

subject and is treated by the artist with deep poetic feeling.—Mr. Paine's "water gas" discovery, has, after much ridicule, been proved to be a *bona fide* contribution to scientific knowledge. He can produce hydrogen from water with great facility, and in any quantity. The hydrogen acquires a high illuminating power by passing through spirits of turpentine.—A copying telegraph has been invented by Mr. Bakewell. The message is written with varnish on tin foil, which is rolled round a cylinder. A point of steel presses upon this cylinder. The electrical current is interrupted when the point comes in contact with the varnish. At the other end of the line another point presses upon paper saturated with muriatic acid and prussiate of potash, and traces the message verbatim as received. The cylinder at both ends of the line revolve at the same rate, and go by clock-work.—There are in London 491 charitable institutions exclusive of local and parochial trusts. Of these 97 are medical and surgical; 103 for the aged; 31 for orphans, &c.: 40 school, book, and visitation societies; 35 Bible and Missionary societies. These associations disburse about £1,765,000, of which £1,000,000, are raised by voluntary effort.—The French revolution of February, 1848, stimulated the sale of newspapers in Paris to an extraordinary extent. M. Boule sold for months together 200,000 and 300,000 copies daily of the different journals of which he was printer. He had 11 presses at work night and day.—The 3rd volume of Humboldt's *Cosmos* is announced for publication.—A tunnel under the Neva, similar to that under the Thames has been projected by the Emperor Nicholas.—The Russian government has prohibited the translation of French novels; the English, however, are permitted.—The Neapolitan government has prohibited the circulation of Humboldt's *Cosmos*, Shakspeare, Goldsmith, Ovid, Sophocles, Victor Hugo, Lamartine, Goethe, Schiller, Thiers, all the German Philosophers, &c., &c.—Oersted, the celebrated chemist, discoverer of electro-magnetism, on the completion of the 50th year of his professorship in the University of Copenhagen, was presented by the King with the Grand Cross of the Order of Dannebrog, and by the University with a new insignia of his doctorate, including a gold ring, bearing the head of Minerva in cameo. The citizens have also presented him with a beautiful villa—the late residence of the lamented Ochenschlager. Oersted is 80 years of age.—A statue in honour of the celebrated astronomer, Dr. Olbers, has just been erected at Bremen. He discovered some asteroids, and a method of calculating the orbits of comets, &c. He was greatly honoured by his countrymen.—Dr. Tappan, of New York, has just published a very valuable work upon "University Education." He regards the present American collegiate system as a failure, and points out a remedy. In connexion with Dr. Wayland's work on the same subject, the publication is significant of the present state of American Universities.—The Earl of Carlisle (Lord Morpeth) has lately been delivering lectures before the Mechanics' Institute of Leeds, on his recent tour in the United States, and on literary subjects.—The *fleur de lis* was made the ornament of the northern radius of the mariners' compass, in compliment to Charles of Anjou (whose device it was), the reigning King of Sicily, at the time when Flavio Gioja, the Neapolitan, first employed that instrument in navigation.—The following are the officers of the Royal Society for 1850-1: President, Lord Rosse; Treasurer, Col. Sabine; Secretaries, Messrs. Hunter, Bell, and Smith.—St. Paul's Cathedral is 404 feet from the pavement to the top of the cross; Salisbury Cathedral spire is 404. The Oxford "Tom" bell weighs 17,000 lbs; Lincoln 12,096.—M. Guizot has been elected President of the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres, and M. de Wailly, Vice-President.—It is stated that an archæologist has lately discovered among the archives at Chartres ninety-two original letters of the Kings of France, from Francis the First to Louis Eighteenth.—In a recent letter to the Rev. Dr. Tefft, of Cincinnati, Martin F. Tupper, Esq., the celebrated English poet, announces his intention of visiting the United States within the next six months.—One of the most rare and beautiful vases in the Vatican was destroyed by a fall on a very windy night. It stood near a window which was blown open. The vase contained the ashes of Germanicus, or of Augustus himself.—The king of Bavaria has formed the gigantic design of causing to be executed a series of pictures on subjects derived from the annals of all times and of all nations, the whole being destined to form a sort of pictorial universal chronology.—Mr. Josiah P. Cooke has been appointed to the Professorship lately held by the unfortunate Dr. Webster.—A person in New York has invented a machine for stopping railway carriages by electricity. The plan contemplates the arrangement of a galvanic battery on the locomotive, under the eye of the engineer, with a rod running to each wheel in the train, connected with the different clogs or breaks, and to be connected with the battery by a touch, so as to apply simultaneously and instantly any desirable amount of pressure to any clog.—Mr. Andrew Smith, C. E., the inventor of the wire rope manufacture, has discovered the affinity between aerial electricity and terrestrial magnetism.—A gentleman of Cork, who has laboured for years in devising a plan to obviate the effects of backwater on paddle-wheels, has proceeded to London, to lay the invention before Messrs. Maudsley, the eminent engineers.—It is said that the Book of Common

