for the establishment of an independent Normal School They find it does not work well to have the Normal School an appendage of another institution, however good that may be. They are certainly light in attempting to make school-teaching a profession, and to give their teachers a thorough professional training. We know of no surer or cheaper way of attaining these results than by founding good Normal Schools.

The Journal of Education for April contains Hon. J. L. Pickard's parting address to the teachers of the state. The subject is, 'Avoid Extremes.' The teacher should avoid extremes in dress; in the estimate he puts upon his own ability; in the views he takes of the character of his work, and the character of his pupils; in his manner of teaching and in the matter taught, in the discipline of the school-room, and his bearing toward his pupils and patrons. The address is a fitting conclusion to Mr. Pickard's zealous labors in Wisconsin.—Illinois Teacher.

— The Secretary of the Board of Education in Vermont is laboring with great zeal and success in that state. His last report says the whole number of children of school age—i. e. between the ages of four and eighteen—is 85,795; showing an increase of 533 over 1863. Of this number 73,259 have actually attended the schools. The number of pupils between eighteen and twenty that have attended the schools is 2,765. It appears that less than one-tenth of the pupils of the state have attended any other than the public schools. The number of teachers employed during the year was 4,841. The average wages of male teachers was \$20.48, of female teachers \$3.16, per month. The report advocates the consolidation of all the colleges of the state.—Mussachusetts Teacher.

— We have examined with interest the Seventeenth Annual Report upon the Common Schools of New Hamsphire. The State Board of Education consists of the County Commissioners of Common Schools, appointed by the Governor and Council, and reports annually to the Legislature. The Board recommends the appointment of a State Superintendent of Schools, the establishment of a State Normal School and of Teachers' Institutes. The arguments in behalf of a State Normal School are unanswerable, and we doubt not will be heeded by the General Court.

The following is a summary of some of the leading school statistics of the state: Number of pupils four years of age and upward, attending the school not less than two weeks, 85,347, average attendance during the year, 52,550; number of children between four and fourteen not attending school anywhere, 3,470. Average monthly wages of male teachers, \$24, 77; of female teachers, \$15.48. Number of male teachers employed, 861: of female teachers, 3,166. Teachers unsuccessful, 154. School-houses unfit for use, 504. Average length of summer schools in weeks, 10.81; of winter schools, 10.86.—Iona Instructor and School Journal.

— While the old Bay State Massachusetts takes so much interest in the cause of education in other parts of the country, and every other good thing, for that matter, still she preaches not by precept alone, but also by example. The Agent of the Board of Education, in his report, says: "No year of my service for the Board has furnished stronger evidence of the growing attachment of the people to the cause of popular education. 'Come what may, we must hold on to our schools—the source of our strength and prosperity alike in peace or war,' is the sentiment which I have every where met. This increasing interest and progress have been evinced, not only by the marked increase in appropriations, but by a better public sentiment, a more intelligent appreciation of schools; by the decline of the district system, and the consequent advancement in the gradation and classification of the schools; by the crection of improved, and in some cases costly, school-houses, and the introduction of better school furniture, in the face of war taxes and high prices; by the increase in the number of high schools, town libraries, and superintendents of schools; by the increased demand for graduates of our Normal Schools, the greater number of female teachers, and the consequent greater permanency of teachers, and adoption of wiser and milder methods of school-government; by the wider introduction of calisthenics and vocal gymnastics, and of object lessons and instruction in common things."

We extract the following statistics from the Report of the Board of

Education:—	
The present number of public schools	4,675
Increase for the year.	49
Number of persons in the state between five and fifteen years	
of age May 1, 1863	241,644
Ratio of mean average attendance for the year to the whole	,-,
number of persons between the ages of five and fifteen	74
Number of teachers in the summer	5,408
" " " winter	5,476
Average length of public schools, 7 months and 19 days.	-,
Average wages of male teachers per month	\$46.73
" " female teachers per month	19.37
Aggregate expenditure for the year on public schools, exclu-	
sive of the cost of books and school-houses	\$1,679,700.24
Increase of aggregate expenditure on public schools	
Average expenditure for each person between five and fifteen	
years of age	\$6.95
The whole number of students in the four Normal Schools	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
during the year	561
Number of graduates	155

—Illinois Teacher.

—It would appear by a report to the French Government on the establishment of a Normal school at Algiers that there were in the colony 231 primary schools under the management of lay teachers.

