

## General Information.

*To be read to the Scholars.*

CHAMOIS skins are not prepared from the skins of the chamois, but from those of the sheep. The sheepskins are soaked in lime-water, also in dilute sulphuric acid, and fish oil is poured over them; then they are carefully washed in a solution of potash.

A telegraphic despatch sent from Paris will reach Berlin in one, one-half hours; Copenhagen in four hours; Constantinople in five hours; Dublin in three hours; Hong Kong in twelve hours; London in one, one-quarter hours; New York in four hours; and Vienna in one, three-quarter hours.

THE bread-fruit tree is distributed generally among the Friendly, Society, and the Caroline Islands. The tree is beautiful as well as useful, and rises to the height of forty feet. The fruit is green, heart-shaped, about nine inches long and equaling a large melon in size. When toasted it is soft, tender and white, resembling the crumb of a loaf, but it must be eaten new or it becomes hard. Such is the abundance of the fruit that whole tribes subsist on this bread or fruit entirely.

**PUGILISTIC TOADS.**—A correspondent of the *Scotsman* writes as follows: "I always keep a number of toads in my orchid houses for the purpose of destroying vermin. The other morning, while watching two males, I was highly amused to see them have a regular set-to fight. They went at each other in a regular, scientific manner, sparring with their fore-paws, and butting with their heads. After a while they seemed to get tired, coolly sat down, and viewed each other with great complacency. From my earliest days I have been in the habit of watching the ways of the toad, and never having seen them fight before, would like to know if any of your numerous readers have witnessed such a scene.—I am, &c.—*Alec. Paterson, M.D.*"

**WILD MEN.**—In the island of Rio there are wild men who live in the trees, and who have no language but cries; and in Sumatra there are men who live in the forest, with whom not only the Europeans, but the Malays themselves, can have no intercourse. They stay in the woods, and subsist by the chase. They hunt the tigers, not with the gun, but with arrows, which they blow out of a tube with such force, and which are so keen of point and touched with such deadly poison, that a wound is almost immediately fatal. Their tiger skins or elephants' tusks they bring for barter. They never sell anything, for money is about the most useless thing they can have. They cannot eat it, nor drink it, nor wear it. But, as they have their wants, they exchange. Yet they themselves are never seen. They bring what they have to the edge of the forests, and leave it there; and the Malays come and place what they have to dispose of and retire. If the offer is satisfactory, when they return again they find what they had brought gone, and they take what is left and depart. If not, they add a few trifles to tempt the eyes of these wild men of the woods; and so at last the exchange is effected, yet all the while the sellers keep themselves invisible.

## Notes and News.

### ONTARIO.

Mr. C. W. Malloy of the 4th year in Toronto University, has been appointed second master in Searforth High School. Mr. Malloy is an experienced teacher and has won honours and scholarships at the University.

The Dundas High School Board have accepted the resignation of Mr. John Herald, M.A., Head Master, and appointed Mr. J. D. Bissonette to the vacancy, at a salary of \$1000. Mr. J. W. Dryden, of Brockville, has been appointed assistant master.

Mr. W. F. Rittenhouse, of St. Catharines, has been appointed Head Master of the Central School in that city, at a salary of \$700 per annum; and Mr. Rea was selected to fill the vacancy caused by the well-merited promotion of Mr. Rittenhouse.

Cobourg Collegiate Institute appears to be in a very prosperous condition. The attendance has, for some time, been too large for its staff, and the Board have recently added to it another master,

Mr. G. E. R. Wilson, who takes junior mathematics and English. There are now in all six masters and two lady teachers, the latter having charge of the drawing and painting department.

The vacancies in St. Thomas Collegiate Institute have been filled. That of Classical Master by Mr. R. Harstone, silver medalist and formerly Classical Master of St. Mary's, who was chosen out of twenty-five candidates. For teacher of Modern Languages, Mr. W. G. Shepherd, first-class honour man, Toronto University, has been selected out of twenty-seven applicants. These appointments have given much satisfaction. There are now six masters in the Institute. Mr. Harstone has had a distinguished University course and is spoken highly of as an excellent, practical teacher. Mr. Shepherd has proved himself an adept in his department. The city is to be congratulated on the accumulation of so much talent in its Institute, which must be productive of the best results to its "rising generation."

Mr. Hume, a graduate and gold medalist of Queen's College Kingston, has been appointed to the position vacated by Mr. McKay in Brampton High School.

A notice of motion was given recently in the London (Ont.) School Board to dispense with the services of the teacher of music in the Public Schools. Mr. McPhail, who is evidently a discriminating member, said he would be very sorry to find the teaching of music discontinued, and he succeeded in carrying a motion to have a teacher of that important and pleasing art procured. The music lesson would be a sad loss to the pupils, as it helps to brighten the mathematics and other dry studies which often over-tax the minds of children. There ought to be a Mr. McPhail on every School Board.

A candidate at the entrance examination for the High School, County of Bruce, spelled after this fashion:—"Nomitave, Prownown, Nuter, Speech, etc." He also laid down the proposition that a "verb agrees with its subject in case," and was of opinion that a "particle was a word, and a noun joined together." The same candidate stated that "a relative pronoun was a word used to mark some particular person, place, or thing."—*London Free Press.*

Dr. W. H. Law has been appointed Head Master of Streetsville High School.

In Weston High School, Mr. S. L. Barton, ex-mathematical scholar, in 1879, Toronto University, has been appointed Assistant Master in the place of Mr. Reid, who has returned to the University.

Mr. G. Cruikshank, 3rd year student, Toronto University, and first-class honour man in science, has been appointed Assistant Master in Prescott High School. Mr. Cruikshank received his education in Weston High School.

Mr. Joseph Nason, of Weston, graduated last May in Toronto, after a brilliant course, with double first-class honours in natural science. We understand that Mr. Nason intends to devote himself to the teaching profession.

The trustees of the Weston High School have determined to establish a reference library in connection with the School.

Mr. David Hicks, B.A., of Toronto, has been appointed Head Master of the Newburgh High School, at a salary of \$700.

Under the able management of Mr. Cortez Fessenden, B.A., Head Master, the attendance of Napanee High School has been doubled during the past year.

Brockville High School is reported to be in a prosperous condition. Mr. P. C. McGregor, M.A., late of Almonte High School, has recently taken charge. As Mr. McGregor is an energetic and enthusiastic teacher we may predict a successful future for his new field of labour.

Mr. Bell, late Classical Master, St. Thomas Collegiate Institute, has been appointed assistant professor in Classics, and Modern Languages, in Victoria University.

Sixteen pupils from the Caledonia Model School, Mr. Telford, Head Master, passed the Examination for Entrance to High School.

Mr. James W. Westervelt, late Teacher of Writing, has been appointed to take charge of the Commercial Department of the Canadian Literary Institute, Woodstock.

Mr. Telford has been appointed to the Head Mastership of Caledonia Model School, recently vacated by Mr. Hyslop.

Mr. J. C. Harstone, B.A., Math. Medalist and Proficiency Scholar, Tor. Univ., has been appointed Mathematical and Science Master in Whitby Collegiate Institute. Mr. Harstone is a very