

Literary Chit-Chat.

A series of essays, by the author of "Recreations of a Country Parson," will shortly be published by Randolph & Co., New York.

"The Peasant and the Prince," by Harriet Martineau, with notes, will be published in June by Ginn & Co., of Boston, as one of their admirable series of Classics for Children.

Mathew Arnold, of England, is coming to the United States this month, and will give one address, "A Last Word About America," in three or four of the leading cities.

Mr. Grant Allen, who has attained some celebrity as a writer of fiction and of popular scientific books in England, is about to recruit his health at his father's house, near Kingston.

Students and scholars will be interested in learning that a translation of the "Politics of Aristotle," by the well-known classical scholar, Professor Jowett, has just been published at the Clarendon Press.

Ginn & Co., of Boston, are to publish, July 1st, "Plutarch's Lives," edited by Edwin Ginn, in their series of Classics for Children; also "Gulliver's Travels," edited with notes for schools, about same date.

Dr. Lyman Abbott has prepared a new book on the life and career of John B. Gough, entitled, "Platform Echoes, or Living Truths for Head and Heart." It will be published by subscription by A. D. Worthington & Co., Hartford, Conn.

D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, have just published Dr. Paul Radestacks "Habit and its Importance in Education," an essay in Pedagogical Psychology, translated by F. A. Caspari, and with an introduction by G. Stanley Hall, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Pedagogy, John Hopkins University.

Rev. E. P. Roe has, it appears, temporarily abandoned fiction and is devoting his pen to agricultural and horticultural disquisitions. In the June number of Harper's Magazine, he gives some practical advice in regard to the enjoyment of "The Home Acre," dwelling particularly on the cultivation of grapes, peaches and plums.

"The number of prettily printed and utterly twaddling little books of rhyme brought out in these days, says the New York Tribune, is something calculated to rouse the most stolid reviewer to frenzy. What literary America particularly needs is a school of critics who will promulgate the doctrine that, while commonplace prose can be patiently, if sadly, endured, commonplace verse is criminal, and has no appointed niche in the economy of nature and life.

D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, will publish about June 1, a new and enlarged edition of "Common Minerals and Rocks," by W. O. Crosby, Assistant Professor of Mineralogy and Lithology, Mass. Institute of Technology. The addition is nearly equal in amount to the original book, and is on the subject of Petrology. It is illustrated by forty figures, which add very materially to the clearness and value of the text. This little volume is not merely a guide to teachers, but it is also a simple and logical presentation of the leading facts and principles of structural geology, and is well adapted for class use.

Vols. III. and IV. of "Italy and Her Invaders," by Thomas Hodgkin, Fellow of University College, London, and Hon. D.C.L. of Durham University, have just been issued at the Clarendon Press, Oxford. Vol. III. treats of the Ostrogoth Invasion, and Vol. IV. of The Imperial Restoration.

A revised edition of Sir John Fortescue's "Governance of England, or, The Difference between an Absolute and a Limited Monarchy," by Charles Plummer, M.A., is announced. "The Theory of the State," by I. K. Bluntchli (authorized English version); "Selected Homilies of Ælfric," edited by Henry Sweet, M.A. (the first of a series of Reading Primers containing extracts from Old English); "Hints and Helps for Latin Elegiacs," by H. Lee-Warren, M.A., late Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; "Byron's Child Harold," with notes, by H. F. Tozer, M.A.; "The Andria of Terence," with notes, by C. E. Freeman, M.A., and Rev. A. Sloman, M.A.; Book I. of "Ovid's Tristia," by S. G. Owen, B.D., are amongst other late publications of this prolific press. A work of peculiar interest to Oriental scholars will be the "Fragmenta Herculanensia," a descriptive catalogue of the Oxford copies of the Herculanean Rolls, together with the texts of several papyri, accompanied by facsimiles, edited, with introduction and notes, by Walter Scott, M.A., Fellow of Merton College, Oxford.

Teachers' Associations.

