

France taking meteorological observations with a view of aiding him in the vast studies he has been for some time past making respecting the climates of different countries. The project has been referred to the Academy. In England, Germany, the British Colonies, and the State of New York, &c., such stations are to a limited extent founded with great success—Dr. Neander's library of 4,000 vols. is to be sold. They will probably be purchased for the University in which Neander lectured—An immense layer of sulphur has been discovered near Alexandria—An iron light-house of vast dimensions is about to be erected on the Fastnet, a solitary rock several miles out in the Atlantic, off the coast of Cork and Kerry—Ptolemy's "Mountains of the Moon" have at length been discovered in Africa—The cashmere shawls prepared by Maharajah Gholab Singh, of Jamoo, for the World's Industrial Exhibition, are valued at £10,000, and are bestowed in free gift on the trustees. The surrounding hill chiefs are also forwarding costly contributions—one sends a suit of steel armour, inlaid with gold—M. Gustave Schwan, a popular poet of Germany, died on the 4th ult., at Stuttgart, aged 58—Great sensation has been caused in the city of Pesth, by the families of several persons, who were executed by order of revolutionary court-martials, having commenced actions against the judges of the courts to recover damages—The oldest Archbishop in Great Britain is the Archbishop of Armagh, aged 77; the youngest, the Archbishop of York, aged 62. The oldest Duke, the Duke of Hamilton, aged 83; the youngest, the Duke of St. Albans, aged 10. The oldest Marquis, the Marquis of Huntly, aged 89; the youngest, the Marquis of Bute, aged 3. The oldest Earl, the Earl of Bantrey, aged 83; the youngest, the Earl of Dunmore, aged 9. The oldest Viscount, the Viscount St. Vincent, aged 84; the youngest, Viscount Hood, aged 12. The oldest Bishop, the Bishop of Durham, aged 80; the youngest, the Bishop of Down, aged 42. The oldest Baron, Baron Berners, aged 88; the youngest, Baron South, aged 18. The oldest Barone, Sir Charles Villavina Hudson, aged 95; the youngest, Sir Reginald Louis Oakes, aged 3—On Saturday, October 25, at five minutes before 1, P. M., two shocks of earthquake were felt in Malta, which though they lasted but a few seconds, damaged the walls of several old buildings—Mr. Faraday, at the last monthly meeting of the Royal Institution, announced to the members present that oxygen is magnetic; that this property of the gas is effected by heat, and that he believes the diurnal variation of the magnetic needle to be due to the action of solar heat on this newly discovered characteristic of oxygen—the important constituent of the atmosphere. M. Bequerel, also, has recently directed attention to a somewhat similar conclusion in a communication addressed to the Academy of Sciences at Paris—The two German travellers, Overbeck and Bath who accompanied the expedition of Richardson to the interior of Africa, have been heard from. They were three hundred miles south-east of Tripoli, where they were preparing canoes which could be carried by camels. The travellers are assisted by contributions from the King and the Geographical Society of Berlin—One of the most eager and impassioned biblioplists ever known, M. Chas. Motteley, whose death occurred last September, has left a will in which he bequeaths his library to the French nation, under the auspices of the President of the Republic. M. Motteley possessed the richest and most numerous collection of Elzevirs, the most magnificent specimens of French and other bindings, and the most curious cabinet of rare works, illustrated manuscripts, &c. He had hoped that his collection would be placed in the Louvre, the Tuilleries, or the Luxembourg. This collection had been almost purchased by Louis Philippe, and recently by the British Museum, which would have paid 300,000fr. for it (£12,000), but it will not go out of France, and it will, no doubt, shortly become visible in one of the public establishments of Paris—The catalogue of the book fair of St. Michael at Leipzig, consists of 384 pages, and contains the titles of 5,033 works which have been published in Germany since the Easter fair—The question whether or not snails are possessed of a mutual galvanic and magnetic influence is now being discussed in Paris. It is asserted that they have, and that they will ultimately supersede electric-telegraphs!—An English biblioplist has formed a list of a hundred and fifty pamphlets on Baptismal Regeneration, appertaining to the Gorham controversy—Alfred Tennyson has been appointed Poet Laureate of England—Mr. Eastake has been elected President of the Royal Academy, in the room of Sir M. A. St. Rev. S. Spaulding, of Cherry Valley, New England, is the author of the most of what is known as the Mormon Bible. He composed it during a period of ill health, adopting a scriptural phraseology, and designed to publish it as a romance. The MS. was lent to friends, and it appears was copied and interpolated to suit the peculiar designs of the Mormon impostor, Smith—Gen. Lee of the American Army is stated to be the author of Junius' Letters. The similarity of style is so striking—Another part of the Horse Shoe Fall on the Canada side, has fallen, carrying away about ten rods of the rock in length, by four in width. The Canal boat, which was lodged on the brink of the rock was carried over with the rock. It is now in the Whirlpool, two miles down the river, dancing attendance to the freaks of that great maelstrom. The loss of this portion of the rock has not in the least diminished in appearance the view of the Niagara Falls, it looks grander and more sublime, if possible, than ever.

