



CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

	PAGE
I. Free Public Libraries of Upper Canada	17
II. PAPERS RELATING TO LIBRARIES—(1) Imperial Libraries in Europe. (2) The India-House Library. (3) Great Circulating Library in London. (4) The Library of Congress	19
III. PAPERS ON BOOKS AND LIBRARIES—(1) Thoughts on Books, by eminent Authors. (2) Talk about Books. (3) Utilitarianism and Childhood: Books for the Young. (4) Value of Reading good Books. (5) A Reading Age	20
IV. UPPER CANADA EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM: By a Baltimorean. Visit to the Educational Department—The Normal School—Normal School Lectures and Examinations—A Day in the Model School—Object Lessons in the Girls' Model School—A Lesson in History in the Girls' Model School	22
V. Canadian Schools, from a Wisconsin Point of View	24
VI. EDITORIALS—(1) Official Replies of the Chief Superintendent of Education, to Local School Authorities—(Continued from last No.) (2) Important Decisions of the Court of Queen's Bench. (3) Provincial Certificates granted by the Chief Superintendent of Education	24
VII. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES—No. 4. The Earl of Aberdeen, K.G. No. 5. The Duke of Richmond, K.G. No. 6. The Notable Dead of 1860	28
VIII. PAPERS ON PRACTICAL EDUCATION—(1) Music an aid to Discipline in Schools: its Physical and Moral Influences. (2) Vocal Music in Schools. (3) Effects of Music upon the Sick. (4) Notes on the Lesson on Fish. (5) The School-House Play-Ground	28
IX. MISCELLANEOUS—(1) A Voice from the Penitentiary. (2) "Taste Not." A Story for Boys	29
X. Short Critical Notices of Books	30
XI. Educational Intelligence	31
XII. Departmental Notices and Advertisements	32

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN UPPER CANADA.

At this season of library activity, and in connection with the account of the princely gift of a Free Public Library in Liverpool (worth \$200,000) which was published in the last *Journal*, we have much pleasure in inserting in this early number of the *Journal* the annual statement of the progress of our free public library system in Upper Canada. The statement is in a tabular form, and shows the number and classification of all the library books which have been despatched to the public schools by the Educational Department from November, 1853, to the end of December, 1860. It also includes an account of the number of prize books sent out to the public schools from January, 1857, to December, 1860, as well as a statement of the mechanics' institutes, &c., which have been supplied with books during the same periods. One or two other tables have been added. That relating to prison libraries, &c., will no doubt be regarded with especial interest by those who look upon such agencies as a silent yet important means of influence for good with a class of the community who are often regarded as the outcasts and pariahs of society, incapable of being reclaimed, or unworthy of an effort to do so. The tender feelings of remorse, indicated by the poem written on one of these prison library books, by an inmate of the Provincial Penitentiary, and which we insert on page 29, may have been awakened by the silent teachings of some of these books. Such an influence may prove a potent means, when others fail, of recalling many an erring one to the paths of religion and virtue.

The contemplation of the facts embodied in the tables relating to the extension of libraries in our public schools, will excite lively gratitude in the minds of the lovers of the educational advancement of the country, as it has already elicited the admiration of numerous strangers who visit this country from time to time, especially the American educationists who have made this part of our Canadian school system a subject of special inquiry.*

"Very much remains in this branch of the system of public instruction to be done," (as observed by the Chief Superintendent in his Report for last year) "but it is worthy of remark that not a month has elapsed during the five years since its establishment without more or less books having been sent out," as may be seen in the table on the following page. From this table it will be seen that the total number of library books sent out up to the end of 1860, was 212,229; the number of prize books sent out from January, 1857, to December, 1860, was 20,194; and the number of volumes of books sent out to mechanics' institutes, &c., was 5,533; making a grand total of 224,563 volumes. The value of these books, together with the value of the maps, apparatus, and other articles sent out from the Map and Apparatus Depository, we give in the following table, which will prove highly interesting to the friends of public schools in Upper Canada.

TABLE shewing the value of articles sent out from the Educational Depository during the years 1851 to 1860 inclusive :

YEAR.	Articles on which the 100 per cent. has been apportioned from the Legislative Grant.		Articles sold at at Catalogue prices, without any apportionment from the Legislative Grant.	Total value of Library, Prize, and School Books, Maps, and Apparatus, despatched.
	Public Library Books.	Maps, Apparatus, and Prize Books.		
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1851 .....	.....	.....	1,414 25	1,414 25
1852 .....	.....	.....	2,981 13	2,981 13
1853 .....	.....	.....	4,233 14	4,233 14
1854	51,376 23	.....	5,514 18	56,890 41
1855	9,047 15	4,655 53	4,389 46	18,992 05
1856	7,275 82	9,320 87	5,726 76	22,323 45
1857	16,200 92	16,118 28	6,451 20	40,770 40
1858	3,982 99†	11,310 28	6,972 05	22,765 32
1859	5,805 64	11,905 02	6,679 30	24,389 96
1860	6,289 56	16,829 60	5,417 93	27,537 09
Total	\$99,873 31	\$72,639 58	\$49,779 34	\$222,297 23

* See *Journal of Education* for May, 1860, page 65. See also pages 22-24 of this number of the *Journal*.

† The amount expended for libraries seems to have reached its lowest point during the depressing year of 1858.