

NOTES.

TEACHERS will find Murison's "First Work in English" of very great service in drilling pupils on the interchange and equivalence of different forms of expression.

THE North York Teachers' Association recently held a very successful meeting. Their programme, which was a good one, unfortunately reached us too late for notice in last month's issue of *THE MONTHLY*.

THE editor of Chicago *Intelligence* gives us credit for the articles on reading, in our November and December numbers, but he evidently missed our explanatory paragraph crediting Colonel Parker with the authorship.

THE Messrs. A. J. Johnston & Co., New York, have issued a new Cyclopædia, notice of which can be seen in our advertising columns. Scholarly men of the United States have been engaged in its preparation, and its high merit is vouched for by many of the colleges there.

As we are going to press we observe that the Minister of Education has announced his intention of consolidating the School law and of making amendments therein. Time should be given the country, and especially the teachers, to consider and discuss these amendments before they are adopted by the Legislative Assembly.

THE *Library* magazine contains the cream of the English magazines and reviews. There are twenty articles on topics of general interest by the ablest living writers; the selections are made from a rich field and appear to be very judicious. The magazine is very cheap, but well printed and attractive in its appearance.

THE PLANETS FOR FEBRUARY.—The following items are selected from the New York *Journal of Education*:—At the close of the month of February Venus, Mercury, Uranus and Mars, are morning stars; Neptune, Saturn and Jupiter are evening stars. Jupiter is morning stars. Jupiter is morning star till the 19th. The February full moon falls on the 28th at 11 o'clock in the evening, so that we shall come within an hour of having no full moon in February.

THE *Montreal Daily Star* has a magnificent Carnival number, containing illustrations of the attack on the ice-palace and defence by the Garrison; the tobogganning fête; the Ice Condora after the Egyptian models, inaugurated with electric and pyrotechnic illuminations; the mammoth ice-lion (British); the great sleigh drive, embracing thousands of superb equipages; the fancy dress entertainments, and a fine inset-plate of the ice-palace in tints.

THE much-admonished public school teacher is to be pitied. Every fellow who has the opportunity of appearing in print tells him not only what he ought to do, but what he will be *mistaken* if he do. This positive-negative style of counsel is as easy as it is "cheap and nasty." We also have a craze to say a word to teachers, just "by way of application," and it does seem to us that it contains millions of cubic feet of sound philosophy. It is simply this: Remember steadfastly that you were once a child. Inspectors also please remember.

THE February number of *Literary Life* is to hand on excellent paper and clearly printed. This magazine presents features of interest not found elsewhere, and contains several dainty illustrations, notably those of Stoke Pogis Park in Grey's Elegy. A paper on Thomas Gray is a careful estimate of this poet's exquisite work and an accurate description of his retiring life and character. "Anecdotes of Authors," by Will. M. Clemens, is a collection of readable selections, several of which are quite new and entertaining. "A Texas Excursion," together with some pretty verses, help to make up a valuable number.

A MAGNIFICENT special "Carnival Number," has been issued by Messrs. John Dougall & Son, of the Montreal *Witness*. The publishers have pressed into service the most talented Canadian artists, and, consequently, the result has never been equalled in Canada. The number fairly teems with illustrations, and has a gigantic four-page picture—"Storming of the Ice Castle by Night"—designed by Robert Harris, A.R.C.A. Besides this there are full page pic-