

Cobourg; C. F. Eliot, B. A., Windsor; W. Cragie, B. A., Hamilton; Rev. F. J. Lundy, D. C. L., Grimsby; John J. Kingsmill, B. A., Guelph; and Richard Bayly, B. A., London. The first regular meeting of the Association will be held in Toronto on Wednesday, 4th February, 1857.

#### UNIVERSITY OF TRINITY COLLEGE, TORONTO.

At a meeting of the Convocation of the University of Trinity College, held in the College Hall, on Saturday, the 5th instant, the following Degrees were conferred:—B. A.—Richard Sandars, Rev. Joseph Chambers Gibson, George William White, John James Bethune, Alfred Merwin Patton, Alex. Robert Morris, Francis Evans, and Frederick William Kingstone. B. A. *ad eundem*.—John J. Kingsmill, King's College, Toronto; Rev. John Fletcher, Trinity College, Dublin; and Rev. Henry Chorwell Cooper, Pembroke College, Cambridge. M. A.—John S. Kingsmill and Rev. John Fletcher. M. A. *ad eundem*.—Rev. Edmund Baldwin, King's College, Toronto. B. C. L.—John J. Kingsmill, Henry Brindley Morphy, and Alfred Francis Wright.

The following Prizes were distributed:

Rev. C. E. Thompson and George William White—the Bishop's Theological Prize in the June examination, 1856. A. J. Broughall—The Chancellor's Prize to the first Classic, in the examination for Honors, 1856. J. J. Bogert—Prize in the examination of Chemistry, 1856. Richard Sandars—Mathematical Prize, in the examination of the Third Year, 1856; Classical Prize in ditto; Latin Essay; Greek Iambic Verse. John A. Ardagh—Classical Prize in the examination of the Second Year, 1856. Henry Wethey, C. W.—Mathematical Prize in ditto. Eleven Students were then matriculated.

The degrees were conferred, and the Prizes distributed by the Hon. John Beverly Robinson, Bart., Chancellor of the University; and the Lord Bishop of Toronto was also present at the meeting.—*Colonist*.

### Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

#### IMPORTANT DISCOVERY OF BURR-STONE IN CANADA.

We understand that an important discovery has recently been made by Sir William Logan. It is the presence, in the Township of Chatham, on the Ottawa, of a very extensive deposit of the—we believe volcanic—formation of what is popularly called Burr-stone—the scientific name we cannot now remember. Sir William has, we believe, expressed an opinion that in the qualities which give this mineral its commercial value—that of its adaptation for the grinding-stones of flour and other corn mills—it fully equals that of the best French Burr stone, which is imported into every market in the world, and forms no inconsiderable item in the exports from France.—*Gazette*.

#### DONATION TO THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—PRESENTATION OF VALUABLE LIBRARIES.

The venerable Thomas Dowse of Cambridgeport, whose rare and beautiful library of over five thousand volumes has so long been an object of interest and curiosity to literary men, has lately presented it to the Massachusetts Historical Society, on the simple condition that it shall be kept for ever in a single and separate room, and used only in that room. At a special meeting of the Society, called for the purpose of receiving this munificent donation, the Hon. Edward Everett made remarks, from which the following is an extract:—

"Twenty-five years ago, I stated, in a public address, that I considered it for its size the most valuable library of English books with which I was acquainted. A quarter of a century has since passed, during the greater part of which Mr. Dowse has continued to increase the number of his books and the value of his library by new acquisitions; and it now amounts, as our President informs us, to about five thousand volumes. Many of these books are of great rarity, such as are usually found only in the collections of the curious. A still greater number, in fact the great proportion, are books of great intrinsic value, which is by no means sure to be the case with bibliographical rarities. In one word, sir, it is a choice library of the standard literature of our language. Most of these books where there was more than one edition, are of the best edition. They are all in good condition,—that has ever been a rule with Mr. Dowse; and very much the larger part of them are in elegant, some in superb bindings. It is in truth a collection reflecting equal credit upon the judgment, taste, and liberality of its proprietor.

