

proceedings, which commenced shortly after five o'clock, lasted about two hours. The *Conversazione* of the *Alma Mater* Society of the University of Queen's College, took place in the College building, on the 24th ult., and proved altogether a most successful and agreeable affair. The company assembled in the Convocation Hall, where at half past seven o'clock the chair was taken by the Mayor, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society. An impressive and appropriate prayer having been offered up by the Rev. D. Machar, the chairman explained the nature and objects of the Society, and concluded by welcoming the guests to their "feast of reason and flow of soul." The academic jubilee song of "Gaudemus igitur," was then sung with taste and spirit by the members of the association, after which the brilliant assemblage dispersed itself through the rooms thrown open for promenade during the evening—the Laboratory and Chemistry Class-room—passing a pleasant hour or two in the examination of the various objects which were exhibited, and in witnessing the performance of experiments by Professors Lawson and Williamson. The company again mustered in the Hall, where short and appropriate addresses were delivered by Professors George and Weir, to which succeeded a parting song in honor of "Alma Mater" by the students, containing appropriate and amusing allusions to student usages; and then the National Anthem. Shortly afterwards the meeting broke up, all seemingly much gratified by the evening's proceedings, and with the politeness and attention of the committee of management, to whom great credit is due for their excellent arrangements.—*Kingston News*.

— **PRESIDENT QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON.**—The Senate of the University of Glasgow have unanimously agreed to confer the degree of D.D. on the Rev. William Leitch, minister of Moumail, and Principal Elect of Queen's College, Kingston.

— **BISHOPS' COLLEGE, LENNOXVILLE.**—The Corporation of this College is raising funds for the erection of buildings and for the partial endowment of the school, including the establishment of a Professorship of French. The sum of \$20,000 is wanted for building purposes, and \$80,000 for Endowment. Something over \$6,000 had already been promised for the former object; and for the latter, eleven shares of \$500 each had been taken, entitling the holder of each share to present a pupil free of charge for tuition, in perpetuity. The building could not be completed till next midsummer twelve months; subscriptions payable at six or nine, or even twelve months, would be no less acceptable than ready money. The School is to be placed on the same ground with the College, and instruction to be given in it, to a certain extent, by the Professors of the College.—*Montreal Gazette*.

— **REPLY OF THE GRAND JURY TO JUDGE HAGARTY'S CHARGE.**—Referring to that part of his Lordship's address to the Grand Jury at the opening of the court, which relates to the increase of juvenile vagrancy in Toronto and other cities and towns, the Jurors are of opinion that a part of the large amounts contributed by assessment in cities and towns for common school purposes, should be appropriated to reclaim from street vagrancy that unfortunate class of our youth who will not, and cannot, be induced to enter the free schools. In Toronto, which expends about thirty-two thousand dollars a year on free schools, juvenile vagrancy is increased so as to be uncontrollable. And the question which now forces itself on the public mind, is the inefficiency of the school system, in this respect, when applied to cities and towns.

### BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

— **STUDENTS AND PUPILS IN THE U. S. ENGLAND AND FRANCE.**—There are 4,000,000 students and 150,000 teachers in the Public Schools of the United States. There is one student for every five persons. In Great Britain there is one student to every eight persons. In France, one to every ten.

— **EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.**—The installation of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, as Rector of Edinburgh University, took place on the 19th ult., in the Music-hall there. The installation of Lord Brougham, as Chancellor, is deferred till the Whitsuntide holidays, the noble lord, who is at present at Cannes, being unable to visit Edinburgh at this season. His lordship has just accepted the office of President of the Philosophical Institution, Edinburgh, rendered vacant by the death of Lord Macaulay.

— **DEGREES IN MEDICINE.**—An ordinance of the Scottish Universities Commission provides additional regulations for the granting of degrees in medicine, which are hereafter to be divided into three classes, and designated respectively, Bachelor of Medicine (M.B.) Master in Surgery (M.S.) and Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)

— **BELFAST QUEEN'S COLLEGE.**—The annual report of the President of the Queen's College, detailing the progress of that seminary from its commencement to the present session, has been published, and it exhibits an increase both in the number of students and the distinctions which the latter have gained at competitive examinations. In the session of 1852-53, the total number of students in all departments was 154, of whom 53 were non-matriculated. In the present session, 1859-60, the numbers amounted to 255, of whom only 56 are non-matriculated. Amongst the 255 students in the Belfast College during the present session there are 42 members of the Established Church, 129 Presbyterians in connection with the General Assembly, 15 non-subscribing Presbyterians, 16 Catholics, 8 Wesleyan Methodists, 1 Seceder, and 4 students classed as "Various." The entire number instructed in the college from its commencement is set down at 944 individuals. The condition of the medical classes is particularly noticed in the president's report. The privilege of attending the work-house hospital, accorded to medical students by the Belfast Board of Guardians, presents numerous advantages, especially under the system adopted by Professor Reid, M.D., who, it is said in the report, requires each student to "ascertain and state in writing the disease of a patient, the treatment likely to be beneficial, and to write a prescription for the remedies suggested. The papers are then criticised consecutively by Dr. Reid, in presence of the class." In the president's report it is stated that first places have been obtained by students of the Belfast College at Woolwich examinations, the Inns of Court, and the East India examination.

### UNITED STATES.

— **AMERICAN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.**—From a circular received, we learn that the next meeting of the American National Teachers' Association, will be held in Buffalo, New York, on the second Wednesday of August next, (the 8th,) and continue in session for four days.

— Donations of 260 rare coins and copies of coins have been made to Yale College collection during the past fortnight. Among the original coins is an oak-tree shilling of Massachusetts, dated 1652.

— **ASTOR LIBRARY, 1859.**—The eleventh annual report of the Astor Library shows that the whole number of volumes in the library is nearly one hundred and ten thousand, of which about sixty thousand belong to the literary department. The library is well attended. On the average, two hundred and ten volumes are in use every day, besides those used by parties admitted to the alcoves to pursue their investigations on any particular subject. The amount expended for new books during the past year has been \$13,898. The total value of the library and building is estimated at nearly six hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

— **THE NEW GYMNASIUM OF YALE COLLEGE** was opened a short time ago. The building is in the rear of the library building, and is 50 by 100 feet on the ground. The cost was \$10,000. It contains a basement nine feet in the clear, in which are eight ten-pin alleys. A reading room is to be established in one corner of this basement. The room above is the gymnasium proper, being nearly the full size of the building, and with walls twenty-four feet high. In this room is placed the apparatus usually to be found in gymnastic establishments.

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Montreal, April, 1860.

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☞ All communications to be addressed to Mr. J. GEORGE HODGINS, Education Office, Toronto.

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