

## MONTHLY SUMMARY.

## EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

—As an appeal has been made to the citizens of Montreal in behalf of the new Irish University, some information respecting the growth and present condition of that institution may prove interesting to our readers. In 1863-4, 210 students attended the course of University lectures. Exclusive of these, 360 were matriculated in the affiliated schools and colleges throughout the provinces, making altogether 570 on the books of the University. The matriculated students are circumstanced exactly as the greater majority of those of Trinity College, who, it is well known, do not attend the lectures of the great Protestant institution, but merely go up for examination. This privilege is enjoyed to the fullest extent by the matriculants of the new University. The course pursued is this: Every year an examiner is sent to the affiliated schools, where the pupils are subjected to a most searching examination, and the cleverest of the young men are selected to compete, in due time, for the highest University honors, along with the students of Oxford, Cambridge, and Trinity College. Under this system the new University must become the great centre of the talent and learning of Catholic Ireland. The students of the Catholic University enjoy privileges even superior to those afforded the students of Trinity, as they are placed in colleges and schools under the immediate supervision of the local authorities, and are instructed by professors of acknowledged ability and experience in the important work of education. Of these colleges and schools as many as twenty-eight are already in existence, and are visited regularly by the University examiners. Such a system of training cannot fail to promote emulation and intellectual progress, and operate beneficially on the future of Catholic Ireland. During the sessions of 1863-4, 59 students attended the evening classes of the first term, 55 in the second, and 44 in the third; 98 were in the school of Medicine, and 70 in the two faculties of Philosophy and Science. This number of students, with the 586 matriculants on the books of the University, is highly satisfactory and encouraging, and augurs well for the future of the institution. At the beginning of the present century there was not, we believe, a Catholic College in the country, excepting those of Carlow and Maynooth, purely ecclesiastical institutions, which were then only in their infancy. According to the last census, in 1861 there were 98 public and 203 private classical schools. These were attended by 10,346 pupils, of whom 5,118 were Roman Catholic, and over and above this number, 1,242 Catholics were receiving collegiate instruction in May of the same year — making a total of 6,330 youths pursuing the higher studies at that period. Excepting Maynooth and the Queens' Colleges, all these seats of learning were established by the bishops, priests, and people of Ireland, and the fact evidences a love of learning amongst the Irish not unworthy of their country's palmy days. The following important facts are supplied by the census commissioners in their report of 1861:—In 1834, there were 96 high schools, attended by 4,240 pupils, exclusively Protestant, while in 1862, there were only 60 of these schools, with an attendance of 2,075—a falling off in twenty-seven years of 36 Protestant schools and 2,165 scholars, whereas, during the same period the Roman Catholic schools increased from 23 to 80, the 63 new schools being attended by 3,478 pupils. Upon this great change the commissioners remark: "The large increase in the Roman Catholic schools is due to the fact that whereas superior instruction had already, in 1834, been provided for members of the Established Church in chartered, endowed institutions, much more nearly in proportion to their requirements than it has yet been provided by voluntary efforts for other sections of the population, the higher order of schools had nearly all to be erected by the Catholics from their own resources." Thus, in the short period of thirty years, the Roman Catholics of Ireland founded 63 new schools, with an attendance of 3,478 scholars.—*Montreal Transcript*.

—During the past year the colleges and seminaries of the United States have received liberal contributions. Yale College has received \$450,000; Amherst, \$110,000; Princeton (New Jersey), \$130,000, the Syrian College, \$103,000; Trinity (Hartford), \$100,000; Rutgers (New Jersey), \$100,000; Chicago Theological Seminary, \$80,000; Bowdoin (Maine), \$72,000; New York University, \$60,000; Wesleyan University (St. Louis), \$50,000; Andover Theological Seminary, \$50,000; Dartmouth, \$47,000; Harvard, \$44,000; Williams, \$25,000; Middlebury, \$10,000. These figures show that the cruel war with its train of evils does not prevent the exercise of benevolence.—*Godey's Lady's Book*.

—Not long ago Hon. Abbot Lawrence, of Boston, gave to Harvard College, in aid of scientific education, the sum of \$100,000 besides the services of a professor, altogether considered equivalent to an endowment of about \$150,000. The *Boston Advertiser* adds:—At this juncture, Mr. James Lawrence comes nobly forward, and at once serves the cause of education, and maintains the honor of his father's name by the gift on the first of Jan., 1865, of fifty-two thousand five hundred dollars—twenty-five hundred to be expended at once in the equipment of the laboratory, and the balance to endow equally the chemical and the engineering departments.