WEST VICTORIA.—Met in Woodville on the 6th and 7th of May. The attendance of teachers was large, and the interest manifested throughout showed this to be one of the most successful conventions yet held in West Victoria. Messrs. J. J. Tilley, I.M.S., and J. H. Knight, Inspector of East Victoria, were present. Mr. H. Reazin, President, occupied the chair. After the roll was called, Mr. Reazin gave an interesting address on "Entrance Examinations," contrasting the standing of High Schools before these examinations were held with the present standing. Mr. McFarlane took his subject "Geography." He pointed out the necessity of teaching the geography relating to our own country first, then that of the Mother Country. He was followed by Mr. Ross, who read a neatly arranged paper on "School Management." He gave many useful hints to teachers commencing work in a new school. Interesting discussions followed each subject. At 1.30 p.m. convention re-assembled to transact business. Election of officers:—President, Mr. Reazin; vice-president, Mr. Pomeroy; secretary-treasurer, L. Gilchrist; managing committee, Messrs. Bingham, McFarlane, Ross, Morris, and Rennie; auditors, Messrs. Atkinson and Pearce. On motion it was decided that the next convention be held at Fenelon Falls some Thursday and Friday in September, to be decided by the Managing Committee. Mr. Weir was asked to take his subject "Algebra." He gave some neat solutions of questions involving symmetry from a paper set for third class examination. An interesting discussion followed. Mr. Tilley gave an excellent lecture on "Fitch, chap. IV." He took "discipline" as the basis of his remarks. He regarded "expulsion" as almost unnecessary, and recommended kindness to win the "good will of a refractory pupil. In the evening Mr. Tilley delivered a public lecture in the Spencer Hall on the subject "Plea for National Education." The hall was comfortably filled, and the lecturer listened to with wrapt attention. Selections of vocal and instrumental music were rendered by some of the teachers and others present.

Second Day.—At 9 a.m. convention re-assembled. In the absence of Mr. Morris, Mr. Robertson, of CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL, Toronto, kindly consented to take the subject "Music." He gave a brief explanation of the Tonic Sol-fa system. Mr. McIlvany was asked to take his subject "Physics." He showed the progress made in this important subject, and gave many hints as to the best methods of teaching it in Public Schools. Mr. Tilley next gave a practical lesson to a class on "Developing Fractions." He illustrated his method of teaching this subject by means of objects and allowed the class to do the work. Mr. Knight, Inspector of East Victoria, followed with an interesting lecture on "Music." He recommended that music be a chief factor in the exercises of the school, also that the selections made be such as have a good moral attached. His lecture was nicely illustrated by selections on the organ. Mr. Tilley next took the platform and delivered an excellent address on "The Aims of the Teacher." He held that the teacher should ever have before him aims that would tend to elevate the minds of the children of the section in which he teaches. He advised teachers to visit the parents, to keep them interested in school work. After a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Tilley and Mr. Knight for their valuable assistance the convention adjourned.

H. REAZIN, President.
L. GILCHRIST, Secretary.

NORTH GOWER.—The first meeting of the North Gower and Marlborough Teachers' Local Institute was held in the Public School building at North Gower village, on May 14 and 15. On the whole, the attendance was much larger, in proportion, than at the County Associations, and considering the busy season, the attendance of visitors was also large. The papers read were of a high order, equal to those generally produced at county meetings, and elicited warm and interesting discussion throughout. In fact, the meeting was a real success, and demonstrated the expediency of holding local institutes. Mr. Snirle, P. S. I., Carleton County, took an active part and contributed very much towards the success of the meeting. The President, Mr. J. H. Moffatt, read an excellent paper on "The Importance of Physical Education." The following resolution was carried unanimously: "In the opinion of this Association, more attention should be given to the physical training of the pupils in our schools." Mr. J. V. Beaman gave an interesting and well-written paper on Primary Science—"The Chief Forces in Nature." Rev. R. Stewart, B.A., of North Gower, gave a very appropriate and forcible address. A successful concert, for the benefit of the Association, was held in the evening. On the morning of the second day, after routine business was completed, Mr. R. Acton read an able and suggestive paper on "The Responsibility of the Teacher." The following question, which evoked warm discussion, was proposed by Mr. Snirle, "In how far is the Teacher Responsible for Irregularity, Untidiness, and Immorality?" Miss Lucy A. Hume, in a well-prepared paper, outlined a practical and orthodox method for teaching Geography. In the afternoon, an admirable paper on "The Arrangement of a Tin