

Mr. Horan, Principal of the School, Mr. A. Doyle, Professor of English, and carefully composed papers were read by Messrs. Toussaint and DeFenuillet Professors in the new Institution. We hope to give extracts from these addresses in our next number.—*J. of Ed.*

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

— **IRISH CHURCH SCHOOLS.**—The report of the Irish Church Education Society, shows that the number of schools in connection with the society for the year ending 31st December, 1856, has been 1769, and of scholars enrolled in them 85,569, thus represented in detail:—Members of the Established Church, 55,966; Protestant Dissenters, 13,833; Roman Catholic, 15,770; total, 85,569.

— **FEMALE EDUCATION IN INDIA.**—It is now beyond question that a great spontaneous movement in favor of native female education has commenced in the vicinity of Agra. In our paper of the 25th of September it was announced that Pundit Golab Singh, one of the Zillah visitors of indigenous schools, had succeeded in establishing in the Agra district up, wards of fifty schools, attended by 1,200 girls of the most respectable families. The hope was also expressed that the number of schools would be doubled in the course of the current year. This hope has been already ar more than realized. We are informed that up to the first week of the present month nearly 200 schools had been established, with an aggregate daily attendance of 3,800 girls. It is rather a social revolution than a local movement which Pundit Golab Singh has inaugurated. Our information is not yet precise enough to enable us to trace the steps by which such results have been attained. But it appears that Pundit Gopal, who is a man of high character, and of a social standing above his official position, was convinced that the failure of former attempts to establish girls' schools was attributable "to the suspicion with which everything coming from a foreigner is received by the natives, and to the want of co-operation of the educated natives." The fact is, when stated in less decorous language that an educated native cares nothing about education. "But," continues the Pundit, "the establishment of a little school, in which my own daughters and those of my immediate friends and relations attended, at first like a charm dispelled in a great measure the prejudices of my neighbors, and induced many to send their girls also. This example, and my constant persuasion and reasoning, have at last succeeded in inducing many respectable inhabitants of other villages to yield." And so the movement bids fair to become national. The pupils are nearly all Hindoos, belonging, as the European officials assure us, to the more respectable classes of the native community. The teachers are all men. "Want of female teachers," says the Pundit, "was one great obstacle in the way; but the guardians of the girls composing the respective schools pointed out men of approved character, in whom they have full confidence, and I have appointed such persons only as teachers, and the result is very satisfactory." Only at Agra, where the Pundit has persuaded the wealthy bankers and merchants to establish a girls' school, has any objection been taken to the male instructor. Wealthy, but uneducated bankers and merchants, are naturally the most bigoted of their race, since custom is always most tyrannical where luxury exists without education. But Agra will soon be abundantly supplied with teachers from among the more advanced pupils of the rural schools. One more statement must close this enumeration of facts. Lieut. Fuller, the Inspector of Schools, reports that about one-tenth of the whole number of pupils are more than twenty years of age, the remainder varying from six to twenty years. The *Delhi Gazette*, in noticing these remarkable facts, suggests that Pundit Golab should be at once relieved from all other duties, and enabled to devote himself entirely to a work for which he has shown such peculiar aptitude. The suggestion is a good one. The Pundit should receive a liberal salary, and should be left utterly free from the usual restraints. Too much interference, even too much patronage on the part of English officials, might spoil all. The Pundit has evidently struck a vein of native feeling which he must be allowed to pursue in his own way.—*Friend of India.*

