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## MODERN SYSTEMS OF EDUCATION AND THEIR FOUNDERS.

JOSEPH LANCASTER. BORN, 1778. DIED, 1838. ÆTAS 60 YEARS.  
No. VI.

Joseph Lancaster was born in Kent Street, Southwark, on the 27th of November, 1778. His father was a Chelsea pensioner, who had served in the British army during the American war. To the pious example and early instruction of his parents he always attributed, under the divine blessing, any acquaintance he possessed with the power of religion. "My first impressions," he says, "of the beauty of the Christian religion were received from their instructions." There is a touching beauty in his own account of himself as a little child, retiring to a corner, repeating the name of Jesus, and as often reverently bowing to it. "I seemed to feel," he says, "that it was the name of one I loved, and to whom my heart performed reverence. I departed from my retirement, well satisfied with what I had been doing, and I never remembered it but with delight." This little incident was an epitome of the man, and, inconsistent as it may seem to be with his future religious profession as a member of the society of Friends, it truly shadowed forth the enthusiastic, not to say passionate feeling, which through life so eminently characterized him.

About this period, and that of his attaining the age of eighteen, he seems to have been an assistant at two schools, one a boarding, the other a day school; and thus, as he afterwards states in a letter to Dr. Bell, he became acquainted with all the defects attendant on the old system of tuition in both kinds of schools. At eighteen he commenced teaching on his own account in his father's house, and the following description of the undertaking, extracted from an old report of the Borough Road School, is from his own pen. It refers to the year 1798.

"The undertaking was begun under the hospitable roof of an affectionate parent: my father gave the school-room rent free, and after fitting up the forms and desks myself, I had the pleasure, before I was eighteen, of having nearly ninety children under instruction, many of whom I educated free of expense. As the number of scholars continued to increase, I soon had occasion to rent larger premises."

On the outside of his schoolroom he placed the following printed notice:—"All that will may send their children and have them

educated freely; and those that do not wish to have education for nothing, may pay for it if they please." This filled his school.

As the number of his pupils increased, a new schoolroom was provided, chiefly through the benevolent aid of the late Duke of Bedford and Lord Somerville, "who," says Lancaster, "appeared to be sent by Providence to open wide before me the portals of usefulness for the good of the poor." "The children," he adds, "now came in for education like flocks of sheep; and the number so greatly increased, as to place me in that state which is the mother of invention. The old plan of education, in which I had been hitherto conversant, was daily proved inadequate to the purposes of instruction on a large scale. In every respect I had to explore a new and untrodden path. My continued endeavours have been happily crowned with success." Nothing can be more beautiful than the account given of his position and character at this time. He was always domesticated with his pupils. In their play hours he was their companion and their friend. He accompanied them in bands of two, three, and (on one occasion) of five hundred at once, to the environs of London for amusement and instruction.

Nor did he care only for their intellectual necessities. Distress and, privation were abroad:—he raised contributions, went to market, and between the intervals of school, presided at dinner with sixty or eighty of the most needy of his flock. "The character of benefactor he scarce thought about; it was absorbed in that of teacher and friend. On Sunday evenings, he would have large companies of pupils to tea, and after mutually enjoying a very pleasant intercourse, would conclude with reading a portion of the sacred writings in a reverential manner. Some of the pupils would vary the exercise occasionally by reading select pieces of religious poetry, and their teacher would at times add such advice and observations, as the conduct of individuals, or the beauty and importance of the subject required. Is it any wonder that with pupils so trained, to whom so many endearing occasions presented, evidences should abound of affection, docility and improvement! In them he had many ready co-operators, and, however incapable of forming designs, never were agents more prompt and willing to execute." These were his best and most joyous days.

He was now rapidly becoming an object of public attention. His school-room was visited by "foreign princes, ambassadors, peers, commoners, ladies of distinction, bishops and archbishops;" his publications were passing rapidly through editions, each larger than its predecessor; his school, ably and zealously conducted by youths trained under his own eye, and imbued with his own enthusiastic spirit, was forsaken for lectures in all the principal towns of the kingdom, in every part of which he was received with the most marked and flattering attentions from all classes; even the monarch did not disdain to admit him, uncovered, to his presence, but sustained, encouraged, and applauded him. This interview is too characteristic to be omitted.

"On entering the royal presence, the king said: 'Lancaster, I have sent for you to give me an account of your System of Education, which I hear has met with opposition. One master teach five hundred children at the same time! How do you keep them in order Lancaster?' Lancaster replied, 'Please thy majesty, by the same principle thy majesty's army is kept in order—by the word of command.' His majesty replied, 'Good, good; it does not require an aged general to give the command—one of younger years can do it.' Lancaster observed, that, in his schools, the teaching

branch was performed by youths who acted as young monitors. The king assented, and said, 'Good.' Lancaster then described his system; and he informed me that they all paid great attention, and were highly delighted; and as soon as he had finished, his majesty said: 'Lancaster, I highly approve of your system, and it is my wish that every poor child in my dominions should be taught to read the Bible; I will do anything you wish to promote this object, 'Please thy majesty,' said Lancaster, 'if the system meets thy majesty's approbation, I can go through the country and lecture on the system, and have no doubt, that in a few months, I shall be able to give thy majesty an account where ten thousand poor children are being educated, and some of my youths instructing them.' His majesty immediately replied: 'Lancaster, I will subscribe £100 annually; and,' addressing the queen, 'you shall subscribe £50, Charlotte; and the princesses, £25 each; and then added, 'Lancaster, you may have the money directly.' Lancaster observed: 'Please thy majesty, that will be setting thy nobles a good example.' The royal party appeared to smile at this observation; but the queen observed to his majesty, 'How cruel it is that enemies should be found who endeavour to hinder his progress in so good a work.' To which the king replied; 'Charlotte, a good man seeks his reward in the world to come.' Joseph then withdrew."

Being imprudent in money matters he was arrested for debt. A friendly docket was struck against him, and his creditors were called together. The result was, that in 1808 his affairs were transferred to trustees—a fixed sum was allowed for his private expenses—a correct account of all receipts and expenditures was for the first time kept; and shortly after an association was formed, originally entitled "the Royal Lancasterian Institution for promoting the Education of the Children of the Poor," and subsequently, for the sake of greater simplicity, comprehension, and brevity—the BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

Lancaster's affairs were indeed transferred to trustees, but the man remained unchanged. He was still the victim of his impulses. The excitement of his mind never subsided. The repression of his extravagance was to him an intolerable interference. One by one he quarrelled with his friends; then separated himself from the institution he had founded; commenced a private boarding school at Tooting; became still more deeply involved; went through the *Gazette*; and finally, wearied with strife and sorrow, sailed in the year 1818 for the new world.

On his arrival in the States he was everywhere welcomed and honored as the friend of learning and of man. His lectures were numerously attended, and, for a time, all appeared to go well with him. But his popularity rapidly decayed. Rumors of debt and of discreditable pecuniary transactions in England, soon followed him; sickness, severe and long continued, wasted his family; and poverty, with her long train of ills, overtook him. Under these circumstances he was advised to try a warmer climate, and an opening having presented itself in Caraccas, he was assisted by his friends to proceed thither. He went with his son-in-law and daughter, (who afterwards settled in Mexico,) and, to use his own words, "was kindly received—promised great things, honored with the performance of little ones," and—after expressing, in no measured terms, his indignation at the breach of all the promises made to him—was glad to leave his family, and escape with his life. This was accomplished by a hasty flight into the interior, from whence he subsequently reached the sea shore, and embarked in a British vessel bound for St. Thomas.

After a short stay at Santa Cruz and St. Thomas, we here again his lectures were attended by the governor and the gentry of the island, he returned to Philadelphia. Again sickness overtook him, and poverty, and much sorrow. In miserable lodgings, with an apparently dying wife, pinched by want, and pressed hard by difficulties of every kind, he appealed to the benevolent, and in addition to other aid, obtained a vote of 500 dollars from the corporation of New York. This enabled him to take a small house, and to recover strength.

He now determined to return to England, and all but agreed for his passage, when circumstances induced him to return through Canada. On his arrival at Montreal he commenced his lectures, and again for a time floated along the stream of popular favor. The Parliament of Lower Canada voted him several grants for educational purposes. His worldly circumstances improved, and he determined to give up the thought of returning to England, and to

settle in Canada. This was in 1829. But after a time, and probably through his own folly, he again sank, and then opened a private school for subsistence.

But his career was rapidly drawing to a close. He had fully resolved on a voyage to England; but about a week before the affecting accident occurred which occasioned his death, he expressed some doubts on the subject, saying, "He knew not the reason, but he could not see his way clear in leaving America."

On the 23d of October, 1838, he was run over in the streets of New York; his ribs were broken, and his head very much lacerated. He was immediately taken to the house of a friend, where he died without a struggle, in the sixty-first year of his age."

#### THE LATE REV. DR. LINGARD.

The biography of a man of letters, whose hours have been chiefly spent in his study, can only be satisfactorily written by one who has been admitted into an intimacy of friendship with him. Such biographies are sometimes extremely interesting. The projects of the author—probably dwelt upon for years—of works which he may not have lived to accomplish; his predilections, his prejudices, his tastes, his manner, his social peculiarities,—the delineation of these, when the picture is earnestly and graphically executed by one who knew, and revered, and had a warm affection for the subject of it, has frequently a charm which he looks for in vain in more exciting narratives.

Such a biography of Dr. Lingard we are rejoiced to have reason to anticipate from the pen of the Rev. Mr. Tierney. This gentleman has already distinguished himself in literature. He is favourably known to the world as the learned editor of Dodd's "Ecclesiastical History," and his elaborate work, "The History and Antiquities of the Castle and Town of Arundel," displays great and painful research, which has had its reward in the production of very curious and interesting matter. But, perhaps, the best guarantee of Mr. Tierney's ability, as certainly it is his best title, to write a life of the late Dr. Lingard, resides in the fact that he was honoured with the friendship of that illustrious historian. If we remember the great work on which his fame is firmly established, we shall not be accused, when we employ the word "illustrious," of using the language of hyperbole.

