

The adjourned meeting of the executive of the Provincial Teachers' Institute was held in the principal's room of the Victoria school, St. John, on the 3rd inst. Dr. Inch presided. There were present Messrs. Stothart, Parlee, McLean, Hay, March and Carter, of St. John; Messrs. Inch, Palmer and Foster, of Fredericton; Mr. S. C. Wilbur, of Moncton; Mr. R. P. Steeves, of Woodstock, and Mr. Wm. Brodie, of St. Andrews. The course of instruction was up for consideration, and the Chief Superintendent listened to the views of the members of the executive on some proposed changes.

Inspector Smith will spend May and June in Kent County.

Some of our teachers propose attending the World's Fair.

Inspector Carter will visit St. Andrews, St. Stephen and Milltown in April, and some of the islands in Charlotte Co. in May.

In the award of Fellowships recently at Columbia College, N. Y., one fell to a graduate of the University of New Brunswick. Wm. D. Matthew, who is now studying in the School of Mines in that college. There is always a sharp competition for those fellowships which are allotted annually to advanced students from various colleges, wishing to pursue special courses at Columbia. Only four out of the twenty-four fellowships to be awarded fell to the college which grants them, the others having gone to students from colleges and technical schools in various parts of the United States and Canada. Columbia expends \$12,000 annually on these fellowships, designed to encourage original investigation in literature, science and other branches of learning. Mr. Matthew is a son of Geo. F. Matthew, of St. John, N. B., the eminent geologist. He is to be congratulated on his signal success in winning honors where he had many formidable competitors. The scholarship is worth \$500 a year, tenable for two years.

BOOK REVIEWS.

LES ENFANTS PATRIOTES, par G. Bruno. Edited with notes, vocabulary and appendices by W. S. Lyon, M. A.; pp. 94, price 25 cents. D. C. Heath & Co., publishers, Boston. With copious notes and vocabulary there is added a list of the commonest irregular verbs, making a very complete text-book for the ordinary learner.

BOSWELL'S LIFE OF JOHNSON, edited with an Introduction by Mowbray Morris; pp. 718; cloth, price 3s 6d. London: MacMillan & Co., and New York. Of Boswell and his famous biography, nothing new can be said. Everyone has read it, or expects to read it. No one could have a better opportunity of doing so than in procuring this latest and cheapest edition.

DON QUIXOTE OF LA MANCHA. John Ormsby's translation, abridged and edited for the use of schools by Mabel F. Wheaton; pp. 272, price 60 cents. Boston: Ginn & Co., publishers. This is an excellent and cheap edition, in Ginn's "Classics for Children" series, of this great classic of romance literature, and is introduced with a preface, giving an interesting biographical sketch of Cervantes, the author.

Spenser's "**FAERIE QUEENE**," Book I., with Introduction and notes by H. M. Percival, M. A., Professor of English Literature, Presidency College, Calcutta; pp. 342, price 8s.

6d. Publishers, MacMillan & Co., London and New York. One great obstacle to the study of Spenser's *Faerie Queene* has been the lack of wise helps to the student in the shape of interpretations of old English words, the Spenserian metre, and its many archaisms. In the admirable introduction and the many useful notes which accompany the present volume, this objection is removed; and the student of early English literature will gladly avail himself of this convenient, cheap and well-printed volume to gain a closer knowledge of one of England's greatest poets.

TENNYSON'S HOLY GRAIL, with Introduction and notes by G. C. Macaulay, M. A., formerly Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge; pp. 86, price 2s. 6d. London: MacMillan & Co., and New York. This edition of the Holy Grail in its compact form, with introduction and explanatory notes, will be welcomed by students of Tennyson's Idylls of the King.

HISTORY OF ENGLAND (primer) By Arabella B. Buckley. London: MacMillan & Co., and New York. The authoress is known still by her maiden name, as when she wrote her books on science. This primer is excellently and clearly printed and with the help of various types. It is attractive in style as in matter; and is written plainly without obtrusive opinions. Whom is it written for? For young people it is good, if they read it with the elders. The former would perhaps find any primer intolerable otherwise. The elders should themselves enjoy this one. But there are a few words of exceptions to the full praise. (1) The table of sovereigns of England makes Queen Anne the daughter of William and Mary. Also it leaves out—surely unnecessarily—a single generation here and there, if such and such a person did not reign. That makes things less clear and less interesting. (2) On page 98: "The Treaty of Limerick, 1691, ended the war, and gave the Catholics freedom of worship." This "gave" is equivocal. It did not give, in fact, though it guaranteed. *Vide* page 104 of this book, where the correcting additional statement is made concerning that revolution settlement, which, as Freeman says, at one and the same time, freed Scotland and enslaved Ireland. (3) The usual English Bunker's Hill, on page 119. (4) Even in a primer is there no room for a soft word when preaching the gospel of force? On page 123 this is all that is said of Hastings' trial: His acquittal "was only justice; for if Hastings had made mistakes, he had also left the British possessions in India strong and at peace." (5) Page 126. Is "Since Ireland was never at peace under her own Parliament, Pitt determined to abolish it"—is that sufficient, or exact? Is it fair to the pre-Union Protestant landed-interest Parliament to put it down as the cause of all the strife in a country under penal laws, supported by a stronger country across the channel? (6) Page 142. "All these (Australian colonies) hope one day to join in a great federation of Australasia." Do they so hope? That is what we want to have proved to us in Canada. The newspapers seem to tell of some who hope, and of some who do not; and of hopes very different, too, by the way, in their ultimate goal.—W. F. S.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

AN ELEMENTARY TREATISE ON MODERN PURE GEOMETRY, by R. Lachlan, M. A., Cambridge, Eng.; **THE FOOD OF PLANTS**, by A. P. Laurie. Publishers: MacMillan & Co., London and New York.

UNE AVENTURE DU CÉLEBRE PIERROT, par Alired Assolant. Publishers: D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, Mass.