

had received a different education from the gentlemen of the committee, and answered positively and emphatically that 'he could not be present at the race, on the holy day of the Lord,' and the committee postponed it anew until the next Tuesday, when it took place." One of the Athenian papers mentions this circumstance under the heading of "A fine but useless lesson," and adds, that with singular disregard for the wholesome instruction they might have drawn from Prince Alfred's reply, the committee appointed the foot-race for a succeeding Sunday.

4. LORD BROUGHAM AND MR. GLADSTONE.

The *Scotsman* says:—"A very significant compliment to Mr. Gladstone's oratory, and a very striking incident in itself, appears not to have been marked by our London contemporaries. We mean the presence of Lord Brougham within the walls of the House of Commons for the first time during very nearly thirty years; that is, since he left it in 1830, to become Lord Chancellor. It is pretty well known that Lord Brougham left the House of Commons to preside over the House of Lords, with the utmost pain and reluctance; that his own most earnest desire was, not to accept any office which necessitated the abdication of his position as a member for Yorkshire, and that he took a position nominally and titularly higher only at the most urgent entreaty and virtual command of his party. Since his removal, he has never once been known to enter as auditor within those walls which had so often echoed with his eloquence. On Friday night, for the first time, he overcame this remarkable reluctance; and then, too, for the first time, it is understood, he heard the man who now occupies the position he himself so long held unrivalled and undisputed—the greatest orator in the British House of Commons. Lord Brougham was seen to listen intently during the whole four hours during which Mr. Gladstone unfolded his budget, and is known to have expressed the highest admiration of the speech, as a masterpiece of clear and skillful statement and persuasive rhetoric."

VIII. Short Critical Notices of Books.

— **MANUAL OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES, INSTITUTIONS, AND SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND BRITISH PROVINCES;** by Wm. J. Rhees. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. This valuable work, compiled by the First Clerk of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, was intended to have been merely a continuation of the report of Prof. Jewett, published in 1850; but being more extensive than was originally designed, it has been published by the compiler himself. It contains a sufficiently minute and interesting account of all the various libraries in the United States and the British Provinces, whether Public, Collegiate, or School Libraries. The list of libraries and the index are pretty full, and render the work of the greatest value as one of reference on this particular subject. We shall have pleasure in making extracts in a future number of this *Journal*.

— **A SELECT GLOSSARY OF ENGLISH WORDS** formerly used in senses different from their present; by the Very Rev. R. C. Trench, D.D., Dean of Westminster. New York: J. S. Redfield. Dr. Trench is so well known as an able English philologist, that his works do not require special commendation from our hands. The object of the author has been to furnish a select glossary of English words for the careful study and mental discipline of that class of young men who neglect or have not sufficient opportunity to enjoy "the inestimable advantages" of a study of the Greek and Latin languages. The words are alphabetically arranged, and the old and new meanings copiously illustrated.

— **GUIDE TO A KNOWLEDGE OF LIFE,** vegetable and animal; being a comprehensive manual of Physiology, viewed in relation to the maintenance of health; by R. J. Mann, M.D. New York: C. S. Francis & Co. This seems to be an excellent work of the kind. It is well arranged and is written in a clear and interesting manner. The illustration and verbal explanation of technical words in the text, render it a useful manual.

— **THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES,** by means of natural selection, or the preservation of races in the struggle for life; by Charles Darwin, M.A. New York: D. Appleton & Co. To do justice to so comprehensive a work as this, although it is merely an "Abstract" of a larger one in preparation, would far exceed the limits at our disposal. The high authority of Mr. Darwin as a close and accurate observer in natural history invests his present work with an additional degree of interest, and will cause it to be extensively read. He seeks to establish the fact that each species of plants

and animals belonging to the same genera has not been independently created; that the species are not unchangeable, but that those which belong to the same genera are the lineal posterity of another and generally extinct species. As a coincidence of the view of another independent labourer in the same part of science, Mr. Darwin, in his preface, says, that Mr. Wallace, who is now studying the Natural History of the Malay Archipelago, has, without any previous knowledge of his theory, arrived at the same conclusion with regard to the origin of species. Although Mr. Darwin's views may be strongly opposed, his work will be looked upon as another valuable contribution to the investigation of the science of Natural History.

— **MEMOIRS OF JAMES WILSON, Esq.,** of Woodville; by the Rev. James Hamilton, D.D. New York: Carter & Bro. This is a delightful work in biography of the brother of the distinguished Prof. John Wilson, of Edinburgh, from the gifted pen of the well-known author of "Life in Earnest," "Mount of Olives," "the Royal Preacher," and other kindred works. It is full of incident and anecdote, such as might be expected to fill up the good and active life of so industrious a contributor to Magazines and Natural History publications of Scotland and England as Mr. Wilson. The extracts from his letters and selections from his lighter literary efforts, given by Dr. Hamilton, prove him to have been of a kind and genial disposition, as well as possessed of a versatile pen.

— **LIFE OF THE REV. RICHARD KNILL;** by C. M. Birrell. New York: R. Carter & Bro. This sketch of the life of an estimable Congregational Minister, who was for many years a missionary at St. Petersburg, is written with a good deal of vivacity and apparent fidelity to the every day lifelike character of a Christian missionary. The interesting review of Mr. Knill's life and labours appended to the volume, from the pen of the venerable John Angell James, deserves additional interest, from the fact that it was his last act, and its revision was only completed a few hours before this excellent man ceased at once to work and live.

[Other publications received from Messrs. Carter, in our next.]

IX. Educational Intelligence.

CANADA.

— **NIAGARA GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRIZE PUPILS.**—A very interesting examination took place last week, in the Town Hall, of boys belonging to the Common School, who were candidates for admission into the Grammar School, pursuant to a late resolution of the Board of Trustees. The Chairman of the Board, Col. Kingsmill, and the Rev. Mr. Phillips, conducted the examination. Five candidates presented themselves, and the competition among them was so close and so creditable that the judges were hardly able to decide where the advantage lay. Three boys were, however, selected, but the merits of the other two were so nearly equal, that the examiners could not find it in their hearts to reject them, and it was determined to admit all five. This commencement to open the Grammar School to prize pupils from the Common School, is one of the best moves that has been made for years, to create a new spirit in school matters. It will have the best result imaginable to the pupils in the Common Schools, as offering a valuable prize for successful studies, and thus creating a spirit of emulation that will be shared in by all. It is not only a proper reward for the best boys, but it will stir up the most sluggish and careless to think more of their school and the advantage of application to their books. To Col. Kingsmill the public is mainly indebted for this new feature in our schools, and in which he has been handsomely seconded by the Board of Trustees and the Master of the Grammar School.—*Niagara Mail*.

— **TOBACCO FORBIDDEN IN THE LONDON SCHOOLS.**—The School Trustees of London, U. C., have found it necessary to strictly prohibit the use of tobacco by the teachers during school hours.

GREAT BRITAIN.

— **MRS. COURTS' MUNIFICENT DONATION TO OXFORD.**—It is stated that Miss Burdett Courts has signified her wish to present to the University of Oxford a rich collection of Devonshire fossils; and also to appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to found two annual scholarships for advancement in geology and similar natural science.