## LITERARY INTELLIGENCE

— The Literary Institute of St. Sauveur, Quebec, has just received through the hands of the French consul a handsome collection of books, the gift of H. I. M. the Empress of the French.

—The long vacant memberships in the French Academy have just been filled by the appointment of M Camille Doucet, who succeeds M. Alfred de Vigny, and M. Prévost Paradol who replaces M. Ampere. The first appointed is a dramatist and the last was editor of the Journal des Debuts.

## SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

— According to the Canadien there are in North America four species of butterflies whose larve produce silk that may be turned to account in manufactures, they are the Cecepio, Luna, I oughemus, and Promethea. Of the three first, which are all found in Lower Canada, the Polyphemus is the most common. It feeds on the leaves of the oak, white birch and other forest trees, and can resist the severest cold of winter. Towards the end of summer the moth of this species weaves its cocoon and passes into the chrysalid form, only emerging from its reteat as a perfect insect during the first warm days of the succeeding summer. It is a beautiful nocturnal butterfly, resplendent with colors the most varied and striking.

## NECROLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The late Mr. Lincoln was born in a part of Hardin county, Ky., which is now included in Laura county, February 12, 1809. His ancestors, who were Quakers, went from Berks county, Penn., to Rockingham county, Va , and from thence his grandfather, Abraham, removed with his family to Kentucky about 1782, and was killed by Indians in 1784. Thomas Lincoln, the father of Abraham, was born in Virginia, and in 1806 married None; Hanks, also a Virginian. In 1816 he removed wath his family to what is now Spencer county, Ind., where Abraham, being large to, his age, was put to work with an axe to assist in clearing away the forest, and for the next ten years was mostly occupied in hard labour on his father's farm. He went to school at intervals, amounting in the aggregate to about a year, which was all the school education he ever received. At the age of nineteen he made a trip to New Orleans as a hired hand upon a flat boat. In March, 1830, he removed with his father from Indiana, and settled in Macon county, Ill., where he helped to build a log cabin for the family home, and to make enough rails to fence ten acres of land. In the following year he hired himself at \$12 a month to assist in building a flat boat, and afterwards in taking the boat to New Orleans. On his return from this voyage his employer put him in charge as a clerk of a store and mill at New Salem, then in Sangamon, now in Monard county, Ill. On the breaking out of the Black Hawk war in 1832, he joined a volunteer company, and to his surprise was elected captain of it, a promotion which he says, gave him more pleasure than any subsequent success in life. He served for three months in the campaign and on his return was in the same year nominated a Whig candidate for the legislature. He next opened a country store, which was not prosperous, was appointed postmaster of New Salem, and now began to study law by borrowing from a neighboring lawyer books in the evening and returning them in the morning. The surveyor of Sangamon county offering to depute to him that portion of his work which was in his part of the country, Mr. Lincoln procured a compass and chain and a treatise on surveying, and did the work. In 1834 he was elected to the legislature, and was re-elected in 1836, 1838, and 1840. In 1836 he obtained a license to practise law, and in April, 1836, removed to Springfield, and opened an office in partnership with Major John F. Smart. He rose rapidly to distinction in his profession, and was especially eminent as an advocate in jury trials. He did not, however, withdraw from politics, but continued for many years a prominent leader of the Whig party in Illinois. He was presidential elector in behalf of Henry Clay. In 1836 he was elected a representative in Congress from the central district of Illinois, and took his seat on the first Monday in December, 1847. On Jan 16, 1849, he offered to the House a scheme for abolishing slavery in the District by compensating the slave owners from the treasury of the United States, provided a majority of citizens of the district should vote for the acceptance of the proposed act. He opposed the annexation of Texas, but voted for the loan bill to enable the government to defray the expenses of the Mexican war. He was a member of the whig national convention of 1848, and advocated the nomination of Gin. Taylor After the expiration of his congressional term Mr. Lincoln applied himself to his profession till the repeal of the Missouri Compromise called him again into the political arena. At the republican national convention in 1856, by which Col. Fremont was nominated for president, the Illinois delegation meffectually urged Mr. Lincoln's nomination for the vice-presidency. On June 2, 1858, the republican State convention met at Springfield, and unanimously nominated him as candidate for U. S. senator in opposition to Mr. Douglas. The two candidates convassed the state together, speaking