

Editorial Notices, &c.

EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS.—We direct the attention of Local Superintendents, Members of the County Boards of Grammar School Trustees, and Teachers, to the official notice and circular of the Chief Superintendent, accompanying the Programme for the Examination of Teachers by the County Boards of Public Instruction. It will be observed that the first meeting of each Board is fixed for the 14th of Nov. next See page 150.

BOARDS OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES IN CITIES AND TOWNS.—An official Circular addressed to these newly-elected Boards will be found on page 148. A copy of this Number of the *Journal* is sent to each of the Boards; and their attention is respectfully directed to it. The documents referred to in the Circular will be forwarded as soon as possible.

BLANK FORMS OF REPORTS FOR 1850, &c.—The necessary Copies for the present year of Printed Blank Forms of Reports for Trustees, Local Superintendents, and City and Town Boards of School Trustees; together with the copies of the School Architecture referred to in our last number, will, if possible, be transmitted to each of the County Clerks for distribution in their several localities in the course of the next month. Copies of the Annual Report for 1849, ordered by Parliament to be printed will also be sent.

ABSTRACT OF ENUMERATORS' RETURNS OF THE COUNTY OF YORK,
Compiled by JOHN ELLIOTT, Esq., County Clerk. Toronto, 1850.

A most valuable Table containing the aggregate return of the inhabitants of the several Townships of the County, together with other important and interesting Statistics. We would be most happy to receive similar abstracts from the various County Clerks in the Province, particularly an abstract of the population returns of the several Townships. The Chief Superintendent would thus be enabled to make the apportionment of the Legislative School Grant for next year at an early period in 1851.

THE FARMER'S EVERY DAY BOOK;

Or Sketches of Social Life in the Country: with the Popular Elements of Practical and Theoretical Agriculture, and Twelve Hundred Laconic and Apophegms relating to Ethics, Religion, and General Literature; also, Five Hundred Receipts on Hygiene, Domestic, and Rural Economy. By the Rev. JOHN L. BLAKE, D.D. Auburn, N.Y., DERBY, MILLER & Co. Royal 8vo., pp. 654.

So comprehensive a work on the practical duties of rural life, we have, indeed, rarely met with. The title, although expressive, denotes its general, rather than its specific character. The author, seems to have elegantly and practically connected his experience of pastoral life with agricultural pursuits, combined as they were in his own case. He states that, "His habits and pursuits in life had prepared him to look beyond the mere improvement of his own premises to the subject of Agriculture generally, and especially to the social and intellectual interests of rural life." With that view was the work written, and in that spirit is its excellent advice conveyed. The chapter on "The Education of Farmers," "Advice to the Sons (and Daughters) of Farmers," "Toils and Pleasures of Rural Life," &c., &c., are admirably conceived and written. The work is profusely illustrated with superior and appropriate engravings, and is very handsomely bound. As a Farmer's Manual, we cordially recommend it to our Agricultural friends.

REPORT TO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

History of the Discovery of Neptunus: By BENJ. APTHROP GOULD, Cambridge, Mass. 8vo., pp. 56. Washington: Published by the Smithsonian Institution, 1850.

Two eminent astronomers—French and English—claim to be the discoverers of the Planet Neptune.—Le Verrier and Adams. Sir John Herschel maintained the championship for the latter, Le Verrier, for himself, Adams taking no part in the controversy whatever, but devoting himself unremittingly to further scientific pursuit. The question is now generally admitted to be decided in favour of Le Verrier—that is, that his theory in regard to the perturbation of Uranus being caused by an unknown planet in addition to Jupiter and Saturn, as first announced by him to the scientific world, was correct; for the unknown planet he had found an orbit, a mass, and a comparatively precise position. He staked his reputation on the correctness of his theory, and requested Dr. Galle of Berlin to test its physical accuracy. In compliance with this request, and on the very night Dr. Galle received the letter (23rd Sept., 1846) he discovered the new planet in longitude $325^{\circ} 53'$, or within $55'$ of the geocentric place assigned to it by Le Verrier! Adams also made similar researches about the same time, and with like result; but the first public announcement of them was not made until October 1st—a week after the actual discovery of Neptune by Dr. Galle of Berlin.

The highly interesting and valuable Report before us is devoted to the series of events connected with the history of this remarkable discovery, and to the since developed theory of Neptune. With great clearness and precision does the author deal with the entire question. His references and notes are numerous and copious—not a fact stated without an authority, and not a statement made without ample proof of its positive correctness.

We have felt deeply interested in the perusal of this pamphlet, and sincerely thank the officers of the Institution for their courtesy in sending a copy to this Department.

FIFTEEN YEARS IN CANADA,

Being a series of Letters on its Early History and Settlement, &c: By the Rev. WM. HAW. 8vo., pp. 120. Edinburgh, C. ZIEGLER Toronto, A. GREEN. Price 1s. 3d.

This pamphlet was designed to be a hand book for emigrants from the British Isles to Canada. It consists of eight letters, and is chiefly compiled from official sources—some of them not of a very late date, but still valuable. The article on "Education" in Canada is taken from this *Journal*, Vol. II., pp. 88, 89.

THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE DIRECTORY:

Showing the Name and Location of all the Post Towns in the United States. 8vo., pp. 109. New York, STRINGER & TOWNSEND; Rochester, D. M. DAWLEY.

A very valuable publication, carefully revised and corrected from authentic sources, and forming the 3rd Vol. of "Pratt's Business Directory." The Post Office in each State beginning with Maine, is given in alphabetical order, together with the name of each Postmaster and the County in which the Post Office is situated. The list extends to the new territories of Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon, California, and New Mexico. A similar work relating to British America would be an invaluable book of reference in the Public Departments and to extensive merchants. We hope that when our new Post Office System comes into force we shall not long be without such a one.

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☞ All Communications to be addressed to Mr. HODGINS, Education Office, Toronto.