

JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

MONTREAL (LOWER CANADA), JANUARY, 1865.

To our Subscribers and the Contributors to the Teachers' Savings Fund.

We have to request that our subscribers who have not yet paid up will send their remittances as soon as possible to A. de Lusignan Esq., Clerk of Accounts and Statistics, Education Office, who will also receive all Premiums due on the Teachers' Savings Fund.

In sending money by mail, Postage Stamps should be used when the amount is less than one dollar. Teachers who receive the Journal for half a dollar may club together to send their remittances whenever they can conveniently do so. Coin should not be sent by letter as loss through increased postage is thereby occasioned.

We have much pleasure in recording the fact that during the year just ended many Boards of Commissioners have subscribed to the Journal for the schools under their control.

Subscribers to the Savings Fund are reminded of the necessity of paying all Premiums during the year to which such Premiums apply. Premiums for 1864, now overdue, shall nevertheless be still credited provided they be sent within a reasonable time.

All Teachers should contribute to the Savings Fund, and also subscribe to the *Journal of Education*. The reasons that might be urged in support of the first part of this recommendation are so obvious that they will naturally suggest themselves; to recapitulate them here would, therefore, be superfluous. As to the *Journal of Education*, we may say that the information to be found in its columns is of the highest practical importance to all teachers, and none should be without it.

Notices of Books and Publications.

THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND ART; Printed for the Canadian Institute by Lovell and Gibson, Toronto.

We have received the November number of this excellent scientific quarterly. It contains an article by Professor Wilson on the Physical Characteristics of the Ancient and Modern Celt of Gaul and Britain; another on Thallium, by H. C.; a bibliographical review, a translated article on Plants and the Atmosphere, from *La Revue des Deux Mondes*; and Meteorological Tables and observations for Toronto.

The subject of which Professor Wilson treats in this number is one much in vogue at present with savans in both hemispheres. As all the world knows, craniology has risen to an important place in modern science; it is now, in fact, one of the favorite branches studied by naturalists and especially by anthropologists. Accordingly, on all sides, the learned are digging. Ruins, catacombs, long forgotten cemeteries, are ruthlessly upturned and ransacked for those mouldy treasures which are to solve the great ethnical problems of the day. While investigating and comparing the peculiarities of *crania* of various races inhabiting the British Isles, the idea has been entertained in scientific circles that if the pure Celtic type could be definitively recognized and separated from its modified forms and sub-types, a promising way would open to the settlement of many questions touching the early history and migratory movements of this ancient people, and thence possibly to ethnological enquiries into the history and characteristics of pre-existing races. Unfortunately, however, the subject is beset with difficulties. It is the opinion very generally received among ethnologists that the pure Celt does not now exist free from admixture with other races; and it therefore follows that if the unmixed Celtic skull can be identified at all, it can only be done through the scientific

classification of *crania* of past generations. Hence the *furor* adverted to above.

But if investigations into the craniological peculiarities of ancient peoples be attended with so much inconvenience and trouble, science has hit upon a truly expeditious and agreeable method of examining contemporary heads. What, indeed, could be more natural under the circumstances than to have had recourse to that useful member of a well regulated community—the hatter? Let us not however anticipate Prof. Wilson in his remarks on this subject:

“The hatter in the daily experience of his business transactions, necessarily tests the prevalent form and proportions of the human head, especially in its relative length, breadth, and horizontal circumference; and where two or more distinct types abound in his locality, he cannot fail to become cognizant of the fact. One extensive hat manufacturer in Edinburgh, states that ‘the Scottish head is decidedly longer, but not so high as the English. In comparison with it the German head appears almost round.’ But comparing his scale of sizes most in demand, with others furnished to me from Messrs. Christie, the largest hat makers in England, the results indicate the prevalent Scottish size to be $23\frac{3}{8}$ inches; four of this being required for every two of the next larger and smaller sizes; whereas in assorting three dozen for the English trade, Messrs. Christie furnish four of $21\frac{1}{2}$, nine of $21\frac{3}{8}$, ten of 22 , and eight of $22\frac{3}{8}$ inches. Mr. Rogers, of Toronto, in assorting three dozen, distributes them in the ratio of five, seven, nine, and five to the same predominant sizes, and allows four for the head of 23 inches in circumference, the remainder being in both cases, distributed in ones and two between the largest and smallest sizes, ranging from $23\frac{3}{8}$ to $20\frac{3}{8}$ inches. The summary of inquiries among the principal hatters of Boston is as follows: ‘Larger hats are required for New England than for the Southern States. To New Orleans we send $20\frac{5}{8}$ to $22\frac{3}{8}$; and to New Hampshire $21\frac{3}{8}$ to 23 inches.’ One extensive New England manufacturer adds: ‘New England heads are long and high; longer and higher than any European heads. British heads are longer than Continental. German and Italian heads are round. Spanish and Italian very small.’

“Let us now see if this experience acquired in the daily observation of the trader and manufacturer will yield any available results in reference to our present inquiries. An ingenious instrument, known by the name of the *Conformiteur*, was brought into use in Paris, I believe about twenty years since, and is now employed by many hatters, on both sides of the Atlantic, for the purpose of determining the form and relative proportions of the human head, so far as required by them. The instrument fits on the head like a hat; and, by the action of a series of levers encircling it, repeats on a reduced scale, the form which they assume under its pressure. By inserting a piece of paper or thin card board, and touching a spring, the reduced copy is secured by the impress of pins attached to the ends of the levers.

“Taking advantage of the precise data furnished by the *Conformiteur*, I have availed myself of the peculiar facilities which Canada supplies for instituting a comparison between the diverse races composing its population. Upper Canada is settled by colonists from all parts of the British Islands. In some districts Highland, Irish, German, and ‘Coloured’ settlements perpetuate distinct ethnical peculiarities, and preserve to some extent, the habits, and usages, and even the languages of their original homes. But throughout the more densely settled districts and in most of the towns, the population presents much the same character as that of the larger towns of England or Scotland, and the surnames form in most cases the only guide to their ethnical classification. In Lower Canada the great mass of the population is of French origin, but derived from different departments of the parent country; of which Quebec is the centre of a migration from Normandy while the district around Montreal was chiefly settled by colonists from Brittany. The French language, laws, religion, and customs prevail, preserving many traits of the mother country and its population, as they existed remote from the capital of the Grand Monarque, and before the first French Revolution. The establishment of the seat of the Provincial Government at different times in Montreal and Quebec, and the facilities of intercourse between the two cities, must have helped to mingle the Norman and Breton population in both. Nevertheless, the results of my investigations tend to show that a striking difference is still recognisable in the predominant French head-forms of the two cities.

“My first observations, with special reference to the present inquiry, were made at Quebec, in 1863, when, in co-operation with my friend Mr. John Langton, I tested the action of the conformiteur on heads of various forms, and had an opportunity of examining and comparing nearly four hundred head-patterns of the French and English populations. As each of the patterns had the name of the original written