

the confident hope that we may one day point to a long line of heroes and statesmen, of philosophers and poets, only less glorious than that which adorns the annals of our native land." (Great Applause.)—*Journal of Education*.

If our young men disposed to devote themselves to the ministry could procure for themselves a reasonable preparatory education, these scholarships would afford great facilities for securing the advantage of a University course. Scotland to which the Chancellor was pleased to advert in complimentary terms, has (numbers considered) a greatly inferior amount of encouragement and assistance to offer her poor sons struggling forward to a profession.

---

#### REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES.

We have been observing in the newspapers the announcement that every person celebrating marriages must make a return of them to the Clerk of the Peace for registration, on or before the 5th of January every year; and that the fee usually demanded, in such cases, is not legally exigible. We have learnt in a quarter which ought to possess the best information, that unless the fee is paid, the clerk is not obliged to register; but that securing registration is quite optional, not being required by law at present. It seems to us, that apart from statistics altogether, registration may be of no small importance to the parties married, and their descendants, even in remote generations. Patrimonial and other weighty interests may be seriously involved. If registering be not compulsory, perhaps the best method would be for the person celebrating, in every case to give a certificate duly signed and attested, and in all respects so framed as to be a regular, unexceptionable, probative writ, and leave it to the parties themselves, for their own behoof, to attend to the registration.

---

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

The question so long pending in the Church of Rome—Whether the Virgin Mary was born free from original sin has at length been authoritatively determined. The Franciscans have triumphed over the Dominicans. On the 10th of December, the Pope, officiating in St. Peter's at Rome, announced the dogma in favour of the Immaculacy, and declared that whosoever denies it is a heretic. It is stated that 200 bishops were present on the occasion, and that Rome was intoxicated with joy. At the consultation which previously took place, the votes, including proxies given by cardinals and bishops, were 576. Of these 540 were in favour of the dogma; 32 were to the effect that the discussion was inexpedient at present; and four were against both the dogma and the right of the Pope to decide the question without a regular Council. One of the four was the Archbishop of Paris, and another a French bishop.

The worship of Mary, which has already, to a considerable extent, superseded, in the Church of Rome, that of Jehovah Himself, may be expected now to be carried further than ever. Surely the greater the amount of absurdity and impiety which Popery embodies in itself, the more speedily may reasonable persons be expected to abandon it. There are many sober-minded men of opinion that the Pope may soon have cause to regret the rashness of the step he has just taken.

---

FUGITIVE SLAVES.—The *Detroit Advertiser* says that four hundred and eighty-two fugitive slaves crossed by that route to Canada, since the first of May last.

---

#### OBITUARY NOTICES.

JOHN KITTO, D.D.

This eminent writer died at Cannstatt, Wirtemberg, on the 25th November last, in the 50th year of his age. Dr. Kitto has for a considerable time occupied a distinguished place as an author and editor in the Biblical department. The chief works with which his name is associated are "The Pictorial Bible," "The Cyclo-