new kind of steam engine has been invented by Mr. John Dodd, of West Flamboro', who has devoted much time to the study of mechanics. It differs entirely from the common steam engine, both in principle and construction. The entire engine may be put into a small box, and is perfect in itself. We

understand that the inventor intends to have his engine patented here, in the United States, and in England; to which latter place he will proceed with a model for exhibition at the World's Fair in May next.—An American binder has prepared a specimen of his art for the World's Fair. It consists of a Bible in 2 vols.—the Old and New Testaments. Four months of time and \$600 have been expended on the 2 vols.—In Edinburgh the Lord's Prayer has been engraved for the exhibition on a piece of gold so small that a common pin head covers it. It can be read with a magnifying glass.—In London, the first 93 Psalms has been written upon two small outline figures of the Queen and Prince Albert.—A most minute and complete model of Shakspeare's house at Stratford-upon-Avon will be sent to the exhibition; also, a complete model of the battle of Trafalgar, with 70 vessels fully rigged; and a model of a real Deal lugger.—Among many specimens of artistic skill shown at the late exhibition of the Royal Dublin Society, was some hand-spun flax, to the length of nearly *one hundred and thirty-one miles*, spun from one pound's weight, by Miss Wilson. When we consider the patience, and perseverance, and delicacy of touch, which can prevent knots or inequalities in the cobweb-like thread, we have reason for astonishment.—Messrs. Pilkington, extensive glass-manufacturers, of St. Helens, intend to transmit to the exhibition one of the most magnificent specimens of workmanship in glass ever yet produced. It is intended to represent St. Michael and the Angel; a subject taken from the Revelations.—Mr. Wyld has succeeded in purchasing the area in Leicester-square for the erection of his monster globe. The interior of the globe will be upwards of sixty feet in diameter, and the whole surface of the earth modelled with the greatest possible accuracy, embracing all the latest discoveries, upon a scale of ten miles to the inch horizontal, and one inch to the mile vertical: every mountain, river and lake will be laid down in a way that each visitor to this highly interesting and scientific exhibition may become in an hour an entire cosmopolite.—It is stated that 500 guineas have been offered for the privilege of advertising on the last page of the catalogue of the exhibition.—Among the novelties preparing for the exhibition, is a very extraordinary one, for which a building is now erecting. An English poet has written a poem of six hundred stanzas descriptive of the creation—one hundred stanzas for each of the six days; and this poem is to be illustrated by a large and ingenious Diorama, the exhibition of which is to be extended over six days—that is to say, a day is to be devoted to the illustration of each one hundred stanzas of the poem, which will be confined to the work of creation of each particular day.—The General Manager of the London and Westminster Bank, has offered a prize of one hundred guineas to the author of the best essay showing in what way any of the articles collected at the industrial exhibition can be rendered especially serviceable to the interests of practical banking, whether in the shape of office improvements, or otherwise.—One of the chief objects which will be sent for exhibition is a magnificent model of the docks, and a portion of the town of Liverpool. The model, which is of wood, is forty feet in length, from six to ten feet wide, and upon the scale of eight feet to a mile, represents a surface of about five miles. The docks will be represented as filled with 1600 vessels fully rigged, and the model altogether will form a very beautiful object.—Budr-oo-deen Ulee Khan, the well known chief of seal cutters at Delhi, has produced his *chef d'œuvre* for the great exhibition. They are designed for the Queen and Prince Albert. The seal for Her Majesty is a cornelian, with the corners neatly cut off; the size about one inch square. On it is cut: Shah-in-sha Soleman Jah, Kywan Bargah Khagan Sooltan-oo-buhr, Morud ulfa, izzut, riham Badshah Englistan-o-Ireland, Furnal, Monealik-i-Hind, Nasir-oo-deen-i-Musaeih—Mulkih Mo-uzuma, Victoria. Translation: First Monarch of the world, as Solomon in magnificence, with a court like Saturn, Empress of the age. Sovereign of the seas. The source of beneficence. By the grace of God, Queen of England and Ireland. Ruler of the Kingdom of Hindostan. Defender of the Faith of Christ, the great Queen Victoria! Prince Albert's seal is of the same size, but cut on a blood stone, and has the following inscription: Ul Muhood bu tuyeed-i-Illahee, Fukher, Khandan, Shah-in-Shah Brunswick mees no-nzig Mulkih mo-uzuma, Rufeool qudr walu shan o sur amud Bargah-i-Englistan Albert Francis Augustus Charles Emanuel. Translation: The distinguished by the aid of God. The noblest of the family of Brunswick. The honoured companion of the great Queen. Prince highest in rank, great in dignity, the chief in excellence of the English Court, Albert, &c. He has also prepared two beautiful emeralds for seal rings, to be presented by himself as specimens of his art, one for the Queen, three-eighths of an inch in length by two-eighths in breadth, on which the following lines are beautifully cut: Badshah Buhr-o-bur. Adil, bu tuyeed-i-Khoda-Hookm ran dur hufi. Kishwur, mulkih Victoria. Translation: Sovereign of the sea and land. The just, by the favour of God, Governor of the World (or the seven climates), Queen Victoria. The one for Prince Albert is of the same size, but has simply the Christian names before enumerated.—The Rajah of Travancore, Madras presidency, has presented Her Majesty Queen Victoria with a throne or chair of state, composed of polished ivory, and inlaid