

## Educational Intelligence.

## CANADA

*Speech of His Excellency the Governor General on distributing the Prizes in Upper Canada College last month.*—His Excellency said, he felt great pleasure in bestowing the prize, which had been instituted by one of his predecessors in office, and it was an additional source of gratification to him that he should deliver it in person, and he would say that it enhanced that gratification when he found that the young gentleman who earned that prize, was son of [the Chancellor of U. C.] an individual who had distinguished himself in the Province, and by his talent and industry, had achieved for himself a claim on the regards of his fellow-countrymen and to the favor of all mankind. When he said his public avocations had interfered with the prosecution of classical studies, he was anxious not to be misunderstood. He intended to say that that class of studies for which his prize was given and which formed the staple of a good old English education was not advantageous for every avocation in life. On the contrary he believed that nothing better fitted a person for an active and laborious life than a good sound English education. There were many advantages connected with such an education, a habit of patient, diligent, impartial and unwearied search was formed,—then there was that appreciation of the beautiful in sentiment, and that refined and exquisite taste acquired, which enabled its possessor to discover treasures of delight, altogether hidden from vulgar eyes,—advantages with which a stranger intermedleth not. (Applause.) This appreciation of the beautiful, which was so refreshing to those who, in their youth had drunk from the clear rills of historic lore, found a striking illustration in that great man, whose death, at this moment filled the world with gloom. He was not indeed famed while at College. The unfortunate Lord Byron, then at College, exceeded him in that respect. But he was distinguished among them all for diligence and assiduity, and those qualities achieved for him so much superiority that he carried off the highest honours of the University before he left it. He was a lover of literature and the arts, of which he was not only a munificent but a most judicious patron, and it is not too much to believe that he owed the possession of these qualities in some degree at least to the habits acquired at school. This was an example that ought not to be lost upon them. It fell not indeed to the lot of every person to be gifted with the great natural abilities and singular advantages of fortune which Sir Robert Peel possessed, but they might strive to equal him in those qualities which were the secret of his great moral power, and which are to be in moral nature what the life blood is to the animal system, or the sap to be the tree. All of them may, and all of them, ought to endeavour while at College, acquire that refinement of taste, and those habits of industry, which were the foundation upon which, with the help of the Lord, a superstructure, at once useful, honourable and lasting, could be raised. (Great applause.)

*Examination of the Female Department of Central High School, London, U. C., Bazaar, &c.*—The examination we understand was every way creditable and worthy of the high character which the teachers have obtained. We have good reason for recording the fact, that the advance of the pupils has been very striking since the last examination held but a few weeks ago. In the afternoon and evening, a Bazaar was held in an upper room of the new School House, which was decorated for the occasion, and filled with a throng of old and young, presenting a very animated appearance. The display of articles in embroidery and other "notions" was well got up under the immediate superintendence of Miss Haigh, the accomplished head teacher of the school. A post-office also formed part of the arrangements. We understand that the amount realized for the purchase of maps, &c., will not fall short of \$100.—[Canadian Free Press, August 15th.]

*Meeting of the Teachers' Association for the County of Middlesex.*—This Association held a quarterly meeting on Saturday, the 31st ult., in the village of Delaware. Mr. Robert Wilson, in consequence of his retiring from school teaching, resigned the Presidency of the Association, and Mr. Nicholas Wilson was unanimously elected his successor. Several interesting essays were delivered, and received with marked approbation. Mr. Murtagh read an essay on the utility of Arithmetic and its fundamental scientific principles. Mr. Nicholas Wilson on the best mode of imparting a knowledge of Geography, based on Astronomy and Mathematical knowledge. A very elaborate and highly instructive essay on English Grammar was read by Mr. John Campbell. During its delivery, Mr. Campbell was repeatedly applauded by the teachers, and by the numerous visitors who were present. Other routine business having been gone through, the meeting was declared adjourned to meet again in St. Thomas, on the first Saturday of December next. Before separating, a resolution was unanimously adopted to memorialize the County Municipal Council, at its next meeting, to urge in the strongest possible manner the expediency and necessity of

appointing superintendents for the County, instead of Township ones. The Teachers in their memorial are resolved to recommend Mr. Robert Wilson as a fit and efficient person to act as District Superintendent.—[Com. to Can. Free Press.]