— **PROGRESS OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY.**—This magnificent structure is progressing rapidly, the mason work of the great hall being within a few months of completion. It would be difficult for those who have not seen the edifice to form any adequate conception of the grandeur of its design, or the artistic truthfulness with which that design is being carried out. Every portion of the building is massive, elegant, and suggestive of the highest attributes of architectural beauty, yet without manifesting a high degree of the useful combined with the beautiful. The total elevation of

the fine string cornice, which is dotted with elaborately carved bosses, is forty-four feet. The northern face of the edifice, having attained its proper height, is now being surmounted by the battlement, which gives to the building a highly finished appearance. Of the numerous fine specimens of carving, that of the Royal and Viceregal Arms is worthy of special mention. It is placed over the principal entrance of the hall of the institution, and will, no doubt, add greatly to the general effect. There are about 100 persons employed on the building, and the greatest energy obtains in all departments of the work. It is believed that the hall and offices immediately adjoining will be sufficiently forward to admit of the business of the University being carried on there in about twelve months.—*Sydney Empire.*

Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

— **SCHOOLS OF ART.**—The amount granted to schools of art for the year 1855-6 was £25,500 against £25,865, and £20,953 in the years 1854-5 and 1853-4. In the first mentioned year the sum of £4,500 was given for aid to schools, £2,000 to the guarantee fund for salaries, £12,000 for salaries and aid to masters, and £2,400 for prizes and examinations, £2,000 for travelling and incidental expenses, £500 for normal lace school in Ireland, and £2,100 for salaries for inspection.

— **THOMAS CARLYLE.**—The Lords of the Treasury have appointed Mr. Thomas Carlyle, one of the commission of the projected National Portrait Gallery in the room of the late Earl of Ellesmere.

— **SCOTCH UNIVERSITY ESSAYS.**—We (*Dundee Advertiser*) hear that there is to be a volume of St. Andrew's University Essays—after the example of the Oxford, Cambridge, and Edinburgh Essays. Amongst others, it is probable that professor Ferrier will write on *Scottish Philosophy*; Principal Tulloch on *Christianity in the Second Century*; Professor Sellar on the *Religious Elements in the Latin Poets*; and Professor Day on some physiological questions. Mr. J. C. Smith, advocate, will also be one of the essayists; what his subject is we have not yet heard.

— **PRIZE ESSAY ON STEAM.**—The Imperial Academy of Lyons has offered a premium of nine hundred francs for the best essay on the improvements made on steam as a motive power since the days of Watt. The essays must be sent to the Academy before the first of November 1859.

— **TELEGRAPHIC FEAT CHICAGO TO QUEBEC.**—We understand that, for the last few nights, after the close of the regular business of the line, the Montreal Telegraph Company, in conjunction with the American Telegraph Companies through the States of New York, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, have been working direct from Chicago in Illinois to Quebec in Canada East, via Buffalo, Toronto and Montreal, a distance by the telegraphic rout of some 1300 or 1400 miles. The object of this lengthly communication is to establish the correct longitude, by solar observations, of the different places. Lient. Ashe, of Quebec, conducted the observations in Chicago. The operators there say that the lines worked through beautifully on fine nights, and the signals went through as instantaneously as though the distance was 14 instead of 1400 miles. The longest stretch of the great Submarine Cable between England and America will be about 1900 miles; so that if the difficulties of laying the cable can be successfully overcome, there appears to be, as far as human reason can foresee, no difficulty as to the working of it. The opinion of the operators in this city, who watched the signals from Chicago to Quebec, was, that had the distance been twice as great as it is, the "electric fluid" would have bounded over the distance quite as quickly: i. e., literally in "less than no time," as the signals leaving Quebec, at 10.30 p. m. would reach Chicago at about 9.30 p. m.—Chicago time being about an hour slower than Quebec.—*Globe.*

— **PROF. FARADAY ON THE AURORA BOREALIS.**—Professor Faraday is of the opinion that the aurora may be a luminous representation of electricity flowing from the equator to the poles for restoration of electric equilibrium. There also seems to be some connexion between the magnetic poles and the aurora, it having been observed in Europe that the most elevated point of the aurora is always situated in the magnetic meridian of the place of the observer. It is likewise inferred that it has some relation with the temperature of the atmospheric strata in which it is produced. The fact that the aurora can be imitated by passing electricity through a vacuum, causing beautiful streams of light, which vary in color and intensity according to the amount of air present, would seem to imply a common origin.