

# JOURNAL OF EDUCATION,

Upper  Canada.

VOL. XIII.

TORONTO: FEBRUARY, 1860.

No. 2.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

	PAGE
I. PAPERS ON LIBRARIES—(1) The Value of Public School Libraries. (2) Circulating Libraries in England. (3) Necessity of Apparatus and Libraries in the Schools	17
II. The Magic Lantern an Auxiliary in Teaching	19
III. PAPERS ON COLONIAL SUBJECTS—(1) Progress of Education and Science in Canada. (2) The Progress of Education in Lower Canada. (3) The Future of British America	20
IV. PAPERS ON LORD MACAULAY—(1) Right Hon. Thomas, Lord Macaulay. (2) Lord Macaulay's Funeral in Westminster Abbey. (3) The Descendants of Great Men in England. (4) Loss to History in the Death of Lord Macaulay. (5) The Character of Lord Macaulay's History. (6) Lord Macaulay's Fifth Volume—His Letters—His History in Italy. (7) Lord Brougham's Advice in regard to the Education of Lord Macaulay	22
V. PAPERS ON PRACTICAL EDUCATION—(1) Miss Coult's Address to School-mistresses. (2) Short Rules for Common Schools. (3) The Education most needed. (4) We should have Educated Farmers	25
VI. PAPERS ON NATURAL HISTORY—(1) Artificial Salmon breeding	26
VII. MISCELLANEOUS—(1) The Red Flag of England. (2) Teachers' Mismanagement. (3) How to treat Dull Children. (4) A Story for Youth. (5) Fidelity. (6) Physiology of Rest on the Sabbath-Day. (7) Egyptian Astronomy verified. (8) The London Times' Life "Log." (9) Boy Smoking put down in France. (10) National Photography in England	27
VIII. SHORT CRITICAL NOTICES OF BOOKS—(1) The White Hills. (2) The American Almanac, &c. (3) Biography of Self-Taught Men. (4) The Roman Question. (5) Mothers of the Bible. (6) Old South Chapel Prayer-Meeting. (7) Six Juvenile Books. (8) Annuals. (9) Periodicals. (10) Historical Sketches of the P. E. Church. (11) Library in London, England. (12) The British Reviews and Blackwood	29
IX. EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE—Canada: (1) Report of the Education Committee of the York and Peel Counties Council. (2) State of Education among Toronto Criminals. (3) Dundas Female College. (4) New School at Farmersville. (5) Township School Statistics. (6) Complimentary Dinner to a Teacher. Great Britain: French Princes at the Edinburgh High School. United States: President of Harvard College	30
X. LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE—(1) Canadian Botany	32
XI. DEPARTMENTAL NOTICES	32

true levellers. They give to all who will faithfully use them, the society, the spiritual presence of the greatest of our race. No matter how poor I am. No matter though the prosperous of my own time will not enter my obscure dwelling. If the Sacred Writers will enter and take up their abode under my roof, if Milton will cross my threshold to sing to me of Paradise, and Shakspeare open to me the worlds of imagination, and the workings of the human heart, and Franklin to enrich me with his practical wisdom, I shall not pine for want of intellectual companionship, and I may become a cultivated man, though excluded from what is called the best society in the place where I live. To make this means of culture effectual, a man must select good books, such as have been written by right-minded and strong-minded men, real thinkers, who, instead of diluting by repetition what others say, have something to say themselves, and write to give relief to full earnest souls; and these works must not be skimmed over for amusement, but read with fixed attention and a reverential love of truth. In selecting books, we may be aided much by those who have studied more than ourselves.

"One of the very interesting features of our times," continues Dr. Channing, "is the multiplication of books, and their distribution through all conditions of society. At a small expense, a man can now possess himself of the most precious treasures of English literature. Books, which were formerly confined to a few by their costliness, are now accessible to the multitude; and in this way a change of habits is going on in society, highly favourable to the culture of the people. Instead of depending on casual rumour and loose conversation for most of their knowledge and objects of thought; instead of forming their judgments in crowds, and receiving their chief excitement from the voices of neighbours, men are now learning to study and reflect alone, to follow out continuously, to determine for themselves what shall engage their minds, and to call to their aid the knowledge, original views, and reasonings of men of all countries and ages; and the results must be a deliberateness and independence of judgment, and a thoroughness and extent of information, unknown in former times. The diffusion of these silent teachers, books, through the whole community, is to work greater effects than artillery, machinery and legislation. Its peaceful agency is to supersede stormy revolution. The culture, which is to spread, whilst an unspeakable good to the individual, is also to become the stability of nations."

"For many years," remarks that faithful friend of education, Mr. G. B. Emerson, "and many times a year, I have passed by

## THE VALUE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES.\*

The following extracts, which we quote from the last annual Report of Hon. L. C. DRAPER, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Wisconsin, (who we regret to learn has failed to be re-elected to the office he so well filled) are timely and useful in our own country. The renewed interest felt in several parts of the Province in regard to School Libraries, is full of promise for the intelligence and intellectual well-being of Upper Canada:

"Next to the Common School, we want, in an educational point of view, more and better books for the people to read; and this is the great subject I wish respectfully, yet faithfully, to urge upon the attention of the people. I will introduce the subject by a few citations of high authority, as to the necessity of good books, and the inestimable blessings they are calculated to confer.

"It is chiefly through books," observed the late Dr. Channing, "that we enjoy intercourse with superior minds, and these invaluable means of communication are in the reach of all. In the best books, great men talk to us, give us their most precious thoughts, and pour their souls into ours. *God be thanked for books!* They are the voices of the distant and the dead, and make us heirs of the spiritual life of past ages. Books are the

\* See also some valuable articles on this important subject in this Journal for Dec.