

*Schools in Brantford.*—By a correspondent of the *Huron Signal*. We visited the principal school erected in 1850, by the town, at an expense of £1,000. The building is of brick, two stories in height above the basement, and contains three large school rooms, beside rooms for recitation, for the reception of outer clothing, &c. The seats are so planned that but two children sit together, and all the arrangements are well calculated to promote the comfort, health, and advancement of the children. The play grounds for the girls, as well as their school rooms, are entirely separate from those of the boys. The whole of the rooms are furnished with tablet lessons, maps, blackboards, astronomical apparatus, &c. The play grounds and more particularly the public entrance are tastefully planted with trees, and the whole affair is an example to the province. The average number of pupils is over 300, taught by five teachers. We have space to refer to but one more of the educational establishments of Brantford.—A benevolent lady has erected a large brick house for a boarding school, in which she provides for the education of about 40 children. Those who are able, pay a trifle for their board and education, others receive board and education free, and some receive even their clothing in addition.

*Huntingdon School Examination.*—On the 22nd ult., the quarterly examination of the pupils attending Miss Vantassell's school at Huntingdon took place. The School numbers over 50 pupils. A large number of the parents and friends of the children were present, as well as several gentlemen from the town who take a lively interest in the cause of education. The school room was tastefully decorated for the occasion, by the scholars, with festoons, evergreens, flags bearing appropriate devices, which gave it a very fine appearance. During the afternoon the children sung several appropriate hymns, and no one could have listened to their sweet voices, and scanned their happy faces as they chaunted their rhymes, without feeling delighted. The pupils were examined in Grammar, Arithmetic, Natural Philosophy, Animal and Vegetable Physiology, &c., and in each of these departments the pupils displayed high attainments. Dr. Hope being requested to examine on Animal and Vegetable Physiology, asked a few questions on this subject, and the answers given to them would have done credit to pupils attending Schools of much higher pretensions. After the examination was concluded, the Local Superintendent was called to the chair. The chairman gave a short address, in which he expressed himself highly satisfied with the proficiency which the scholars had made since the last examination. Dr. Hope being called upon to address the audience, said,—He had great pleasure in being present at this examination. He felt agreeably disappointed, at the proficiency of the scholars, as well as at the superior system pursued by the teacher in imparting instruction; but he had no idea that the children attending this school were so far advanced in the different branches of education; it was astonishing, the knowledge displayed here to-day in reference to the subject of Animal and Vegetable Physiology, a study which was heretofore principally confined to physicians, and those who acquired a knowledge of the higher branches of education, but he was happy to see that these useful studies were engaging the attention of our Common Schools; and it afforded him great pleasure to state, that the Common Schools of Canada, would now compare with any of the same class, in the United States, in regard to the instruction, as well as the system adopted for imparting that instruction. [For the remainder of Dr. Hope's remarks, See page 152.] James Ketcheson, Esq., then addressed the audience:—He expressed the pleasure he felt in witnessing the proceedings to-day. He could not let this opportunity pass (as many of the parents of the children were present) without impressing on their attention, the necessity of engrafting religious principles combined with sound morality on the knowledge the children obtain at school. He was willing to admit that the teacher could do much in this respect, yet their instructions could never supersede that duty which is incumbent upon parents, for the influence of a parent was quite different from that of a public teacher; right-hearted parents have an access to the hearts of children, which it is not possible for any other person to possess; there are invisible avenues by which alone they can enter, and which it is hopeless for any other to attempt. Mr. Henry Ostrom made a few very appropriate remarks in reference to education, in which he contrasted the advantages now enjoyed for obtaining education, with the disadvantages they laboured under a few years back, and concluded by expressing himself highly gratified with the examination. After the proceedings were concluded, the Ladies furnished refreshments, and we need hardly say that full justice was done by all present, to the good things so abundantly provided.—*Hastings Chronicle*.