John Lingard was a native of Winchester, and was born on the 5th February, 1771. Whilst yet a child in the Catholic congregation at Winchester, the piety of his disposition, and the quickness of his abilities fell under the observation of the celebrated Dr. Milner, who conceived such hopes of him, that he sent him to the secular college at Douay. He was in the third year of his divinity at that seminary, when, in October, 1793, the first French revolution broke out. The dangers which threatened so many at that perilous period did not altogether pass him by, as we learn from the following anecdote, which he was accustomed to relate to his friends, and which we have borrowed from a contemporary:—On one occasion, when the disaffection of the populace had risen to such a degree that the military were under arms in the streets, the young Lingard was looking out, when he observed an orderly ride rapidly up to the commanding officer, and in a few moments every trooper vaulted into his saddle. Shortly after came a counter order. The authority of the "sovereign people" was declared, and a Mons. de Baix, who had rendered himself obnoxious, was hurried amid yells and execrations *a la lanterne*. The student knew this gentleman, and penetrated the crowd to inquire the cause of his summary punishment; when, his dress attracting attention, he heard the cry of "*La Calote*," and presently, "*Le Calotin a la lanterne!*" He took to his heels, darted down a narrow lane, and, thanks to his fleetness of foot, our eminent historian escaped. On another occasion he was compelled to sing the "*Ca ira*," with a bayonet at his breast. The young divine left the town before his superiors, and the majority of the students were hurried away to Escherquin.

Early in 1795, when the community found means to return to their native country, several of the members established themselves at Old Hall Green, near St. Edmund's, Herts, where Dr. Douglass, Vicar Apostolic of the London district, had secured them a residence under the Rev. Dr. John Daniel, their old superior; whilst others repaired to Crooke Hall, near Durham, where Dr. Gibson, Vicar Apostolic of the Northern district, and the sixteenth president of Douay College before his promotion to the episcopacy, had provided them an asylum. Amongst these was the subject of our memoir, and it was here that

he completed his course of divinity, and received holy orders. It was now that his ability for teaching the higher studies of philosophy and divinity were to be tested, and the singular efficiency he displayed obtained for him the appointment of vice-president.

Notwithstanding his arduous avocations, the active mind of Dr. Lingard employed itself upon the development of our Anglo-Saxon forefathers, and the result of his extensive and laborious researches was his "History and Antiquities of the Anglo-Saxon Church," which was given to the world in 1806, from the Newcastle press, and which was published in two octavo volumes. This work reached a second edition in 1810, and a third edition was published in 1846, by Mr. Dolman.

The agitation of the Catholic question gave full activity to Dr. Lingard's pen. In 1807 he published in the *Newcastle Courant* a series of letters on Roman Catholic loyalty; and his tracts on the Charges of Dr. Shute Barrington, the Bishop of Durham, and his replies, amongst others, to Dr. Philpotts (now Bishop of Exeter), with his reviews of Protestant, or Anti-Catholic, publications by Dr. Huntingford, Bishop of Gloucester, by Dr. Tomline, and by Kenyon, were read extensively at the time.

But the great work of Dr. Lingard, and by which his name will be familiarly known to posterity, is his "History of England, from the first invasion by the Romans to the accession of William and Mary in 1688." The first two volumes of this work were published in 1819, and it was completed a few years later. It was materially altered, improved, and enlarged as it passed through three editions, but the best edition is the last, which was published by Dolman, in the winter of 1849, and is in ten octavo volumes.

For the last forty years of his life Dr. Lingard held the small preferment belonging to the Roman Catholic Church in the village of Hornby, near Lancaster, where, on the 17th of July of the present year, after a lingering illness, he breathed his last, at the age of eighty years.

Dr. Lingard's private virtues were worthy of his eminent abilities. His habits were attractively simple, his disposition was affectionate, and his nature most benevolent. Many profitable hours might of course be passed in the society of a man of such varied knowledge; but many pleasant hours were likewise spent by those who had the happiness of his acquaintance, for his fund of anecdote was inexhaustible, and his conversation at all times pervaded by pleasantry and good humour.

The house in which Dr. Lingard lived for so many years was a most unpretending residence, having a small chapel behind it, a door of communication opening into it from the house. In his garden, which was a long strip taken off a small grass field, he passed much of his time. It was the chief recreation of his leisure to attend to his fruit trees, which were trained and pruned by his own hand. His garden was the burial-place of his favourites,—his spaniel *Ætna*, his cat, his tortoise, and his horse, which last was laid beneath the shade of a flourishing oak tree, reared from an acorn brought by himself from the shores of the Lake of Thrasymene in 1817. Over the grave of "*Ætna*," his faithful companion of many years, the doctor, it is said, has been seen to stand until his eyes were suffused with tears, and he would exclaim, "Ah, poor Etty!" No anecdotes are trivial when, as in this instance, they display so clearly the nature of the man.

We have now to speak, which we must do very briefly, of the works of Dr. Lingard. The "History of the Anglo-Saxon Church" is, undoubtedly, the fruit of great labour and research, containing a vast amount of most curious information which had lain buried for centuries. Others have since laboured in this field, or rather, worked in this mine, but they have added little to the mass which had been accumulated by the patient assiduity of our author.

To Lingard's "History of England" too much praise cannot be awarded; and it has already had no ordinary share. It is, unquestionably, the very best, not only because it is the most impartial, but because it is the fullest and the completest history of this country that has ever been given to the world. As a more writer, Lingard is certainly not equal to Hume, whose style, so easy, so simple, so idiomatic, is inimitable, and perhaps hardly to be excelled; but it is small praise of Dr. Lingard, that in all the higher qualities of an historian, in his "knowledge of the spirit of antiquity, in exactness and circumstantiality of narration," he is immeasurably superior to the great Scotchman.

In his preface, Dr. Lingard says, "It is long since I disclaimed any pretensions to that which has been called the philosophy of history, but might with more propriety be termed the philosophy of romance. Novelists, speculatists, and philosophers, always assume the privilege of being acquainted with the secret motives of those whose conduct and characters they describe; but writers of history know nothing more respecting motives than the little which their authorities have disclosed, or the facts necessarily suggest. If they indulge in fanciful conjectures, if they profess to detect the hidden springs of every action, the origin and consequences of every event, they may display acuteness of investigation, profound knowledge of the human heart, and great ingenuity of invention; but no reliance can be placed on the fidelity of their statements. In their eagerness they are apt to measure fact and theory by the same visionary standard; they dispute or overlook every adverse or troublesome authority, and then borrow from imagination whatever may be wanting for the support or embellishment of their new doctrine. They come before us as philosophers who undertake to teach from the records of history; they are in reality literary empirics, who disfigure history to make it accord with their philosophy. Nor do I hesitate to proclaim my belief that no writers have proved more successful in the perversion of historic truth than speculative and philosophical historians."

We cannot do better than close this short paper with a passage of such masterly sense and manly eloquence.—*Bentley's Miscellany*.

#### EFFECT OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION IN SARDINIAN ITALY.—MOVEMENT IN FAVOUR OF FREE SCHOOLS.

The Genoese correspondent of the *Newark Daily Advertiser* speaks thus of the effect of the Industrial Exhibition upon the interests of popular education in Southern Europe. He remarks:—The London Exposition has produced a sensible effect upon the public mind in this comparatively free country, which was probably more numerous represented in London during the exhibition than any other on the continent, except France. I learn from an official source that over 2000 passports for London were issued at the Foreign Office in Turin during the last two months of that great fair. Every town and settlement of the country had its representatives there, and the effect has been an awakening of public attention to the importance of giving new energies to home industry—the essential condition of national independence and prosperity.

One of the fruits of this awakening is the organization of a "*National Society of Workmen for mutual Aid and Instruction*." This association was inaugurated in the capital (Turin) on the 19th inst., with great solemnity. The Mayor and municipal authorities attended in official costume, and many manufacturers of high standing gave the sanction of their presence. After the ceremonies of the inauguration, a procession with music and banners, and an address by Mr. Brofferio, an eminent member of the Sardinian bar, who is also a member of the popular branch of the Parliament, the whole Association with its distinguished guests, participated in a rural feast. Upwards of 3000 members were present, including 35 deputations from auxiliary associations in different parts of the kingdom. This is believed to be the first association of mechanics and workmen ever formed in Southern Europe, and such an institution could not be tolerated in any other country this side the Alps. The augury is for good. It is but the beginning of the end.

The friends of education are also moving under the inspiration of the new light that is breaking upon the country, and a large deputation has gone from this city to meet a "Congress of Educators and the Friends of Free Instruction," in one of the Palaces of the King at Alexandria, which has been liberally offered for its use by the King himself.

THE REWARD OF DILIGENCE.—"Seest thou a man diligent in his business?" says Solomon, "he shall stand before kings." We have a striking illustration of this aphorism in the life of Dr. Franklin, who, quoting the sentence himself, adds, "This is true; I have stood in the presence of five kings, and once had the honour of dining with one." All in consequence of his having been "diligent in business" from his earliest years. What a lesson is this for our youth, and for us all!

## Miscellaneous.

## LINES BY MILTON IN HIS OLD AGE.

This sublime and affecting production was but lately discovered among the remains of our great epic poet,—and is published in the recent Oxford edition of Milton's Works.

I am old and blind !  
Men point at me as smitten by God's frown ;  
Afflicted and deserted of my kind ;  
Yet I am not cast down.

I am weak, yet strong ;  
I murmur not that I no longer see ;  
Poor, old, and helpless, I the more belong,  
Father Supreme ! to Thee.