*Teachers' Monthly Associations.*—We learn that Teachers' Associations have been formed in the Townships of Whitby and Clarke. They have hitherto met monthly, and much good has resulted from them. In these movements we have indications of educational advancement. We would be happy to hear of these local associations extending to every Township in Upper Canada.

*New Arrangements for the Local Superintendence of Common Schools in the County of York.*—At its late meeting the County Council passed a By-law establishing School Circuits, each to be under a local Superintendent. Each Riding of the County forms a School Circuit. The following were appointed local Superintendents of Common Schools:

1st School Circuit	Rev. T. J. Hodgskin.
2nd ditto	Mr. Adam Simpson.
3rd ditto	Rev. R. H. Thornton.
4th ditto	Mr. Thomas Nixon.

These appointments date from 1st January, 1850, excepting the 4th, whose duties in the Township of Thora shall commence forthwith.

*Gift for a New Grammar School at Kingston.*—We have much pleasure in being able to announce that the Government have granted to this City two acres of land valued at £2000, for the purpose of erecting a Grammar School on. This valuable gift is situate east of Arthur Street, in the pleasantest and healthiest locality in the city.—[Herald.]

*The Examinations of several Common Schools throughout U. C.,* reported in the local papers appear to have been highly satisfactory, viz: those taught by Miss R. Dawson, Simcoe; Miss Snook, Jarvis; Miss Blake, Waterloo, &c. &c.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

*English Universities' Commission.*—The names of the Commissioners appointed under the Royal Sign Manual to visit the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, have just been communicated to the respective Chancellors by Lord John Russell, and transmitted by them to the Heads of Houses in residence. The very reverend Dr. Tait, Dean of Carlisle; the Rev. Dr. Jeune, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, and formerly Dean of Jersey; and the Rev. H. Liddell, formerly of Christ Church, Oxford, are the only members of the Commission whose names have yet transpired. On the principle of the Commission we have already expressed our approval, and the names we have just quoted appear to furnish a very satisfactory indication of the judgment with which the gentlemen to whom shall be entrusted the prosecution of its inquiries, have been selected. Dr. Tait is already well and favourably known to the public as the worthy successor to Dr. Arnold at the Rugby school. Dr. Jeune is known principally in connection with his College and University, in both of which he enjoys a high reputation as a sound and temperate reformer of abuses, and as the framer and promoter of the celebrated Examination Statute adopted last year by the Oxford Convocation. Mr. Liddell occupied for some time the Chair of Moral Philosophy in the University, and is at present a select preacher there on the nomination of the Vice-Chancellor and the Regius and Margaret Professors of Divinity. Whilst the reputation of these gentlemen stands high as to personal piety, they are not supposed to represent the opinions of any extreme party in the Church, and we are happy to learn, are believed to be wholly untainted by the Tractarian superstition.

*British and Foreign School Society.*—The annual examination of the girls' school took place on Wednesday, at the School, Borough-road. The Right Hon. Fox Maule, M.P., presided. The large room was crowded to excess. The attainments of the children appeared to afford the highest gratification to the assembled company. Mr. Fox Maule addressed the meeting, enforcing the value of education, expressing the high sense he entertained of the labours and efficiency of the society, and impressing many excellent counsels on the minds of the children and their parents.

*National Teachers' Salaries, Ireland.*—According to a return, recently made, the amount of local aid received by the Teachers of national schools in Ireland during the year 1844 was £25,607 10s. 9d., being an average of £7 16s. 11d. per teacher. In 1848 the amount of local aid received was £25,299 1s., being an average of £5 17s. 3d. per teacher. The local contributions towards the payment of the salaries to teachers of national schools, consist principally of the weekly fees from the children, of voluntary donations and subscriptions, and in a few cases of permanent funds provided for the maintenance of the school. The commissioners of