*Belleville School Examination.*—On the 8th inst., the examination of the pupils attending Mr. Newbery's School took place. This School numbers about 219, the average attendance being about 184. A large number of the friends and parents of the children, as well as several gentlemen who take an interest in education, were present. The children were examined in Natural Philosophy, Grammar, Arithmetic, Animal and

Vegetable Physiology, &c., and in each of these departments of study the pupils displayed very high attainments for a common school, and considering the large number that receive instruction, the whole examination was highly creditable. After the examination was closed, John Turnbull, Esq., being called upon to address the audience, said he had great pleasure in witnessing the proceedings of to-day. The orderly manner in which the children conducted themselves, as well as their respectable appearance, was a very pleasant feature in the day's proceedings. He expressed himself highly satisfied with the attainments manifested by the children, which could not be otherwise than pleasing to the parents and all interested in the cause of education, as well as creditable to the children; he hoped that they would aim at making higher attainments. After Mr. Turnbull had taken his seat, Rev. Mr. Hudson rose, and said, that as he had always taken a deep interest in the cause of education, it was particularly gratifying to him to be present at this examination. Mr. Burdon made a few very happy remarks, in which he expressed himself highly pleased with the attainments of the pupils. Mr. Davy on being called upon made a few appropriate remarks, more especially directed to the children; he said he hoped they would improve the peculiar advantages they now possess of obtaining a good education, superior to their fathers, and that they would make good use of their time, as youth was the season for improvement. Dr. Hope being called upon to express his opinion in regard to the examination, said he was highly satisfied with what he had witnessed to-day. He dwelt at some length on the advantages of the present common school system as compared with the old rate bill. [For Dr. Hope's further remarks, See page 152.] After this the Rev. W. Gregg addressed the children on the advantages of education, as well as the importance of engrafting religious instruction on the lessons learned at this school. He showed them the necessity of obtaining a knowledge of God's word, as alone calculated to make wise unto salvation, which should be made the chief concern of all present. We are happy to be able to state that the Examinations at each of the Common Schools have given great satisfaction.—*Ibid*

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN

### MONTHLY SUMMARY.

The Committee of Privy Council for Education have recently issued circulars to the inspectors of schools directing them to aid, by every means in their power, the system proposed by the department of practical art for causing elementary drawing to become a part of national education. It is intended to teach the very simplest elements of drawing in all schools willing to bear a small proportion of the necessary expenses, and then to admit the qualified scholars to study in a central drawing school in every town..... The Criminal statistics for all England, for the year 1851, are now before the public. Ten years ago the tables returned 30,000 offenders: the report for 1851, with all the increase of population to be reckoned, returns something over 27,000 criminals of all grades. In the intervening years, 1841, gives the highest number above thirty one thousand: 1845 gives the lowest—a little over twenty-four thousand. It is remarked that where work was abounded crime was decreased—that is, in the manufacturing districts. In the purely agricultural districts there has also been a decrease, except in the eastern counties—Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Lincoln. Wherever there has been an increase of commitments, it has not been on any particular class of crimes, but has extended to each. Of the seventy criminals who were last year sentenced to death, only ten were executed. Female offenders generally reckon, with regard to males, as a friction less than one in four; but in cases of poisoning there were last year forty-one females for thirty-three males. Stockport is quoted as showing the consequences of non-education. It is not more discreditable than its neighbours in the report of 1851; but the riots there this year have set the statisticians calculating, and they find that, out of a population of 85,000, only three hundred and fifty were at school in the whole borough. .... The official statistics of the French departments prove that the average duration of human life is from six to eight years longer in the districts which are the most advanced in respect to education. In like manner, the inhabitants are most healthy in those departments where agriculture is most improved, manufactures most extended, and commerce most active.... The *Milan Gazette* of the 14th publishes a notification by Count Strasoldo, Imperial Lieutenant of Lombardy, announcing that this year the two universities of Pavia and Padua will be opened without restriction, as they were before the events of 1848. Pupils may be received in the lycæums of Lombardo-Venetian provinces without any restriction respecting the legal domicile..... The death of the Duke of Wellington leaves the office of Chancellor of the University of Oxford vacant. The Earl of Derby has been elected, though Lords Rosse, Mahon, the Duke of Newcastle and others were mentioned in connection with the office. .... Last week the Duke of Northumberland laid the foundation stone of the Borough Schools at Alnwick, with great ceremony and