

scholars and public authorities, to all of whom he is to be formally presented. A process verbal of the installation is drawn up and deposited among the archives of the school. His conduct as a teacher is closely scrutinized. For indolence, carelessness, bad disposition, or neglect, he is first admonished, and may subsequently be fined, and deprived of his employment. Gross violations of modesty, temperance, moderation, or any open abuse of his authority as father, husband, or head of a family, are punished with loss of place. Such are the prominent regulations in regard to the normal schools of Prussia; and they are calculated, we conceive, to have a benign influence upon the character and happiness of the nation.

As we have before observed, the Prussian system of primary instruction was not matured till 1819. Its happy influence has been manifested in the increase and improvement of the schools. From the returns made in 1831, it seems that the number of children sent to the primary schools exceeded the estimated number of all the children in that kingdom between the ages of 7 and 14; that there were then 21,879 primary, and 823 middle or burgher schools, which employed 23,920 head masters, 983 head mistresses, and 2,811 assistants, and that the pupils averaged about 73 to each teacher and assistant;—that there are 28 normal schools, in which there are fifteen hundred pupils, and that these schools furnish 700 candidates annually for mastership. The expense of a pupil in the normal schools averages about \$44 per annum; and the expense of 28 schools is stated at about \$66,000.

**SCHOOL LIBRARIES.**—This is a prominent feature in the Prussian system of instruction, which we may adopt with unquestionable advantage. However accessible books may be in the cities and villages, and however multiplied the productions of the press at the present day, it is a fact that will not be questioned, that in a considerable portion of our country the means of acquiring useful knowledge, from books, are very limited; and perhaps we may add, that the desire for obtaining this knowledge is no where sufficiently manifest. There are few public libraries in the country; and if there were many, the opportunity of being benefited by them could not be general. Besides the generality of the books which they contain are not well adapted to the capacities of juvenile readers, nor to the business which they are destined to follow. The outlay in a school district, of ten or twenty dollars a year, in establishing and replenishing a school library, would be but a small tax in comparison with the benefits which might be expected to flow from it. It would be sowing useful seed, and the community would not fail to reap the harvest. It would serve to diversify the studies, to beget a taste for substantial acquirements, avert bad habits, and lay the foundation of respectability and usefulness. The mental soil is good, but, like the natural soil, it needs culture to render it productive.—*Cultivator.*

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

In order to obtain a settlement with China, the British forces had attacked and taken two or three fortresses, called the Bogue forts, and killed some hundreds of the Chinese at a trifling loss of life to themselves. An arrangement has in consequence been made, by which they are to obtain permanent possession of a harbour in an island near Canton, with an indemnity of six millions of dollars, and uninterrupted commercial intercourse. Chusan, and the forts above mentioned, have been given back to the Chinese, and Teas in Britain and the United States have fallen in price.

The steam-ship *President*, which sailed from New York in March last, for Liverpool, has not yet been heard of. It is generally supposed that she is lost, with all her passengers and crew.

The ship *Minstel*, with Emigrants from Limerick, was lost in the St. Lawrence below Quebec, and all on board, 156 passengers and seamen, with the exception of eight persons, perished.

A great number of Immigrants have arrived, and generally speaking, they appear to be of the kind that will prove an acquisition to the country.

The Missionaries of the London Missionary Society, at the Navigator's Islands, have about 40,000 people under Christian influence—20,000 can read, 200 have become Church members, and some hundreds more have been baptized. Ten years ago, these Islanders were cannibals.

Sunday travelling is becoming not only unfashionable, but discreditable, in the United States. Several of the railroad and steamboat companies say that they cannot continue to carry the mail on that day, without considerable extra compensation, as their receipts from travellers are not much more than half of what they are on week days. As a consequence, the Sunday mails have been discontinued on several routes, and may soon be discontinued on all. Six day lines, or Sabbath keeping forwarding companies, are also on the increase, and are generally patronized by Merchants who venerate the Lord's day.

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*Advocate.*—A. Parish, Farmersville, £1 10s; A. Thomson, Smith's Falls, £6 17s. 6d; S. Tucker, Petite Nation, £1 10s; J. Foss, Eaton, vol. vi. 15s, vol. vii. £1 10s; T. Beeman, Napanee, vol. vi. £1; Booth & Beeman, Napanee, £6 5s; W. B. Hamilton, Penetanguishene, 7s. 6d; D. Graham, St. Catherine's, 3s. 4d; H. Corey, Bedford, 10s; H. Lyman, Granby, vol. vi. 2s; vil, 18s; J. Wilson, Haldimand, £2; C. Biggar, Murray, £2 5s; S. W. Rose, Williamsburg, £3 5s; G. Brouse, Matilda, 10s; J. M'Carthy, Kilmarnock, £1 10s; T. C. Wilson, Perth, vol. vi. £1 17s. 9d; vil, £4 5s. 7d; J. Haggart, Perth, 3s. 4d; J. S. Cormack, Perth, 3s. 4d; J. Dyke, Quebec, £1 10s; D. M'Laren, Toronto, 10s; C. B. Knapp, Bytown, £2 5s; J. C. Eaton, Hull, £1 15s; J. Williams, Longueuil, 2s. 6d; J. De Witt, Chateauguay, 2s. 6d; Mr. Boa, St. Laurent, 2s. 6d; W. G. Blanchard, St. Andrews, £3 15s; J. Lockwood, Brighton, £4 10s; W. Calvert, Yamaska, 3s. 4d; W. Brown, S. Crosby, vol. vi. £1 5s; vil, £1 13s. 9d; 65th Regt. Temp. Soc., L'Assomption, 15s; P. V. Hibbard, L'Assomption, £1 1s; T. Keenan, Three Rivers, £7 15s; C. S. Bellows, West Meath, £2 10s; S. Godard, Stukely, £1 10s; A. A. Adams, Barnston, £1 1s; T. M'Mahon, Ameliasburg, £1 16s; Sergt. Robertson, Isle Aux Noix, 15s; W. Holehouse, Quebec, £12 10s; A. M'Fee, Russelltown, 2s. 6d; J. Knowlson, Cavan, 17s. 6d; J. Shield, Cavan, 3s; J. Owena, Cavan, 3s; J. Billings, Demorestville, £1 10s; W. D. Dickinson, Prescott, £1 5s. J. Lamb, Hawkesbury, £1 10s; Mr. Foster, Isle Aux Noix, 5s; G. Gunn, Isle Aux Noix, 5s; R. English, Woodstock, N. B., £1 10s; J. P. Scott, Colborne, £1 5s; R. A. Flanders, Hatley, 13s. 4d; A. B. Pardee, Augusta, £1 10s; H. W. Loper, Beverly, £1 10s; W. Hickcock, Phillipsburgh, £5; G. Pashly, Colbourn, £7 10s; G. J. Ryerse, Woodhouse, £1 3s. 9d; W. Bustard, Royals, London, £6 1s. 8d; Dr. M'Diarmid, St. Johns, 3s; S. Brownell, M'Nab, £2 5s. 4d; W. Johnson, Georgiana, 5s; I. H. Johnson, Wallaceburgh, £1 5s; J. L. Green, Waterford, £1 10s; W. M'Kenzie, Lachine, 2s. 6d; Sundry Subscribers in Montreal, £28 5s. 6d.

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*Tracts.*—Dr. M'Diarmid, St. Johns, 2s. 6d.

Montreal, May 25, 1841. J. R. ORR, Treasurer.

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