O merciful One !  
When men are farthest, then Thou art most near ;  
When friends pass by, my weakness shun,  
Thy chariot I hear.

Thy glorious face  
Is leaning towards me ; and its holy light  
Shines in upon my lonely dwelling place,  
And there is no more night.

On my bended knee  
I recognise Thy purpose, clearly shown ;  
My vision Thou hast dimm'd that I may see  
Thyself—Thyself alone.

I have naught to fear :  
This darkness is the shadow of Thy wing ;  
Beneath it I am almost sacred, here  
Can come no evil thing.

O ! I seem to stand  
Trembling, where foot of mortal ne'er hath been,  
Wrapp'd in the radiance of Thy sinless land,  
Which eye hath never seen.

Visions come and go ;  
Shapes of resplendent beauty round me throng ;  
From angel lips I seem to hear the flow  
Of soft and holy song.

It is nothing now,  
When heaven is opening on my sightless-eyes—  
When airs from paradise refresh my brow  
The earth in darkness lies.

In a purer clime  
My being fills with rapture—waves of thought  
Roll in upon my spirit—strains sublime  
Break over me unsought.

Give me now me lyre !  
I feel the stirrings of a gift divine,  
Within my bosom glows unearthly fire  
Lit by no skill of mine.

## THE LATE FEARFUL ACCIDENT AT THE NINTH WARD SCHOOL, CITY OF NEW YORK.

The following sad history of this melancholy occurrence, we have compiled from the extended accounts in the local papers of the accident itself, and of the protracted investigation of the Coroner's Inquest on the bodies of the forty-two innocent sufferers. The verdict of the Jury with its accompanying memorandum is worthy of the careful attention of all parties engaged in the construction of school-houses and other public buildings :—One of the most distressing calamities that ever visited this city, occurred yesterday afternoon, between 2 and 3 o'clock, at the Ward school-house No. 26, in Greenwich Avenue. We were upon the spot a short time after the accident occurred, but cannot convey to the reader any adequate conception of the excitement and anguish and desolation of the heart-rending scene. Nearly fifty children were killed, and forty-nine were more or less severely wounded. The school-house is a large, five story, brick building, the basement being level with the street, and forming in fact the flagged playground for the children, the building being so constructed that the children can play either in the open yard, or run for shelter underneath the school-house. The four floors above are reached by a winding, or what is technically called a "well" staircase, the bottom of the well or terminus of the staircase being upon the flagged floor of the basement, and about ten feet square in extent. It was by precipitation into this well that so many of the children were killed, many of them by suffocation alone.

Miss Harrison, one of the teachers of the female department, who had been for some days indisposed, was seized with paralysis of the tongue, and a call for water was raised by some of the children near her. The cry for "water" seems to have given rise to the idea that something had caught fire, and this alarm spread so rapidly that before any preventive measures could be taken, the main body of the scholars rushed toward the door, and a scene of indescribable confusion and horror succeeded. This department was in the third story, its elevation from the flagged floor being about thirty feet. In the rush some children were forced over the bannisters of the staircase, and falling upon the flags below, were mangled and instantly killed. The panic spread also through the other departments of the school, including the male department on the fourth floor, and under this augmented pressure the ballustrades from the foot to a point above the second story gave way or were forced out, and the children as they eagerly rushed forward were instantly precipitated into the well of the staircase, the uppermost smothering or suffocating those who lay beneath. Before the current could be arrested, the well was filled with the bodies of children to the depth of about eight feet. At this juncture the alarm reached the Ninth Ward station house, the fire-bell was rung, and a detachment of the police hurried to the scene. Here a new difficulty presented itself. The afternoon session of the school having commenced, the main outer doors, which open upon the foot of the stairs had been closed. Against these the affrighted children were wedged in masses, and as the doors open inward it was some time before relief could be given them. The police fortunately effected an entrance by a rear door, but for which timely help probably many more of the children would have been suffocated.

Much commendation is due to the teachers for their presence of mind. Miss McFarland, one of the assistants in the primary department, finding the children of her department becoming alarmed, placed herself in the doorway, and exerted her utmost strength to arrest them as they endeavoured to rush from the room, and although several times thrown down and trampled upon, she still persisted in her efforts, until finally she was so much injured as to be compelled to relinquish the post. So impetuous was the rush, however, that five of the teachers were forced over the bannisters and fell with the children into the well. The sterner discipline exercised over the boys' departments prevented them generally from joining in the rush. Only three of the pupils in the upper male department were among the killed. Some of the boys jumped out of the windows, and one of them had his neck broken by the fall. There were altogether in the building 1233 boys and 600 girls. Hundreds on hundreds went over the stairs, until there was a pile of human beings—a mass of children—eight feet square and about twelve feet in height. The police soon took possession of the premises, and commenced handing out the children from their perilous position. Those that were on top were but slightly injured, but as soon as these had been removed, the most heart-rending spectacle presented itself. Some among the policemen were fathers, whose own children were there. They worked manfully, and body after body was taken out : many of them lifeless at first, came to when they once more breathed the fresh air, but many were beyond aid, and death was too plainly marked upon their pallid features. Some were injured by the fall, and lay writhing in agony ; some moaned while others shrieked with pain, and others, again, when released started off for home, apparently unconscious of the awful scene through which they had passed. The bodies of the dead and wounded were mostly taken to the ninth ward station house, which is near the school. In a few minutes news of the accident spread through the neighbourhood, and mothers came rushing to the scene by scores. Occasionally a mother would recognize the lifeless form of a child as it was lifted from the mass, and then the piercing cry of agony that would rend the air. One after another the bodies of the dead were removed ; and at length litters were provided, and the wounded were carried away also. Nearly one hundred families either mourned the loss of children or watched anxiously over the forms of the wounded.

*Verdict of the Jury.*—The investigation into the cause of the fatal accident, occupied the attention of a Special Jury for several days, and on the last day the jury retired at about half past five o'clock, and at nine o'clock they agreed on the following verdict :

The jury unanimously concur in the opinion that the cause of death in the cases of—(here the names are recited)—was suffoca-

tion conjoined with external and internal injuries, produced by falling down the front and rear stairway of ward school building, known as number twenty-six, situated in Greenwich avenue, that said children deceased, with others at that time in the said school building, became suddenly alarmed, first occasioned by a slight paralysis of the principal of the female department of said school, Miss Abby Harrison. A sudden and almost instantaneous panic, produced by the impression that the building was on fire, took possession of the entire school, causing a universal rushing of the children to escape from the building, rendering it utterly unavailing for the the teachers, by any agency or means in their power, to quiet the alarm, or to stay the children from their attempts to emerge from the building, and that the teachers of said school, and each of them, are blameless concerning the casualty, and are in no way responsible for the deaths or injuries occasioned by the disaster.

To this verdict was offered a statement, of which we subjoin the substance.

In presenting this verdict, the undersigned feel it incumbent upon them, as well from public expectation as from an imperative sense of the duty they have to discharge, to present as briefly as possible some of the reasons more remotely connected with this catastrophe, that all pertaining to, or connected with it, may be perfectly understood and known. We report first, that no ground of complaint can, by any just construction of the testimony, be alleged against the teachers of the school. All, at the time of the alarm were at their posts, and all devotedly engaged in the duties severally assigned them. There was no lack of prudence, of self-possession, or well-directed effort, to command order. It would be invidious to mention names, and where all, without exception, showed themselves to have exerted every energy to save harmless the little ones entrusted to their charge, we feel it but an act of simple justice to award to them universally meritorious praise and commendation. The next point in order, and that which naturally presents itself, and to which much care has been given, is, as to the responsibility of the officers of the school. To them belongs the duty to provide suitable buildings, school apparatus, and teachers. To the latter of these, viz: the teachers, we have already said there was no blame. With the benches, desks, and other school apparatus, there is no fault to find. Concerning the building, the most reliable testimony that could be obtained has proved that the main structure is good; that it is abundantly strong and secure for the purposes designed and used.

But of the design and structure of the stairways, the facilities of ingress to the building, the opinion is as unanimous and decided that they deserve universal condemnation. The form of a stairway being four square, with steps on either side, starting with winders at every angle, thus continuing to the top of the building, leaving a well hole in the centre. The spiral form and low rails, even though safely constructed, cannot be commended as the most convenient, or by any means safe. All who testified upon this point, save one, concurred in this opinion. The most trivial occurrence might cause a child to lose his balance whilst reclining against this rail, and precipitate him, if at the top, a distance of fifty feet to a stone flagging below, which must inevitably produce death. Such was the structure of the front stairway in this school, and such were the exposures of the children who used it. It is not enough to say that accidents of this kind never before occurred, or that similar structures exist in other buildings, and that therefore there is no cause to condemn them.

The undersigned are united in opinion as to their insecurity, and do, therefore, most unqualifiedly condemn them. We say this, however, in no spirit of censure of the intentions of those who designed them. It was most unquestionably thought by them to be the most available mode of construction. It is in proof that the plans were submitted to the entire board of school officers of the ward; and subsequently to the Board of Education, who approved them, and made an appropriation of \$15,000 to erect the building. We would be understood, then, not as condemning the good intentions or honest purpose of those designing this work, but the design itself, the structure as it left the hands of the master mechanics, we do in the most unqualified terms, pronounce to have been unsuited to the purposes designed, bad in their arrangement, at all times insecure and dangerous, and never properly and thoroughly secured by the builder.

Whatever may have been the good intentions of the builder of this stairway, it is clear that there was great negligence, if not

culpable indifference and carelessness to a proper performance of the work. And that all concerned, the original contractors, master, and those having in charge the supervision of the work are alike responsible for the imperfection of the work of these stairways. That all who perished at that disaster, came to their deaths from the giving way of this newel, and the consequent breaking of the balusters, we do not believe. That many would have suffocated, as was the case with several on the rear stairway, is unquestionably true.