Sir, we have a guarantee for the value of his library, in the inducement which led Mr. Dowse very early in life to commence its formation, and

which has never deserted him. His interest in books is not like that of some amateur collectors, limited to their outsides. He has loved to collect books because he has loved to read them; and I have often said that I do not believe there is a library in the neighbourhood of Boston better *read* by its owner than that of Mr. Dowse.

Mr. Dowse may well be called a public benefactor, sir, and especially for this, that he has shown, by a striking example, that it is possible to unite a life of diligent manual labor with refined taste, intellectual culture, and those literary pursuits which are commonly thought to require wealth, leisure, and academical education. He was born and brought up in narrow circumstances. He had no education but what was to be got from a common town school, seventy years ago. He has worked all his life at a laborious mechanical trade; and never had a dollar to spend but what he had first earned by his own manual labor. Under these circumstances he has not only acquired a handsome property,—not an uncommon thing, under similar circumstances in this country,—but he has expended an ample portion of it in surrounding himself with a noble collection of books,—has found leisure to acquaint himself with their contents,—has acquired a fund of useful knowledge,—cultivated a taste for art, and thus derived happiness of the purest and highest kind, from those goods of fortune which too often minister only to sensual gratification and empty display.

I rejoice, sir, that our friend has adopted an effectual method of preventing the dispersion of a library, brought together with such pains and care, and at so great an expense. Apart from the service he is rendering to our society, which as one of its members I acknowledge with deep gratitude, he is rendering a great service to the community. In this way, he has removed his noble collection from the reach of those vicissitudes to which the possessions of individuals and families are subject. There is no other method by which this object can be obtained. I saw the treasures of art and taste collected at Strawberry Hill during a lifetime, by Horace Walpole, at untold expense, scattered to the four winds. The second best private library I ever saw, (Lord Spencer's is the best) was that of the late Mr. Thomas Grenville, the son of George Grenville, of Stamp Act memory. He intended that it should go to augment the treasures of taste and art at Stow, to whose proprietor (the Duke of Buckingham) he was related. In a green old age,—little short of ninety,—he had some warnings of the crash which impended over that magnificent house; and by a codicil to his will, executed but a few months before his death, he gave his magnificent collection to the British Museum. In the course, I think, of a twelvemonth from that time, everything that could be sold at Stow was brought to the hammer."

#### CELTIC REMAINS IN DUBLIN.

Several curious relics have been recently found within the town walls of ancient Dublin, such as singularly ornamented combs, bronze and iron fibulae, and implements used in the manufacture of those curiously constructed wooden houses, erected in that locality at a very remote era. Among the articles enumerated is an antique-shaped signet seal, supposed by a distinguished heraldic authority to have belonged to the Lord-Deputy Essex, time of Elizabeth. Several of these relics have been collected by Mr. James Underwood, well known for his former indefatigable exertions in amassing antiquarian stores.

#### REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND ART.

A blue book of 300 pages contains the third report of the Department of Science and Art, addressed to the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, &c., by their secretary, Mr. Lyon Playfair. From a summary of the details adduced it appears that the museums and libraries of the department continue to be in an effective state, and have been visited by 331,000 persons, being an increase of 56 per cent. above the numbers of the previous year. This increase is chiefly due to the new circulating museum of ornamental art, which has been visited by 55,701 persons in the provinces, and to the success which has attended the new arrangements made by the department in regard to the Museum of Natural History in Edinburgh, resulting in an increase of the visitors from the old average of 800 to above 100,000. There has been a considerable diminution in the attendance on the museums of London from the state of affairs. The Dublin Botanical Gardens have been visited by above 30,000 persons, and the Zoological Gardens by 138,000. The exhibitions of the department have been visited by 72,000 persons. The geological surveys in Great Britain and Ireland, and the Mining Record office, continue to be carried on with increased activity, and have made during the past year reports to the Government on various geological subjects of importance to this country and the colonies. The schools of art have been attended by nearly 12,000 pupils. The number of children taught drawing in public schools,