The Monster Globe.—We stated some time since that a monster globe was in course of construction by Mr. Wyld, M.P., for the Exhibition. The mountains will be in relief, the regions of ice will be shown in their dazzling rainbow tints, and the eternal snow line marked upon the giant mountain ranges. The courses of great rivers will be seen like threads of silver, the known volcanoes will be marked by bright red lights; the proportions of land to water, and population to territory, and the great trade districts and lines of commerce, the latter marked by moving ships, will be observable at a glance. The globe will be 56 feet in diameter, made on ribs of zinc, each circle in four compartments, socketed together with copper. The expense of this globe, independent of its staircase and galleries, will not be less than from £4000 to £5000.

The Great Exhibition of 1851.—The Great Exhibition has already had one good effect—it has stimulated the ingenuity of the mechanics of this country. From all quarters accounts are received of the co-operation of the artisan classes. There is a wonderful variety observable in the articles upon which individuals in various parts of the country are employed. While a lady is fabricating an article from silk, grown under her own superintendence, an ingenious mechanic is fashioning a pair of bellows by which lovers of music will be enabled to revive their fire to the air of "God save the Queen." In India, Gholab Singh is collecting specimens of every kind of Cashmerean product; and, from Wales an eccentric fellow is travelling with a glass tube full of insects, which he calls "A Happy Family." The Queen, it is rumoured, has designed a carpet, which is now being manufactured at Axminster for exhibition, and the glasshouse will, it is reported, contain specimens of Prince Albert's talent as a sculptor. Mr. Wyld, M.P., is contentedly strolling about inside his monster globe; while a Yarmouth mechanic is filing at a beamer machine of Lilliputian proportions; and Messrs. T. E. Smith & Co., of Lawrence-lane, Cheapside, are preparing a shirt of marvellous workmanship, with the rose, shamrock, and thistle, severally encompassing each button of the front—thus the patriotic will be enabled to press the national emblems to their bosom. From the city we hear of an engine constructed on a new system of propulsion, which has attracted particular attention. What with the activity of the executive committee, and the labours of the local committees, popular excitement is fast rising to an extraordinary pitch.—[Eng. Paper.]

Analytical View of the Newspaper Press.—London, Conservative, 19; Liberal 36; Neutral, 59—Total, 113. England—Conservative, 88; Liberal, 99; Neutral 36; Total, 223. Wales—Conservative, 5; Liberal, 5; Neutral, 1; Total, 11. Scotland—Conservative, 20; Liberal, 34; Neutral, 31—Total, 85. Ireland—Conservative, 37; Liberal 37; Neutral, 27—Total, 101. British Islands—Conservative, 5; Liberals, 8; Neutral, 1—Total, 14. General summary of the United Kingdom—Conservative, 174; Liberal, 218; Neutral, 155; total 547.—[From Hammond's Newspaper List for 1850.]

The Purpose of the Pyramids of Egypt.—The Pyramids of Gizeh are about five miles distant from the bank of the Nile. As the traveller approaches them first across the plain, and then the sandy valley to which the inundation does not extend, he is usually disappointed by their appearance, which falls short of the conception which their fame had raised. Their height and breadth are lessened by the hills of sand and heaps of rubbish which have accumulated around them. The simplicity and geometrical regularity of their outline is unfavourable to their apparent magnitude; there is nothing near them by which they can be measured; and it is not till, standing at their base, he looks up to their summit, and compares their proportions with his own or those of the human figures around him, that this first error of the judgment is corrected. And when he begins to inquire into their history, and finds that 2,300 years ago their first describer was even more ignorant than ourselves of the time and purpose of their erection, he feels how remote must be their origin, which even then was an insoluble problem. * * * No reasonable doubt can any longer exist respecting the destination of these groups of Pyramids. Not only is it evident that they have been places of interment, the only rational purpose that was ever assigned to them, but where any inscriptions have been found, they concur with tradition in showing them to have been the sepulchres of kings. Further, these inscriptions belong to the earliest dynasties of Egypt, to the kings whom Manetho places before the invasion of the Shepherds, and of whom, besides the founders of Memphis, five dynasties are expressly called Memphite. Around the larger structures which received the bodies of the kings are grouped smaller pyramids, in which queens were deposited; and the chief officers of state and religion were buried in excavations, near the remains of their masters. The animals whom the Egyptians most revered had also a place assigned them near the highest personages of the land, as we find that at the Labyrinth the bodies of the kings and the sacred crocodiles rested together in the subterranean chambers.—[Kenrick's Egypt under the Pharaohs.]