Yet it is also true, that very many who would otherwise have escaped, perished from this cause. But in immediate connection with this was the fact that the outer doors leading to the street, were so hung as to swing "inward," and, unfortunately, the doors opposite these, leading to the play-ground under the building, were both closed, and but for the fortunate circumstance that the northerly half of the middle outer door was at the time open, multitudes more would undoubtedly have perished. To this evil perhaps, more than the stairway, is attributable the great number of lives sacrificed. The jury in this connection regret that they were prevented, by the ruling of the acting coroner, from introducing certain evidence, and instituting inquiries as to certain branches of the investigation, which they deemed of importance to the issue.

In conclusion, we urge upon the public authorities and all concerned, having charge of public school buildings, that where such is not already the case, they provide separate stairways for each of the departments of our public schools, and that in every case the doors opening from these entrances be so hung as to swing outward. We would also recommend, that hereafter no public school building to be constructed should exceed three stories in height, and that they contain capacious inclosed fire-proof stairways for each department of the school.

We also recommend that hereafter our school buildings be constructed with a view to a limited number of children—not in the furthest to exceed one thousand scholars. This, we believe, would be productive of the moral and physical improvement of scholars in a much greater ratio than the increase of expense from multiplying building and increasing expense for building sites. We would further, and lastly recommend the passage of a law appointing a board of commissioners, to consist of practical and experienced mechanics, to whom all plans for public buildings must be submitted for approval, and under whose supervision such building must be constructed. [A notice of the improvements introduced into this building, since the accident, will be given in the next number of this *Journal*.]

*Proceedings of the City Corporation.*—The subject engaged the anxious attention of the City Council and various plans for the relief of the suffering parents were discussed. Finally the subject was left with a special committee. A resolution was adopted, requiring the committee to report the form of an act that shall make it obligatory on all persons having charge of public buildings, such as public school-houses, theatres, and halls used for the assemblage of large numbers of persons at a time, to have the buildings so constructed and arranged as to prevent, under any circumstances, casualties like that at the school-house in the Ninth Ward, on the 20th inst., and that the same be sent to the Legislature with a petition for its passage.

*FOUNDATION AND SOURCE OF NATIONAL GREATNESS.*—The celebrated DR TOCQUEVILLE in the following paragraph clearly reveals the cause of American success and intelligence:—It is by the attention it pays to public education, that the original character of American civilisation is placed in its clearest light. Schools were established by law in every township, obliging the inhabitants, under pain of heavy fines, to support them. Schools of a superior kind, were founded in the same manner as in the more populous districts. The municipal authorities were bound to enforce the sending of children to school by their parents; they were empowered to inflict those fines upon all who refused compliance; and in case of continued resistance, society assumed the place of the parent, and deprived the father of those natural rights which he used to so bad a purpose. At this very time (in the year 1650), those principles which were scorned or unknown by the nations of Europe, were proclaimed in the deserts of the New World, and were accepted as the future creed of a great people. The boldest theories of the human reason were put into practice by a community so humble, that not a statesman condescended to attend to it, and a legislation without a precedent was produced off hand by the imagination of the citizens.

# JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1851.

## ELECTION OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES, RECEIVING OF THEIR ANNUAL REPORTS AND EXAMINATION OF THEIR ACCOUNTS, THROUGHOUT UPPER CANADA, ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH JANUARY, 1852.

The second section of the School Act requires, "That the Annual Meetings for the Election of School Trustees shall be held in all the Villages, Towns, Cities, and Townships of Upper Canada, on the SECOND WEDNESDAY in January, in each year, commencing at the HOUR OF TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON."

As the proceedings of these Annual School Meetings are of great importance to the interests of Schools and the promotion of education, we will offer some directions and remarks respecting them.

1. By the 12th clause of the 12th section of the Act, it is the duty of the TRUSTEES of each School Section "To appoint the place of each annual school meeting, and to cause notices to be posted up in at least three public places of such section, at least six days before the time of holding such meeting."

2. It is not necessary that the Trustees should specify any of the objects of the annual school meeting, as they are enumerated and prescribed by the Act. The following are the several clauses of the 6th section of the Act relative to the duties of each annual school meeting:—

"VI. And be it enacted, That at every annual school section meeting in any Township, as authorized and required to be held by the second section of this Act, it shall be the duty of the freeholders or householders of such section, present at such meeting, or a majority of them,—

"*Firstly.* To elect a Chairman and Secretary, who shall perform the duties required of the Chairman and Secretary, by the fifth section of this Act.

"*Secondly.* To receive and decide upon the report of the Trustees, as authorized and provided for by the eighteenth clause of the twelfth section of this Act.

"*Thirdly.* To elect one or more persons as Trustee or Trustees, to fill up the vacancy or vacancies in the Trustee Corporation, according to law: Provided always, that no Teacher in such section shall hold the office of School Trustee.

"*Fourthly.* To decide upon the manner in which the salary of the Teacher or Teachers, and all the expenses connected with the operations of the School or Schools, shall be provided for."

3. It will be observed that the majority of the freeholders or householders present at an annual meeting have a right to elect whom they please to be Chairman and Secretary, without any restriction or exception; and however few electors there may be present at any such meeting, (if no more than three,) they have authority to do all that could be done by one hundred electors. The lawfulness of the proceedings of any such meeting is not in the least degree affected by the smallness of the number of school electors present, any more than the lawfulness of the election of a member of Parliament would be affected by the smallness of the number of his constituents who had voted at his election, provided he had the majority of those who did vote. All electors have a right to attend and vote if they please; if they do not do so, they have no reason to complain, and are justly bound by the acts of those who did attend and vote.

4. The 5th section of the Act requires that "the CHAIRMAN of such meeting shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the meeting, and shall give the casting vote in case of an equality of votes, and shall have no vote except as Chairman, and shall take the votes in such manner as shall be desired by the majority of the electors present, and shall at the request of any two electors, grant a poll for recording the names of the electors by the Secretary."

The same section of the Act also requires, "that a correct copy of the proceedings of every annual school section meeting, signed by the Chairman and Secretary, shall be forthwith transmitted by the Secretary to the Local Superintendent of Schools."

5. In the event of a vote being objected to, the 7th section of the Act provides, "That any person offering to vote at an annual or other school section meeting, shall be challenged as unqualified by any legal voter in such section, the Chairman presiding at such meeting shall require the person so offering to make the following declaration; 'I do declare and affirm that I am a freeholder [or householder] in this school section, and that I am legally qualified to vote at this meeting.' And every person making such a declaration, shall be permitted to vote on all questions proposed at such meeting; but if any person thus challenged shall refuse to make such a declaration, his vote shall be rejected." The Act then renders any person liable to fine and imprisonment who shall be convicted of having wilfully made a false declaration as to his right to vote at such meeting.

6. With these references and explanations, we think there can be no doubt on the part of any one, as to the organization and mode of proceeding at an annual school meeting. It remains then for the electors to discharge the three important duties which the Act imposes. The first relates to the financial report of the Trustees; the second to the election of one or more Trustees; the third to the manner of providing for the support of their school during the year.

(1) The meeting is to receive and decide upon the report of the Trustees for the past year. The 18th clause of the 12th section of the Act requires the Trustees "to cause to be prepared and read at the annual meeting of their section, their annual school report for the year then terminating, which report shall include among other things prescribed by law, a full and detailed account of the receipts and expenditures of all school moneys received and expended in behalf of such section, for any purpose whatever, during such year; and if such amount shall not be satisfactory to a majority of the freeholders or householders present at such meeting, then a majority of said freeholders or householders shall appoint one person, and the Trustees shall appoint another; and the arbitrators thus appointed shall examine said amount, and their decision respecting it shall be final; or if the two arbitrators thus appointed shall not be able to agree, they shall select a third, and the decision of the majority of the arbitrators so chosen shall be final." This provision of the Act affords Trustees an opportunity of publicly refuting any imputations which may have been cast upon them from any quarter as to their expenditure of school moneys; it also secures to the tax payers in each school section a public annual account of the school moneys of their section. They have, therefore, the satisfaction of knowing that whatever may be the amount of school moneys which they have raised, such moneys will be expended in their own section, by men of their own election, and accounted for to them at the end of the year. We are not aware of a provision for so prompt and satisfactory a mode of accounting for school moneys to school constituencies existing in any other country.

(2) The second important duty of an annual school meeting is "To elect one or more persons as Trustee or Trustees, to fill up the vacancy or vacancies in the Trustee Corporation, according to law: Provided that no Teacher in such section shall hold the office of School Trustee." It will be observed from this clause of the Act, that the electors at a school meeting can elect whom they please (except a Teacher in their section) as Trustee or Trustees, whether rich or poor, resident or non-resident. The 5th section of the Act having specified the order of the retirement of Trustees from office, there can be no misunderstanding or doubt on this subject in ordinary cases. But questions have arisen as to the order of the retirement of Trustees elected at the same time, not in a new section, but in sections already established, in cases where one Trustee has been chosen to fill a vacancy occasioned by the retirement of a Trustee after his three years' service, and another has been chosen to fill a vacancy by death, removal, or resignation. The doubt will be removed, when it is recollected that a person elected in the place of a Trustee who had died, removed from the neighbourhood, or resigned, as authorised by the 8th section of the Act, remains in office, not three years, but so long as the person in whose place he has been elected would have remained in office had he lived, or not

removed or resigned. Thus is the harmonious working of the principle of the triennial succession of Trustees secured. We will not repeat here what has been said heretofore, as to the vast importance of electing the most devoted friend of youth and the most judicious promoter of education in each section, as School Trustee for the next three years, commencing the 14th January, 1852. There can be no doubt that the duties of School Trustee are much more important than those of a Township Councillor, and not second to those of a member of the Legislature. We pray every school elector to think of this, and in behalf of his children, the children of his neighbours, and his country in all time to come, to vote for the best men as School Trustees.

