

UNITED STATES.

COMMON SCHOOLS IN NEW-JERSEY.

The last census shows that 6,007 white men, 8,241 white women, 2,167 colored men, and 2,250 colored women, adults, in New-Jersey, cannot read or write, making an aggregate of 18,665. Of these, 12,787 are natives and 5,878 foreigners, which is about in the ratio of two natives to one foreigner who cannot read and write. At the taking of the census the population of New-Jersey was 489,319, of which number 23,810 were colored, 465,509 whites. The ratio of colored adults who cannot read and write to the whole colored population is *one in every five*, the ratio of white adults who cannot read or write to the white population is *one in every thirty-two*. The ratio of adult white *men* who cannot read and write to the male population is one in every thirty eight, while the ratio among the white *females* is one in every twenty-eight, which seems to indicate some foul play among the "lords" of New Jersey toward the fair sex. The ratio among the colored males and females is about equal. Taking the whole population, the ratio of adults who cannot read and write is *one in every twenty-six*. The ratio of native Americans who cannot read and write is *one in every thirty-two*, (almost) and among the foreign population the ratio is *one in every ten*. From this it will appear that the ratio of those who cannot read and write is one in every five of the colored, one in every ten of the foreign, and one in every thirty-two of the native population.

Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

The Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Schools for Upper Canada, now in Europe, has been appointed by His Excellency the Governor General, Honorary Commissioner for Canada, at the Paris Exhibition. . . . Mr. Ward, of Thorold, U. C., has invented a very destructive shell. During its trial from an eight-inch Columbian gun, some of the shells took a ricochet on the sand in front of the target, and after the ricochet, hit the target and exploded, doing serious damage, cutting several 12-inch timbers in pieces, and destroying the target. Should this invention be brought to perfection, it will probably work quite a revolution in fort and naval warfare; for instance, take a gun of 10 or 12-inch calibre, working upon a pivot on the deck of a naval steamer; one shot of this calibre, taking effect, at wind and water, would sink the largest ship of the line. . . . An attempt has recently been made to sound the Niagara river, at the Suspension Bridge, by Mr. J. A. Roebing, with an iron of about 40 pounds weight, attached to a No. 11 wire—all freely suspended, so as not to impede the fall of the weight. He says: I let the weight fall from the Bridge a height of 225 feet. It struck the surface fairly, with the point down—must have sunk to some depth, but was no longer out of sight than about *one second*, when it made its appearance again on the surface, about 100 feet down the stream and skipped along like a chip until it was checked by the wire. We then commenced hauling in slowly, which made the iron bounce like a bell, when a cake of ice struck it and ended the sport. I am satisfied that *no metal* has sufficient specific gravity to pierce that current—even by the momentum acquired by a fall of 225 feet! The velocity of the iron when striking, must have been about equal to 124 feet per second—and consequently its momentum near 5,000 pounds. Its surface, opposed to the current, was about 50 superficial inches. This will give an idea of the strength of that current, and at the same time hint to the Titan forces that have been at work to scoop out the bed of the Niagara river. . . . The Geographical Society of Paris have voted to Capt. McClure, R.N., the gold medal, for his discovery of the North-West Passage; to Capt. Inglefield, R.N., a silver medal for his discoveries in the Arctic regions; and to Mr. Francis Galton, a silver medal, for his explorations in the Namaqua, Damara, and Orampo countries, north of the Orange River, in South Western Africa. . . . The Parliamentary library of the late Joseph Hume, Esq., was bequeathed by him to the London University College. . . . The Imperial Library of Vienna contains 16,000 manuscripts in the Greek, Hebrew, Chinese, Indian and Arabic languages, written on parchment. . . . There is a Committee of the House of Commons sitting to consider Metropolitan Roads or Communications. At a meeting Sir Joseph Paxton gave a detailed account of a plan he proposes for facilitating communication from one place to another by the construction of a "boulevard" or "girdle" Railway. Beginning near the Royal Exchange, he proposes to pass through Cannon-street, across the Thames by Southwark Bridge, thence through the Borough to Lambeth, crossing the river again near the Houses of Parlia-

