

the responsibility of matters educational ; there should be some restriction as to the number of pupil teachers ; needlework should be recognized as a paying subject, and our sisters should be fairly treated, as they have not hitherto been, in regard to this matter ; Dr. Arnold's address was a comprehensive expression of much that we desired ; the standards of examination should be uniform, and (this most decidedly in the opinion of Conference) problems which might puzzle a mathematical tutor

should no longer be set to our pupils ; teachers should be appointed as inspectors, because they are thoroughly qualified for the work, are more likely than the present ones to examine fairly into the conditions of elementary schools ; indirect compulsion should be adopted, but, at all events the children should be forced to come to school by some means or other ; and, finally, that our Union has in its hands a power which, if judiciously used, must work greatly for the future of the profession."

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### CHOICE MISCELLANY.

A simple method of removing ordinary scratches from a slate :—Dip a wet sponge or cloth into pulverized pumice stone and rub it over the surface of the slate. It will soon be as smooth as the surface of a new slate.

The best teacher is not one who helps his pupils, but one who helps them help themselves. The only true education is self-education. The mind can be *filled* from without, but it can only *grow* from within. That only is effective teaching which suggests, prompts, inspires.

A TEST OF PRONUNCIATION. — Some Eastern professor has devised the following, with which he is reported to have brought a number of teachers' institutes to grief. We recommend it as a good exercise for advanced reading-classes and spellers. Let a few lines of it be written upon the blackboard at a time, and the pupils put upon inquiry as to the pronunciation before attempting a doubtful word. They should never be encouraged to guess.

"A sacrilegious son of Belial, who suffered from bronchitis, having exhausted his finances, in order to make good the deficit, determined to ally himself to some wealthy, lenient and docile young lady. To accomplish successfully his vagary, and forge the fetters hymeneal, he armed himself with a calliope and a coral necklace of chameleon hue. He also secured a suit of rooms at the principal hotel and engaged the head waiter as his coadjutor ; he next dispatched a letter of the most unexceptionable calligraphy extant, inviting to the matinee to be

held on the morrow, the handsomest young lady in town. She revolted at the idea, and refused to consider herself as sacrificable to his desires, and accordingly sent a polite note of refusal ; on receiving which this misguided young man, procuring a carbine and a bowie knife, proceeded to an isolated spot and deliberately severed his jugular vein and discharged his carbine into his abdomen. It need not be said that the result was fatal ; the debris was removed by the coroner."

FOR THE GEOGRAPHERS.—In an address delivered before the American Geographical Society, Chief Justice Daly, of New York, shows that the explorer's occupation is not gone, for with all our geographical knowledge, nothing is known of 12,000,000 square miles of our globe. The largest unexplored tracts are the Arctic and Antarctic regions and the interior of Africa. These represent, respectively, seven, three, and one million square miles. A large portion of Australia and other islands in the vicinity has never been visited by intelligent men. The past year was one of great activity with explorers. The whole region of Palestine, Upper Asia Minor, and Northern Arabia has been examined, and many geographical and historical facts determined. In Australia, over 2,000 miles of telegraph have been established through a portion of country but little known before. In Africa, more has been learned of its people than of its geography, but the way has been opened for extended exploration the present year. In this country the Yellowstone expedition, the Colorado exploring party, and the coast