(3) The last important duty of each annual school meeting is to decide upon the *manner* in which the salary of the Teacher or Teachers, and all the expenses connected with the operations of the School or Schools, shall be provided for." It will be observed by this clause, that the *amount* of the Teacher's salary and of other expenses of the school is not to be determined at the school meeting; the amount of all such expenses (as required by the 4th and 5th clauses of the 12th section of the Act) is to be decided by the Trustees—the elected representatives of the section. Indeed the question of the precise amount of expense can seldom be decided upon by a public meeting in regard to any undertaking whatever. It is not so decided in any of the public works of Government, of Municipal Councils, of Road Companies, &c. And the expenses attending the operations of a school are so contingent, that it would be as impracticable as it would be injurious to attempt the discussion and disposal of them at public meetings. Therefore what is done by a majority of 84 men for United Canada, and a majority of 5 men for each Township, is wisely left to a majority of three men for each School Section in respect to the *amount* of expenses of the School—three men elected for that purpose, and who can have no other interest than that of the majority of those who elected them. But the *MANNER* of providing for these expenses is left to be decided by vote at the annual, or a special school meeting. There is, however, one mode of providing for the expenses of a School which is not recognized by the School Act, though some school meetings erroneously adopted it in the early part of the year; we refer to that of tax according to the number of children of school age. Those who have fallen into the error of adopting this method of supporting their school, have found it necessary to retrace their steps. There is no provision or principle of the law that will authorise a tax upon a man according to the number of his children. The Act recognizes three modes of supporting Common Schools—*voluntary subscription, rate bill*, (that is on parent's sending children to school), and *general rate*, or tax "according to the valuation of property, as expressed on the Assessor or Collector's Roll." Which of these three modes of supporting the School shall be in each section adopted, must be determined by the electors themselves of such section. In the neighbouring States, a majority of the Legislature determine how each school throughout the State shall be supported; but in Upper Canada it is left with the electors of each school section to decide how their own school shall be supported. If they decide to support it by voluntary subscription, the 2nd clause of the 12th section of the Act authorises the Trustees to collect such subscription in the same manner as if it were a *rate-bill* or *rate*. If the majority at a school meeting should determine to support their school, by *rate-bill*, they should then determine how much should be paid per month or per quarter for each child attending the school; so that all parents sending their children to the school may know at the commencement of the year how much they must pay. But the most simple, equitable and patriotic mode of supporting each school is by rate on property, and then opening the school to all the children of school age in the section,—as free as the sun light of heaven. The inhabitants of upwards of 250 school sections in Upper Canada adopted this mode of supporting their schools in 1850; and some of the early results are attested in the extracts from local reports, given in the Annual Report of the Chief Superintendent of Schools, just published, pp. 154-198. In the same Report will also be found the Address of the Chief Superintendent to the People of Upper Canada, "On the the System of Free Schools." In every case where a free school is adopted, two things should be specially remembered—there should be *room* for all children in the section who will attend school, and there should be a *teacher* competent to teach them all.

THE ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS IN CITIES, TOWNS AND INCORPORATED VILLAGES take place on Wednesday, the 14th January—one Trustee to be chosen in each *Ward* of a City or Town, and two Trustees in each Incorporated Village. All "taxable inhabitants" have a right to vote. The election in each ward 'shall be held at the place where the last municipal election was held for such ward, and under the direction of the same returning officer, or, in his default, of such person as the electors present shall choose; and such election shall be conducted in the same manner as an ordinary municipal election in each ward of such city or town.' The notice of the election in each ward is to be given by the Board of Trustees in each city or town. See 22nd and 23rd sections of the Act and 9th clause of the 24th section. The school elections in each incorporated village are conducted in the same manner as the school elections of wards in cities and towns. See 25th and 26th sections of the School Act.

NOTICE TO LOCAL SUPERINTENDENTS AND BOARDS OF TRUSTEES.—Blank Annual School Reports, both for local Superintendents and Trustees, having some time since been sent by mail from this Department, local Superintendents and Boards of Trustees in Cities, Towns and Incorporated Villages are requested to prepare and transmit their reports as early as possible, so that the Annual General Report of the Chief Superintendent may be prepared and laid before the Governor General and the Legislature at the commencement of the next Session, and be printed at an earlier period of the year than heretofore.

Local Superintendents are specially referred to the 9th direction at the bottom of the Blank Reports for Trustees of School Sections, stating "the local Superintendent is required not to give a check for the *last instalment* of the School Fund on the order of the Trustees of any School Section, until they shall have transmitted to him their Annual Report." According to the 1st clause of the 26th section of the Act, no School Section is entitled to this last instalment of the School Fund, until the Report of the Trustees for the current year shall have been received and approved by the local Superintendent.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.—The 3rd clause of the 26th section of the School Act makes it the duty of the *Municipal Council of each County* "To appoint annually a Local Superintendent of Schools for the whole County, or for one or more Townships in such County, as it shall judge expedient," &c., &c.

This is one of the most important duties that each County Council has to perform. The value of the office of local Superintendent depends entirely upon the qualifications, abilities and industry of the person appointed. As a general rule, the office appears to have been filled with more ability and zeal last year than during any previous year; but we fear that in the multiplication of local Superintendents which has taken place in some Counties the present year, appointments have, in some instances, been made without proper care or due regard to educational qualifications. We implore the members of County Councils not to allow themselves to be influenced by any personal or local consideration in appointing or continuing any person in the office of local Superintendent who is not a good scholar, in at least all the branches of an English Education. To appoint any person not thus qualified, however good a man he may be in other respects, is a burlesque upon the office itself, is a waste of public money, and is a great injury to the improvement and interests of the schools. It will be recollected that it is not only the duty of the local Superintendent to attend to financial and other matters of business that require judgment and knowledge, but to the examination of Teachers and schools in English Grammar, Arithmetic, Geography, History, Algebra, Mensuration, &c. &c., and to prepare and deliver public Lectures on Education in each School Section. The local Superintendent should, therefore, not only be better educated than the School Teachers generally under his inspection, including a knowledge of teaching, but he should be the best educated man within the limits of his charge, if such person can be obtained to perform the duties of the office. We sincerely hope that there will be no exceptions the ensuing year to the care and discretion which County Councils have generally exercised the last and present year in the selection and appointment of local Superintendents.

\* \* For further Editorial Notices, &c., see page 187.



## Educational Intelligence.

## CANADA.

*Items.—Summary.*—The Teachers' Institute for the County of Oxford was held in Woodstock on the 15th and 16th instant. A large number of teachers were present and admirable addresses were delivered by GEO. ALEXANDER, Esq. and the Rev. W. H. LONDON. . . . The Goderich papers contain an account of the death of Mr. JAMES STRACHAN, Teacher in Wawanosh. He was in Goderich on the 29th Nov. in good health, and was cheerful in spirits as possible, and yet he was "in the midst of death." He never reached home—it is supposed that fatigue of the bad roads upon a well-worn and debilitated frame, was the immediate cause of his death. He was 53 years of age, a native of Kirkaldy, Scotland,—came out to this country some three or four years ago, and has been some time Teacher in Wawanosh, and Clerk of the United Townships of Ashfield and Wawanosh. He was a shrewd intelligent man, and endeavoured to make himself useful in the settlement by delivering lectures on popular subjects, and by using every laudable means of communicating knowledge. . . . Miss MARY ELIZABETH HAIGH, formerly a most successful Teacher in the Union Central School of London, U. C., died recently at her father's residence in Toronto. Miss HAIGH was an exceedingly intelligent and amiable girl. While attending the Normal School, Toronto, in 1848 she evinced the greatest zeal and attention to her duties. She was universally beloved by all who knew her, and particularly so by her pupils, who, on the occasion of her retiring in April 1851 in consequence of her impaired health, presented her with a beautiful present of books accompanied by a highly complimentary and touching address. . . . A son of P. C. Van Brocklin, Esq., of Brantford, a pupil of the Union School of that town was accidentally drowned on Thursday the 11th instant while skating on the Canal. In a letter to the *Courier*, Mr. Hughes, his late teacher, speaks of him in the very highest terms.

*New Design for the Extension of the Toronto University Buildings.*—The Building Committee awarded the following premiums for the competition designs sent in for the new building:—To Thomas Young, Esq., Architect, Toronto, first premium, the superintendence of the buildings. To William Thomas, Esq., Architect, Toronto, second premium, £60. To John Tully, Esq., Architect, Toronto, third premium, £40. We understand that the buildings will be proceeded with immediately, and will cost at least £15,000.—[Toronto Patriot.