—The grant which Mr. Matthew Vassar made to found the Vassar Female College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., was \$408,000. The building, which is of brick, with stone trimmings, is three stories high, with a mansard roof; five hundred feet in front, including wings, one hundred and sixty-five feet deep, accommodating two hundred and fifty pupils, besides chapel, library, art gallery, recitation rooms, &c. The Presidents' and professors' houses, and teachers' rooms, will cost \$200,000, and will be completed before August. A library of 2,500 volumes is secured already, and a cabinet of minerals worth \$8,000. A great equatorial telescope, aperture 12½ inches, length 17-feet, will be mounted and adjusted in August. The College will open September 1st.

—At a meeting of Teachers and Local Superintendents held in Ottawa on the 19th of January last, of which due notice was given through the newspapers, after mature deliberation, it was resolved to organize an educational institute for Central Canada, having for its objects: 1st, the discussion of practical questions connected with education; 2nd, the reading of papers and delivery of lectures on educational subjects; and 3rd, taking such measures as may from time to time be considered necessary to promote the interests of the teaching profession. It has long been felt that an association of this kind has been greatly needed in this section of the Province; and, looking at the good accomplished by similar associations in other parts of Canada, it is confidently anticipated that the one recently organized for Central Canada will, if properly sustained, prove highly beneficial, not only to teachers, but also to the public generally. The distance between the Central and the extreme Eastern and Western Counties of this Province has to a large extent prevented teachers from this section from availing themselves of the advantages of other kindred institutions; and it is thought that a sufficiently extensive field may be found in Central Canada in which to commence another. It is contemplated to have two meetings of the Institute during the year, one on the first Friday of July, the other on the last Friday of December, also to hold the meetings in different places, as may be arranged by the members of the Institute. Many of the leading teachers and other friends of education have already expressed their hearty concurrence with the movement, and their intention of connecting themselves with it, as soon as it commences its operations. The first meeting of the Institute will be held in Ottawa, on the first Friday of July next. Parties are respectfully invited to attend and become members, and in the meantime to communicate their intention of doing so to J. McMillan, Secretary.—*Journal of Education, U. C.*

—We notice in the *Scotsman* the name of Mr. D. James Macdonnell, of Canada, among those of seven gentlemen, who, out of twenty candidates, have, after a strict examination, taken the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh. Mr. Macdonnell is a graduate of Queen's University, and has well sustained the honor of his *Alma Mater*, having also carried off the first and second prizes in two of the Edinburgh theological classes respectively, besides distinguishing himself in a similar manner last year at Glasgow University.—*Id.*

—The *Montreal Gazette* of Saturday has the following:—"We noticed some time ago that Mr. G. D. Redpath, of Montreal, had carried off the highest prize for sculling on the river at the University of Cambridge. But it seems that he trained not only his muscle but his brain also; for we notice that in the last examinations he went out with honors in the classical tripos. Although Cambridge has its chief *renommée* with the outside world for mathematical students, we believe it is an error to suppose that honors in the classical tripos are not as hardly earned there as at Oxford, or as the honors in mathematics at Cambridge itself. A disadvantage of our Canadian or of American students competing for classical honors in either of the great English Universities, is the lack of thorough training in all or nearly all of our schools in Latin versification, which counts for a great deal at both Universities. Spite of this, Mr. Redpath went in for honors and won them. To show how boating and study go together, we see it noticed that the man who took the highest double honors at Cambridge this year—being 18th wrangler and high up in the classical tripos as well—rowed No. 2 in the University boat at the recent contest between Oxford and Cambridge. It is the old maxim proved—*Mens sana in corpore sano*.

—We are pleased to see by the *Glasgow Herald* of the 29th ult., that our young townsman, Mr. Archibald E. Malloch of this town, has been adding laurels to his name. The prize and honor certificates of the University of Glasgow for 1864-5 are published in full in the *Herald*, wherein we find that Mr. Malloch has been awarded a first class certificate in both classes in the senior division of Anatomy; also a first class certificate of merit in Surgery. He also ranks B.A. This must be very gratifying to Judge Malloch, as it gives evidence that his son must have attended well to his studies. In the same paper we see it stated that the Degree of Doctor of Divinity has been conferred by the same University on the Rev. William Snodgrass, Principal of Queen's College, Kingston, Canada.—*Brockville Recorder*.

—A select auditory, says the *Quebec Journal*, attended the annual literary *soirée* at the Laval University. Essays on divers subjects, and music, were the chief features in the programme of the evening, which passed off very successfully.