

we find the atmosphere. Hence the perpetual snow on very high mountains in the hottest climate. Now when from continued evaporation, the air is highly saturated with vapor, though it be invisible and the sky cloudless, if its temperature is suddenly reduced by cold currents descending from above, or rushing from a higher to a lower latitude, its capacity to retain moisture is diminished, clouds are formed, and the result is rain. Air condenses as it cools, and like a sponge filled with water and compressed, pours out the water which its diminished capacity cannot hold. How singular yet how simple, the philosophy of rain! What but Omniscience could have devised such an admirable arrangement for watering the earth?—*Scientific Journal*.

EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.—The Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on education have recently had the following subjects under consideration:—

1. The state of Schools in small rural parishes.

2. The conditions of age, attainments, and stipend attached to the several years of a pupil—teachers apprenticeship.

3. The position occupied by teachers between the end of their period of training, and the time of their becoming certificated.

4. The means of providing further by means of night schools, for the continuance of instruction beyond the age at which labour must be commenced.

A Minute of Council embracing and furthering these several objects was made, and instructions issued to the Inspectors of Schools.

SEPARATE SCHOOLS.—"The Montreal True Witness," after arguing for a representation (politically) by population says, on the separate school question, that nothing will satisfy the Catholics, but "separate education of Catholic and Protestant children, no conceivable modification of the common system, no pledges, or guarantee that the faith of pupils shall not be interfered with; no uniform or national system, in short, will we accept." This paper further as-

serts, that the Catholics will support no "Ministry that does not make separate schools and the separate system in its integrity, a plank of its political platform. This also is our ultimatum on the School question, from which never will we recede one inch. We may be defeated, but never will we surrender or yield one inch; never will we consent to listen to any terms of compromise. In the meantime, we will take what we can get; but if anything short of our full demands, will accept of it only as an instalment of a debt due, and long unjustly withheld."

MODEL SCHOOLS OF THE CHURCH AND SCHOOL SOCIETY OF MONTREAL.

—At a recent examination of the pupils of this society—the Bishop of Montreal in the chair; the various classes passed their examinations in grammar, English History, Geography, Arithmetic, Algebra, French, etc. Specimens of drawing and maping were exhibited; the whole was very creditable both to the pupils and their instructors.

This society is reported to be the means of giving instruction to a large number of children, who, in all probability, were it not for its efforts, would be allowed to grow up in gross ignorance.

OPIUM IN THE UNITED STATES.

—Within the last five years, the use of opium has increased thirty per cent. It is said that many of the officials and others who have abandoned the use of spirituous liquors have become extremely intemperate in the use of Opium. Of two evils, this, we think, is choosing the greater; for it is a well known fact, that continual opium users do not live to be more than thirty-six years of age. Intemperance in the use of any thing tends to shorten life.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AT HAMBURG—

GERMANY.—St. Peter's Church is 165 feet in length, and 112 feet in breadth; St. Michael is 245 feet long, by 180 broad, and has a tower 436 feet in height, ascending a stair of nearly 600 steps, and is capable of accommodating 6000 people; it has an organ of 5,600 pipes, and a large crypt, supported by sixty nine granite columns.