*Faculty of Trinity College, Toronto.*—The Rev. Geo. Whitaker, M. A., late Fellow and Classical Lecturer of Queen's College, Cambridge, Provost and Professor of Theology. Mr. Whitaker's Honour when taking his degrees was first-class in the Classical Tripos. The Rev. Edward St. John Parry, M.A., of Baliol College, Oxford, Professor of Classical Literature. Mr. Parry took his degree at Easter, in 1848, and was a first class man in classics. In 1849 he carried the English Essay Prize, and was equally fortunate in 1850, with the Latin Essay Prize. He is the son of the Right Reverend the Bishop of Barbadoes. George Clerk Irving, Esq., B.A., and Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, Professor of Mathematics. Mr. Irving took his degree in 1850, and was 8th wrangler—a distinction, it may be remarked, of a very high character. The duties of the Chair of Chemistry, which was for some time vacant, are now performed by Henry Youle Hind, Esq., who will assume the position of Professor of Chemistry at the termination of the present academical year of the Normal School, with which institution he has been for some time connected.—[The Church.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

*Superintendent of Education.*—At the close of the Teachers' Session, held at Truro last week, the proceedings were terminated by a public meeting in the Court House, at which a complimentary address, signed by sixty-eight Teachers, was presented to the worthy Superintendent of Education, J. W. Dawson, Esq., which drew forth an eloquent reply from that gentleman. A series of resolutions were also moved and passed unanimously, the movers and seconders supporting them with effective speeches.—[Nova Scotian.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

*Items.—Monthly Summary.*—Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, of Cleator, has offered a prize or scholarship of £100 to every student of the Manchester New College who shall hereafter obtain a gold medal in University College, London. As four gold medals may be obtained each year in the University, it will be perceived that Mr. Ainsworth's offer is one of no common liberality. . . . Efforts are making to establish Ragged Schools in Chester. . . . Mr. Gellow, a Mexican merchant, having recently visited Li-

verpool, presented a reverend gentleman with £2,000, to build schools for the education of poor children. . . . On Monday afternoon the foundation stone of an institution for the education and maintenance of the children and orphans of Church missionaries was laid by the Earl of Chichester, at Highbury-grove, in the presence of a numerous and highly respectable assemblage of the neighbouring gentry. . . . The winter session of the University of Edinburgh was formally opened on Monday week. The attendance of students was large. A considerable number of the city clergy and the patrons of the University were also present. The Rev. Principal Lee delivered the usual inaugural address to the students in reference to the prosecution of their studies. . . . The Senatus Academicus of the University of St. Andrew's, at a meeting held on Saturday, unanimously made choice of the Duke of Argyll to be Chancellor of the University, in the room of Viscount Melville, lately deceased. . . . The *Tablet* reports the "failure" of "the Catholic Collegiate School" in London, owing to the "utter apathy" and "disorganization" of the metropolitan Roman Catholics, and states that failures in other matters have arisen from the same cause. . . . The Earl of Besborough has attached land to all the national schools on his estate in Ireland, so as to provide agricultural instruction for all the pupils attending them. . . . It is said that Government intends establishing an institution at Kingstown, near Dublin, for the professional education of seamen. . . . The Lord Lieutenant has appointed the Rev. James McCosh, A.M., LL.D., the distinguished author of "The Method of the Divine Government, Physical and Moral," to the vacant chair of logic and metaphysics in Queen's College, Belfast. . . . The foundation-stone of the Oxford Diocesan Training School, for the education of teachers, was laid on Wednesday, by the Bishop of Oxford, at Culham, about a mile and a half South-east of Abingdon. The building will be in the style of the fourteenth century, and will stand on three sides of a quadrangle, with a frontage of 226 feet long. About a hundred dormitories will be provided. The cost will be about £12,000. . . . An edict has been issued in Prussia, placing the schools and teachers under the control of the clergy. . . . We understand that it is intended by a large section of the students of the Glasgow University again to bring forward Lord Palmerston for the office of Lord Rector, at the approaching election. The late Lord Rector, Mr. Alison, has been re-elected. . . . The Archbishop of Armagh, Lord Beresford, has been elected Chancellor of the University of Dublin, vice the king of Holland deceased.

*Manchester and Salford Educational Scheme.*—We have in previous numbers of this *Journal* presented a summary of the proceedings in England in regard to this scheme. We have done so, not for the purpose of expressing any opinion upon the merits of the question at issue, but simply to direct the attention of our readers to the gratifying indications of progress in the public mind of England in regard to that vital interest of a great and free people—the education of its youth. The following extracts from the speeches of two clergymen will accurately convey the religious feeling of the people of Manchester in regard to the new scheme. The Rev. William Doyle's remarks were highly appropriate and correct. At a recent public meeting the Rev. J. P. FITZGERALD remarked that the local bill was specially acceptable to him, on the ground that it respected the rights of conscience, and left the managers of existing schools in precisely the same position as it found them, with regard to their management. It was the heaviest blow ever struck against ignorance and crime, and the only safe antidote for infidelity and superstition. It laid the axe at the root of the evil, and proposed not only to develop the mental faculties and train the moral principle, but to instil the religious belief, or in other words, to train up children in the way they should go, so that when they were old they would not depart from it. It was absolutely necessary that some such measure should pass into a law, and therefore he gave it his cordial and warmest support. The Rev. WILLIAM DOYLE said he was not sufficiently familiar with the local bill to enable him to yield his assent to all its details, but the principles and objects of the plan had his hearty concurrence. It was lamentable to reflect on the vast amount of ignorance that pervaded the juvenile portion of the population. Very few could repeat the Lord's Prayer, and fewer still the Ten Commandments. By the adoption of this measure parents would be left without excuse, for it would bring the means of education within the reach of all. The principal ground on which he approved of the local scheme was that it proposed to give a sound secular education to all, and to found it on that solid rock of eternal truth, the infallible Word of the living God. By giving the people an enlightened, liberal, and Christian education, a blessing would be conferred not only on this country but on the nations of the earth, for as the tide of emigration was continually flowing towards the western hemisphere of the world, the people would take with them not only the language, the manners, and the customs, but the religion of the English nation: and wherever a colony of emigrants was found, there also would exist an association of feelings and affections which would ever endure them to the mother country. He believed that the local plan of education would confer blessings on humanity which would produce fruit not only for time, but eternity: therefore he gave it his cordial approval.

**Queen's College Cork.—Opening of the Session of 1851-52.—**

**Progress of the mixed Collegiate system in Ireland.**—Notwithstanding we have so frequently of late, noticed, in a spirit of natural exultation, the progress of education in this country, we feel that no apology is necessary for recurring to the subject in connexion with the proceedings which took place in the Queen's College, on the 3rd of November. In the Examination Hall of that College, we saw on that day the middle and upper classes of this city, congregated for the purpose of manifesting their approbation of the system of education pursued within its walls since its formation. The importance and significance of the attendance we are disposed to estimate more highly than we would on any previous occasion. To all intents and purposes we construe the entrance of Catholic pupils by their parents, and the attendance of the Catholic chief magistrate of this Catholic community, and so many of our leading Catholics at the proceedings yesterday, as tantamount to a formal declaration on the part of the laity that they will manfully maintain their temporal rights against any interference whatsoever. When it is considered that a deputation from the Transatlantic Packet Station Committee visited this city yesterday, for the purpose of examining our harbour, the presence at the College of so many of our fellow-citizens of high standing is the more remarkable. The event proved that the Cork people, while they are fully alive to the importance of securing direct communication between this country and America, they are not insensible to the higher claims which the educational movement has on their support, at this particular crisis; and that the feeling in favour of that movement is steadily progressing. Indeed, in the list of those present yesterday, we observe the names of some whom, up to the present, we had understood to be opposed to the Queen's Colleges. There is one part of the President's address to which we direct the attention of those who occupy the important position of teachers. It is evident, as the President observes, that, on the secondary education given in the classical schools throughout the country, it will depend whether any advance shall be made in the standard of entrance qualification. It is very true, indeed, that private schoolmasters will find it difficult to introduce the necessary reforms, but if a few succeed in carrying them out, in each of the provinces, the general body will make stronger efforts to imitate their example. As to the Royal Schools of Ireland, the abuses of which have become almost as notorious as the Cathedral trusts in England, we are glad to see that something is likely to be done shortly to reform them, and make them what they were originally intended to be. Colonel Rawdon, M. P., has been for some time collecting all the necessary information respecting the present mismanagement of these establishments, and, no doubt, in the next Session of Parliament steps will be taken for rendering them more useful. In the eloquent remarks with which the address of the President concludes, we cordially concur. After two years' existence, during which the College has had to undergo the most jealous, captious scrutiny, it has continued to attract still closer the sympathy and approval of the more intelligent of the community of all creeds, and to disarm not a few opponents of their hostility. "Thrown," says the address, "into the hottest furnace, the Colleges have increased in fullness and efficiency, unscathed, gaining, amongst the fires expected to consume them, the strength which now enables them to offer to Ireland the realization of that plan of University education of which, two years ago, but an imperfect sketch could be presented." Of the result of the conflict we have no fear. In this, as in every other struggle, the fury of barbarism and ignorance will waste itself before the cool discipline of civilization.—[Cork paper.]

**The Queen's College, Galway.**—The following very gratifying statement with respect to the Queen's College, Galway, appears in the *Vindicator*:—"We believe that all attempts to arrest the progress of sound mixed education will prove utterly abortive in this country. The experience of each succeeding day strengthens us in this opinion. In Galway, where the whole strength of the opponents of mixed education was put forth, the new college is completely triumphant. At the matriculations, to-day and yesterday, the number of fresh students entering the college amounted to twenty-eight. From the sound system of education adopted in the Galway College, and the acknowledged ability of the several professors, it was reasonably supposed that there would at least be no falling off under any circumstances; but we were not prepared to expect so large an increase to the number of the students who have already matriculated. The fact of such an addition to the ranks of mixed education in Galway is in itself a sufficient protest against any interference with that freedom of opinion which an enlightened laity will be ever found ready to appreciate and sustain. At the October examinations last year there were only thirteen matriculated students, which fact renders the present increase the more significant, and gives a strong guarantee of the future success of the institution."

**General remarks on the foregoing.**—The system of mixed education in the Queen's Colleges, Ireland, as well as under the National Board, is daily taking firmer hold, and more strongly uniting the various

religious denominations in its support, notwithstanding all the efforts made by its opponents to excite hostility against it. In the Queen's Colleges at Cork and Galway, pupils, including a full proportion of Roman Catholics, are steadily augmenting; the ordinary National Schools are still extending, whilst the National Model Schools (against which peculiar grounds of opposition have been recently started) are represented by the local clergy of the different religious denominations as admirably calculated to promote sound secular education, with ample opportunities for religious instruction, without the slightest interference with the religion professed by any of the children.—[English paper.]