ment, through Brompton, by Gore House, through Kensington Gardens, to the Great Western, the North Western, and Great Northern stations, with a branch to Regent Circus. The length would be eleven miles, and the cost £34,000,000. The trains would be worked on the atmospheric principle. The projector expressed a belief that the scheme would be remunerative. . . . The last report of the Christian Knowledge Society gives the following interesting extract from a letter by the Bishop of Colombo: "The fittings of the nave and choir of the Cathedral at Colombo are completed, those of the chancel are now in progress. They will be of ebony; as I wished them to be made wholly of the productions of the country, and as far as possible by native workmen. One single European has directed and superintended the work, and he is a corporal in the 15th regiment, a most expert and skillful mechanic, whose value was undiscovered till he built, under Colonel Brunner, our church at Nuwara Eliya. His taste, moreover, is equal to his skill; and, with 'Bloxham' and the 'Glossary of Architecture' in his hand, this carpenter from Greenwich (for such he was when he enlisted fifteen or twenty years ago) has built a church and a cathedral in my diocese, which surpass every structure raised before or since the tenure of Ceylon by the British." . . . Five thousand documents have already been transcribed by the commissioners appointed to collect and publish the entire writings of Napoleon. The most interesting of these contributions—because the least known—are those written while the hero of Austerlitz held inferior rank in the army. Numbers of letters written during the early portion of his career have been sent to the imperial Commission. They were addressed to people—often to people almost unknown—and were treasured by them after the writer had become celebrated. Of these contributions the most remarkable are about sixty letters of instructions and explanations written by Napoleon while commanding the artillery at Toulon. The Imperial Commissioners have also in their possession an autograph letter, addressed by Napoleon to Cardinal Fesch—in which he describes minutely, and clearly, the proper duties of an archbishop. Indeed, Napoleon's correspondence with the clergy promises to form a remarkable portion of his collected works. It appears that he wrote a series of letters to the *Ministre des Cultes*, in which he gave his notion of a good priest. The main point on which he forcibly dwells is, that the church has no business with affairs of State. It is said that these lessons to the Minister of religion are both severe and just. . . . M. Didot, the eminent French publisher, has just issued a pamphlet against a projected paper duty in France. In 1340, says M. Didot, King Philip ordered that "paper and books, being indispensable to pupils, should be exempt from duty." King John, in 1360, confirmed that privilege; and afterward Louis XII. and Francois I. declared books exempt from every kind of impost. Henry II., in 1552, ordered that there should always be in France, a special favor shown to paper; and, in 1789, when an attempt was made to introduce a paper duty, the idea was so unpopular that the proposed plan came to nothing. . . . An acceptable addition to the Catalogue of the British Museum library has been made in a list of the pamphlets belonging to the Royal Library. The catalogue is in twelve small octavo volumes. The pamphlets are about twenty thousand in number, extending from the reign of Charles I. to George III., by whom they were presented to the nation about thirty years ago. . . . Governor Bradford's long lost MS., "History of Plymouth Colony and people from 1602 to 1647," has been discovered in Lambeth Palace, London. The MS. must have been taken to England when the British troops evacuated Boston in 1776. . . . The book publishers of New York have formed themselves into an association for trade purposes. . . . A literary discovery of interest has lately been made—it comprises above a hundred letters of James Boswell, principally addressed to his friend the Rev. William Templer, rector of St. Gluvias, in Cornwall, whose name is mentioned three or four times in the life of Johnson. They were rescued some years ago from the hands of a shopkeeper in France, with a mass of other correspondence of less importance, addressed to this Mr. Templer, but have not been thoroughly examined until lately. Preparations are now being made for their publication. . . . A Paris paper announces the fact of the discovery of an unpublished fragment of a lost tragedy of Euripides, by M. Egger, of the Institute. . . . The famous portico of the Palace of the Uffizi at Florence has, at length, after a lapse of nearly two hundred years, been supplied with statues of all the celebrated men of Tuscany and Florence, in compliance with the original plan of Vasari, the architect, and of his protector, the Duke Cosmo de Medicis. Poetry and literature are represented by statues of Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, and Redi; science, jurisprudence, politics, physics, and medicine by those of Accurso, Macchiavelli, Guicciardini, Galileo, Cesalpino, Micheli, and Morgagni; the fine arts by statues of Giotto, Arnolfo, Orcagna, Donatello, Al-