

mostly by means of written examinations. He complains of the evil of irregular attendance. Mr. Little has evidently done his work faithfully and well.

## UNITED STATES.

—The Indiana State Teachers' Association is to hold its annual session at Indianapolis on the 30th of December—a good time to prepare for a "Happy New Year."

—The new catalogue of Hamilton College for 1873-74 shows that there is 33 Seniors, 42 Juniors, 34 Sophomores and 33 Freshmen, in all 142 students. The obituary record shows fifteen deaths. The Faculty is the same as last year, all the twelve professorships being filled.

—The annual Catalogue of Bowdoin College shows a total of 215 students in the two academical courses, divided as follows: Seniors, 39; Juniors, 51; Sophomores, 51; Freshmen, 74. The Freshmen Class is the largest that ever entered, and the number of students in the four classes is larger than at any former period.

—The professors of Cornell University gave a complimentary dinner last week to Prof. McCandless, who has resigned his position to accept the presidency of the new Agricultural College at Guelph, Canada. Prof. McCandless was formerly at the head of the Agricultural Department of the Royal College at Glasnevin, Ireland.

## BRITISH &amp; FOREIGN.

—In Ecuador there are five national colleges, with 757 students, and six female seminaries under the control of Catholic Sisters, having 741 students. At Quito there is a polytechnic school, with nine professors; besides, there are colleges of law and medicine, and a school of trades—the latter after the model of the Catholic Protectory at Westchester, N. Y.

—Oxford University has conferred the degree of Associate of Arts on Miss Rogers, who stood at the head of the "local examinations," but bestows the scholarship, which goes with it, in such a doubtful way as to make its acceptance a matter of question. The young lady's father, Prof. J. E. Thorold Rogers, asserts that there is nothing in the law of the institution that forbids its bestowment upon a woman, while the vice-chancellor of the

university very stupidly asks him to point out a case. The scholarship has not yet been accepted or declined.

—As to education, Belgium stands thirteenth in the list of European States. In 1867 35 per cent. of the militia could neither read nor write. This number has since diminished to 27 per cent.; but the militia comprises all classes. In Belgium, as elsewhere, the schools of some kind or other are more abundant than the scholars; and there it is necessarily felt that compulsory education must be more than ever considered as the indispensable corollary of all social improvement. There were in 1866 601 different establishments for teaching trades, some supported by the communes, others private, all free. The returns of such communal and adopted schools as are under government inspection comprise—scholars taught gratuitously, 304,276; ditto on payment, 147,368. The infant schools of various kinds comprised 564 female teachers and 50,881 children. There were besides 1,247 schools for adults, having 49,194 free scholars and 2,045 paying ones.

—Education in Ireland seems to be still laboring under difficulties. The London *Daily News* says: "The bill of last session, as must now be evident to all the world, would have been doubly mischievous. It dealt a serious blow at completeness in scientific and literary instruction, and yet did not afford the Ultramontane party that security for the association of religion with every branch of thought and learning which their system requires. A heavy price would have been paid, but peace and contentment would not have been purchased. The resolutions of the archbishops and bishops at the Presbytery in Marlborough street, Dublin, contemplate the organization of a complete system of Catholic education, with the institution of Stephen's Green as its center. So long as they are content to carry out this design they are acting upon their principles. But when they proceed to demand, as they implicitly do, State recognition of degrees, conferred without State control, and bind themselves to require from every candidate for a seat in the House of Commons pledges to sustain in Parliament what they call their 'educational rights,' the matter assumes a different aspect."