**UNITED STATES.**

**Items.—Monthly Summary.**—The Corporation of Trinity Church in the City of New York have bestowed a perpetual annuity of \$3,000 on Geneva College, an Episcopal Institution, to make tuition free. . . . Seventy-five thousand dollars are said to have been subscribed toward the endowment of the Madison University, and it is desired to increase the amount to one hundred thousand. . . . We learn that the Rev. Dr. M'Clinck declines the acceptance of the presidency of the Wesleyan University, in consequence of the state of his health.

**Princeton College.**—The triennial catalogue of Princeton College, just published, gives the following summary of all the officers and graduates of that institution, from its foundation in 1748 to the last commencement:—

Graduates.....	3184
Admitted to honorary degrees.....	530
Graduates (clergymen).....	563
Graduates in public offices.....	200
Graduates deceased.....	1232
Graduates surviving.....	1952

Since its formation the college has had 9 presidents, 132 trustees (of whom only 26 are living,) 37 professors, and 123 tutors; and has had 21 governors of the province and state, as ex-officio presidents of the board of trustees.

**New England Female Medical College.**—Arrangements having been made for a complete course of medical instruction, with six Professors in the different departments, the Boston Female Medical School is hereafter to be known by the name of New England Female Medical College; and a firm under this arrangement is to commence in February.

**Schools in New Mexico.**—The *St. Louis Republican*, of November 2, has the following interesting paragraph:—"We had the pleasure of greeting the Rev. Mr. Reed of the American Baptist mission, formerly chaplain in the U. S. army, direct from Santa Fe. Mr. R. has been engaged in the worthy effort to establish English schools in the territory, such as the Mexicans and Pueblo Indians would be willing to support. His labors thus far have been eminently successful, and he now visits the United States to procure means and teachers, and extend his schools into various parts of the territory. We trust his efforts will be seconded throughout the States, for there is no portion of the territory of the United States that more eminently needs the schoolmaster than New Mexico. Mr. B. returns in the Spring to Santa Fe."

**Literary and Scientific Intelligence.**

**Items.—Monthly Summary.**—The venerable and everywhere esteemed poet, James Montgomery, is dead. He had completed his eightieth year. On his eightieth birth day he planted an oak tree in the lawn in front of the Sheffield Infirmary. He resided at The Mount, Sheffield. . . . Mr. William Wyon, R. A., the chief engraver at the Royal Mint, died at Brighton, on the 29th October, after a long illness. Mr. Wyon's eminence in his department was acknowledged on the Continent; the leading European monarchs have on many occasions availed themselves of his abilities. . . . Mr. Gutzlaff, the famous Chinese missionary and scholar, died at Canton on the 9th August last, in the 48th year of his age. He was by birth a Pomeranian, and was sent to the East by the Netherlands Missionary Society in 1827; and after spending four years in Batavia, Singapore, and Siam, he went to China in 1831. Being of an erratic disposition, within the next two years he made three voyages along the coast of China, then comparatively unknown. On the death of the elder Morrison, in 1834, Mr. Gutzlaff was employed by the British Superintendency as an interpreter, and was employed in that capacity during the war. He afterwards received the appointment of Chinese Secretary to the British Plenipotentiary and Superintendent of Trade, in which he died. . . . The prize of 200 guineas offered by Mr. J. Cassell, for the best essay on the moral, social, and political condition of Ireland, has been awarded to Mr. Frederick Hearn, LL.B.,

Professor of Greek in Queen's College, Galway. .... The Belgian Government has offered a prize for the best work on the effects of sulphate of iron in the treatment of cases of inflammatory diseases of the lungs in cattle. .... The *Belfast Newsletter* mentions a very important discovery in the manufacture of linen, by which the time required to bleach and finish for sale the woven fabric will be reduced from three months to ten days or a fortnight, and the quality of the article will be improved. .... Prof. Faraday has lately discovered that zinc, by being melted and poured into water, assumes new properties; it becomes soft and malleable, losing none of its tenacity, but is capable of being spun into the finest wire, pressed into any required form, or rolled into any required thinness. The discovery will prove of importance to the arts. .... It is stated that the electric light has already been brought to a sufficient degree of practicability to be used for the permanent purposes of illumination, and that it is henceforth to be employed in the tunnels of the Manchester and Yorkshire railway. .... The severity of the recent proceedings of the Government of Saxony against the press, and the numerous confiscation of books in Leipzig, have caused a plan to be revived which was formerly entertained by many of the Leipzig booksellers, of transferring the seat of trade to another city. Berlin and Brunswick have been mentioned as places likely to be chosen. .... A banking institute, for encouraging the mutual instruction of its members in literary and professional studies, was originated at the London Tavern last month, by a meeting over which Mr. W. G. Prescott presided. .... A literary monthly has made its appearance at Tiflis, in the Georgian language. It will discuss Georgian literature, furnish translations from foreign tongues, and treat of the arts and agriculture. What oriental students will find most interesting in this magazine, will be its specimens of the popular literature. A new Armenian periodical has been also commenced in the Trans-Caucasian country. .... Charles Dickens (Boz) is at present keeping his terms at the Middle Temple, for the purpose of becoming a barrister. .... Mr. Douglas Jerrold has made a proposal that a copy of Shakespeare shall be presented to Kossuth, by penny subscriptions throughout England, in admiration of his marvellous mastery of "the tongue that Shakspeare spoke." The idea seems to meet with almost universal favour. In a note to the editors of the *Daily News*, Mr. Jerrold says:—"The shower of pennies subscribed by Englishmen, will not be without its significance; such copper will have its effects even against the iron of iron Russia and lead of leaden Austria." .... The suggestion of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, for the delivery, in connexion with the Society of Arts, of a series of lectures on the probable bearing of the Exhibition on science and the arts, has been most warmly taken up by the Council, and arrangements have already been made with Dr. Playfair, Dr. Royle, Dr. Lindley, Professor Solly, Professor Aasted, Mr. D. Wyatt, Mr. O. Jones, and Mr. H. Cole, to take part in the anticipated series of lectures. It is expected that the session, which will commence about the middle of next month, will open with the first of the proposed series. .... A large number of the articles exhibited continue to be purchased. The executive committee of the great exhibition have announced that they are forming a collection to consist of samples of all articles of trade, British and foreign. At present, the privilege of contributing is confined to the late exhibitors. Curiosities and articles of pure science are inadmissible, commercial value being the test which will be adopted. Depositors may in each case affix to their goods the selling price and any other information. .... Mr. Tucker, an Engineer attached to the arsenal at Malta, has arrived at Alexandria on a mission from the Government to survey the prostrate obelisk (Cleopatra's Needle) and report as to the practicability and cost of carrying it to England. He has had it entirely uncovered, and finds it to be in about the same defaced condition throughout. .... Mr. Serrel the Engineer who planned the celebrated suspension bridge over the Niagara, has made a survey, for the city Council, with a view of ascertaining a proper site for the proposed suspension bridge in front of Quebec. .... There are 6,461 miles of English railways constructed, at the cost of £205,160,000; the number of engines working on them is 2,430; the average distance run per day being 110,333 miles; the profits on the traffic paying from £11,000,000 to £11,500,000 into shareholders. .... The privilege of selling newspapers and books at the railway stations belonging to the South Western railway company has, it is stated, been leased to Messrs. Smith & Son, the news agent of the Strand, for £1,000 a year. .... The telegraphic cable between England and Calais cost £15,000. .... Telegraph Wires have been introduced into the Observatory at the Dock Yard Boston. It is understood that it is the intention to connect with the Observatory at the Cambridge University, near Boston, by means of the Telegraph between Halifax and Boston; to be used in this instance for Astronomical purposes and the advancement of science. .... The following has just been published:—"Notes on the Mineralogy, Government and Condition of the British West India Islands, etc. etc. etc., by Admiral the Earl of Dundonald, G.C.B.," late Naval Commander-in-Chief on the above station. British North America is treated upon at some length in the pages of this work. .... The aggregate population, according to the general census of 1844, of Turkey in Europe, Asia, and Africa, is stated at upwards of thirty-five millions, of which

there are fifteen and a half millions in Europe, sixteen millions in Asia and nearly four millions in Africa. .... In Constantinople there are forty-one public libraries, chiefly attached to mosques and religious institutions. .... There is a church actually existing near Bergen, which can contain nearly 1,000 persons. It is circular within, octagonal without. The relievs outside, and the statues within, the roof, the ceiling, the Corinthian capitals, are all of papier mache, rendered waterproof by saturation in vitriol, lime, water, whey, and the white of egg. .... The Governors of thirty-one States fixed upon November 27th, for the uniform observance of the annual Thanksgiving, being the result of a correspondence with the Governor of Ohio. .... There are sixty-five cities and towns in the United States, the population of which, by the census of 1850, is 10,000 or upwards. .... There are at least fifty clipper-ships now employed in the Californian and East Indian trade, some of them of the large size of 1600 and 1800 tons. .... A new and bright comet was discovered on the 22d of last month at the observatory of Baron Senftenburg, in Bavaria, by Mr. Brorsen. It may be seen in the northern part of the constellation Bootes. .... A letter from Berlin of the 28th ult. states that Dr. Brown has just discovered, at the Observatory of Berlin, a new comet, in the constellation Caus Venatorius. This comet is very luminous, and has two tails. As it will soon be in conjunction with the sun, it may be seen in the evening in the north-west, and in the morning in the north-east, at a distance of from seven to eight degrees from the last star of the tail of Ursa Major. .... Mr. W. Lassell of Starfield, Liverpool, has discovered two new satellites of the planet Uranus. They are interior to the innermost of the two bright satellites first discovered by Sir William Herschell, and generally known as the second and fourth. It would appear they are also interior to Sir William's first satellite, to which he assigned a period of revolution of about 5 days and 21 hours. He first saw these on the 24th of last month.