Prayer is about to undergo revision by non-ecclesiastical hands. Besides the Premier, another name is mentioned in connexion with the project.—A striking panorama of Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress is now being exhibited in New York.—A model of the celebrated Remington bridge has been exhibiting in Toronto. Its construction is simple and elegant, and combines lightness and strength in a remarkable degree. A Remington bridge has lately been destroyed on an American line of railway. The pressure to which it was subjected being too heavy for the fragile structure.—A despatch has been received from Earl Grey, authorizing the admission of American re-prints of English copy-right works on payment, in terms of the recent Provincial statute, of 20 per cent. duty.—The *Quebec Chronicle* gives a very interesting description of the appearance of the Aurora on the evening of the 16th ult. It was first of a pea-green colour, and of a zig-zag shape; then a snake form, and next—hanging over Beauport as it were—it assumed prismatic colours, viz.:—purple, yellow, and pea-green—the little upright streaks bundling up afterwards, into one another, and two of the colours, the red and the yellow disappearing and re-appearing every now and then, until in about a quarter of an hour the colour was of the same light green hue, as when the aurora was first observed, when assuming various linear and serpentine forms, it receded northward, and by eight o'clock was lost to view.—The Hamilton Mercantile Library and Mechanics' Institute contains 1,000 vols. of books, and is in a flourishing condition.—The Toronto Public Reading Rooms and Libraries appear, also, from recent reports, to be highly prosperous.—The Halifax (Nova Scotia,) Library contains 5,347 volumes.—Upwards of £6,000 have been subscribed in Manchester for the establishment of a free library and museum. The Mayor, J. Potter, Esquire, has obtained by his own personal and unaided efforts about £4,000.—Sir Roderick Murchison and M. Liebig have been elected members of the Royal Danish Academy of Science.—It is stated in the French journals that in consequence of the confusion existing between the maritime calculations of different powers, and the unfortunate occurrences to which it sometimes leads, the naval powers of the north—Russia, Sweden, Denmark, and Holland—have entered into an agreement to open conferences on the old question of a common meridian for all nations. France, Spain, and Portugal, it is said, have given in their adhesion to the scheme; and a hope is held out that England will come into the arrangement. The most advanced opinion on the Continent seems to be in favour of the selection of an entirely neutral point of intersection,—say Cape Horn,—which would have the advantage of being agreeable to the Americans.—Lord Brougham, who has been suffering from partial loss of sight, is considered to be out of danger. He lately read an original paper before the French Academy of Sciences on the diffraction of light.—Pensions on the Civil List, of £100 a year each, have been granted to George Petrie, Esq., LL.D., and to J. Kitto, Esq., M.D. Mr. Petrie is a member of the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts, and Vice-President of the Royal Irish Academy of Sciences, and author of the treatise on the "Round Towers of Ireland," and of many other antiquarian works. Dr. Kitto has been partially deaf and dumb from an accident when a boy, in spite of which difficulties he travelled through many lands. With his physical failings he has done much for the cause of biblical literature, and is the author of many works, such as the "Pictorial Bible," "History of Palestine," "Cyclopædia of Biblical Literature," &c.—Pensions of £100 a year have also been granted to Mrs. Belzoni, the aged widow of the celebrated traveller, and to Mr. Poole the author of "Paul Pry," and of several contributions to periodical literature. The latter is a great sufferer from bodily infirmities.—The number of books, pamphlets, and printed works of every kind, which have been issued from the press in France, during the year 1850, has been 7208. Among these must be reckoned 281 newspapers; 2697 engravings and lithographs are stated to have appeared during the year just expired; 122 maps and plans, 579 pieces of vocal music, and 625 pieces of instrumental music.—The English papers are earnestly advocating the repeal of the paper tax. A public meeting to further this object was to be held in London on the evening of the 2d inst. The London Times says that the paper duty in the case of such publications as Household Words, or Chambers' Journal is more than 20 per cent.

*The Dead of 1850.*—Sir Robert Peel, Louis Philippe, President Taylor; the Duke of Cambridge, the Emperor of China, the American statesman, Calhoun; the Prussian Minister, Count Brandenburg; the Queen of the Belgians; the Duke of Palmella; the Vice Chancellor of England; the Recorder of London; the Chief Justice Doherty of Dublin. Wordsworth, Jeffrey, and Bowles; Miss Jane Porter; Wyatt, the sculptor; Sir Martin A. Shee; Patrick Fraser Tytler, the historian; the elder Brunel; James Smith, the agriculturist; Neander, the German theologian; poor Waghorn, of the overland route; Schumacker, the celebrated astronomer, at Altona; Christian Lauritz Sverdrup, who died in his seventy-ninth year. M. Sverdrup has occupied the chair of philology at the University of Christiania since the foundation of that establishment by Frederick,