*Lectures at the Toronto Mechanics' Institute.*—Two Lectures, of which the following is an abstract, have been delivered in the Institute this season thus far. Others of equal interest and importance are announced. The first Lecture of the season was on "Terrestrial Magnetism." It was delivered by the director of Her Majesty's Magnetical Observatory in this city, Capt. LEFROY, R.A., F.R.S. Very little, the Lecturer remarked, appears to have been known of the earth's magnetism, even in its effects upon the Mariner's Compass, before the time of William Norman, a clock-maker of London, who, in the 16th century, discovered "the dip," or that force which causes a magnetic bar of iron, when freely and equally suspended, to assume an inclined position to the earth's surface, north or south of the magnetic equator. It has been found that the dip is subject to continual variations. In London, in 1773, the dip was  $72^{\circ} 19'$  and 1830, only  $69^{\circ} 38'$ . At Toronto the dip is now about  $75^{\circ}$ , and is slowly suffering a small variation. The phenomenon of the dip was strikingly shown by causing a dipping needle to move along a magnetic bar of iron. At the centre of the bar it assumed a horizontal position, corresponding to the real position of the needle at the magnetic equator of the earth. As it was moved towards the northern or southern end of the bar, it dipped towards them, in proportion to its proximity with them. When over the poles, it stood vertically. Capt. Lefroy exhibited, by means of diagrams, the situations of those parts of the earth, where there is no dip, which correspond nearly with the equator. Lines of equal variation, and of no variation, were also exhibited, traced over a map of the earth's surface. The mode of measuring the variation of magnetic force was illustrated by causing a dipping needle to vibrate, and then counting the number of vibrations that occurred before it assumed a position of rest. The number of these vibrations varies at different parts of the earth's surface, and thus indicates the variations of magnetic force. This mode of measuring the variations in magnetic force, on different parts of the earth's surface, was undertaken by Humboldt, in his first expedition to South America. Humboldt's name was alluded to by Capt. Lefroy, in language expressive of deep admiration and feeling. If, said the eloquent lecturer, we seek for an example of that ardour with which some men investigate the mysterious and wonderful works of nature, we may content late a young man, more than half a century ago, laying the shadowy foundation of a science, which he has since pursued with such astonishing zeal, acuteness and success, as to have infused his own warm and investigating spirit of observation into the scientific bodies of every civilized country; and not being contented with exciting a spirit of enquiry, he has succeeded in inducing the Governments of England, Russia, and the States of Germany, to join in one harmonious scheme for advancing our knowledge of the phenomena and cause of Terrestrial Magnetism. Thirty different stations have been established over the surface of the earth, to watch the changes and measure the intensity of this force—a force existing in the earth to such an extent, that if it were concentrated on one point, it would exercise an influence equal to that of eight thousand four hundred and sixty-four trillions of magnets, similar to the one he held in his hand. This vast force appears to be concentrated, as it were, in four different poles, two of which are situated in the northern hemisphere, two in the southern. These poles do not coincide with the

northern and southern poles of the earth, but appear to revolve about them, in very unequal periods of time. The magnetic equator of these poles crosses the earth at four points. Its form and position are also undergoing continual changes. The intensity with which the magnetic needle is attracted towards these poles varies at different hours of the day. So also does the direction of the needle, usually called the variation of the compass; this amounted at Toronto to a little more than one degree and a half west in the year 1848. The variation of direction is also subject to a daily change. It is least at about seven o'clock, a. m. and greatest about 2, p. m. It is also greater in summer than in the winter. Captain Lefroy made a very touching allusion to the Franklin expedition one of whose chief objects was to make observations on Terrestrial Magnetism. Many men of exalted reputation, as Sabine, Haughton, Humboldt, and Gauss, had devoted their lives to the study of this branch of knowledge, others had perilled and even lost their lives, in laborious and difficult observation of its changes and effects. Governments had expended vast sums of money in assisting their researches; and one vast expedition has now been lost to the civilized world, for many years, in a region of ice. It would be asked, what has been done by all this expenditure of time, labour, and treasure in the cause of science? But little apparently as yet. The collected observations now amount to more than twenty-seven quarto volumes of figures. These have yet to be compared with one another, and deductions drawn from the results; but as for any confirmed theory of Terrestrial Magnetism nothing seemed to be absolutely certain. Captain Lefroy then alluded to the discovery of the magnetic power of oxygen when heated by Faraday; who considered that terrestrial magnetism was mainly induced by the warmth imparted to the oxygen of air, by the sun's heating rays. It was, however, thought by those who knew most about the phenomena of terrestrial magnetism, that Faraday's theory did not completely set the question at rest. He (Capt. Lefroy) felt sure, however, that the labour of the observer and the liberality of Government, would not be in vain. Whatever had been called into existence by the Creator, was well worthy of being examined and investigated by all His intelligent worshippers, and he was satisfied with the conviction, that time would bring due reward to those who in faith quietly pursued their work, that as in days of old heathen men deified the inventors of the sickle and the plough, so in times to come Christian men would signify their approbation in a better and more enduring form, of the labours of those who are now confidently seeking a hidden treasure, fraught with benefit to all mankind in time to come.

The second Lecture on "The Dawn of English Literature" was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Burns. This interesting subject was treated in a masterly manner, and must have been instructive and entertaining to a large and numerous audience, entirely filling the hall. The lecturer commenced with a brief account of the state of learning in the earliest period of British history, anterior to the time of the venerable Bede, known as the father of English literature, respecting whose character and acquirements the Reverend lecturer spoke at some length. After alluding to several illustrious names that shone in the general darkness immediately preceding the reign of Alfred the Great, he passed on to mention the great exertions made by that monarch for the encouragement of learning, not only by the example of industry set by himself, but by founding schools for all classes of his subjects, and inviting to his court illustrious men of all nations, famed for their wisdom and learning. The lecturer also pointed out how the gradual formation of the present English language, was continually going on by the constant infusion of new elements till after the time of the Norman invasion, when a new impulse was given to the spread of learning by the Norman scholars, who took great pride in academical honors, and by the example of many of their monarchs. The crusades also in their turn, by the introduction of new sciences and the acquirements of new languages, added greatly to the stock of learning. In the time of Edward the First, the lecturer went on to say, the study of law in particular was carried to a great extent, being attended with a beneficial result to the people in general, by improving the laws themselves; and giving stability to the national character. The lecturer then passed on to speak of Chaucer, the father of English literature, and Wyckliffe, the father of the English reformation; and to show the state of the English language at that period, he read an extract from Wyckliffe's translation of the Bible, pointing out the great similarity between his version and the one in present use. He also read extracts from the travels of Sir John Mandeville, written by himself, showing how much beauty and eloquence were combined with the quaintness and oddity of his style: He also read the Lord's prayer in the Anglo-Saxon language, comparing it sentence by sentence with the English translation of the 8th century, to show the state of the language of that period. The lecturer then alluded to a remark in the *Edinburgh Review*, stating if all the literature of the United States of America were swept away from the republic of letters, the loss would not be felt. This statement he strongly condemned, and concluded by reading an extract from a poem written by a professor of an American College to disprove the remark. [Abridged from the British Colonist and Patriot

*Alleged Discovery of Perpetual Motion.*—The *Courier de la Gironde* states that a civil engineer of Bordeaux, named De Vigneron, has discovered the perpetual motion. His theory is said to be to find in a mass of water, at rest, and contained within a certain space, a continual force, able to replace all other moving powers. The above journal declares that this has been effected, and that the machine invented by M. de Vigneron works admirably. A model of the machine was to be exposed at Bordeaux for three days, previous to the inventor's departure with it for London.

### Editorial and Official Notices, &c.

**SUBSCRIBERS TO THE JOURNAL FOR 1852.**—In accordance with an invariable annual practice, we beg to apprise the subscribers to the *Journal of Education* for 1851, that with the January number of 1852, a new set of mail books for that year will be opened. All parties, therefore, who wish to have the *Journal* sent to their address next year will please transmit their subscription as usual. This notice will prevent the recurrence of many disappointments which were experienced by former subscribers in the early part of this year. A great many illustrations will be given and some new features added to the *Journal* next year.

**AN EXTENDED DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE** of the school maps books and school requisites for sale at the Depository, in connexion with the Education Office, will be published in the *Journal of Education* for January and February 1852.

**NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS FOR 1851.**—To those wishing to keep their files complete, we shall feel happy to furnish any missing numbers of the present volume, which they may not have received. Single numbers of previous volumes may also be obtained by former subscribers upon application.

**TRUSTEES' BLANK REPORTS.**—Local Superintendants will please return to the Education office any Trustees' blank School Reports which they may have received over and above the number required for the use of the Schools under their jurisdiction.

In reporting Union Schools, care should be taken to report them in the Township only in which the school houses are situated.

### COMMON SCHOOLS.—CITY OF TORONTO.

THE Board of School Trustees for the City of Toronto will receive applications until Tuesday, January 13th, 1852, from parties desirous of filling the following offices, viz:

Local Superintendent and Visitorial Teacher, combined—to which will be attached the salary of £160 per annum.

And,—Teacher to School No. 6,—Salary £100 per annum.

Applications, with testimonials, to be addressed (postage paid) to the undersigned—who will furnish any further information.

G. A. BARBER,  
Secretary, Board School Trustees.

Toronto, Dec. 23, 1851.

**WANTED**—A Teacher for School Section No. IX, Township of York; salary about £65. Application to be made about the 1st of January, 1852, to Mr. John Watson, 6th Lot 2nd Concession, East of Yonge Street.

**WANTED** for Section No. VII, Pickering, a well qualified Teacher. One trained in the Normal School will be preferred. Salary good and entry immediately. Apply (post paid) to Rev. A. Waddell, Pickering, P. O.

### WILLIAM HODGINS, ARCHITECT AND CIVIL ENGINEER,

KING STREET, TORONTO,

DIRECTLY OPPOSITE THE ARCADE, ST. LAWRENCE HALL,

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