

doubt that with some study and practice on her own part, she can give the children such a training in vocal gymnastics, as greatly to improve the quality and distinctness and enlarge the powers of the voice, and at the same time improve and invigorate the health.

It is evident from this view of the character of a primary school, that the teacher must not be a person of inferior talent or education. She may not need great learning, as that term is usually understood, but she does want a *kind* of cultivation. She should be far better versed in natural history and the kindred sciences than a majority of even the higher grade of teachers now are. She should possess correct habits of speech, skill in drawing and music, a talent for training the faculties of observation, comparison and generalization, and above all, that tact, so rare, of interesting children and encouraging them in the practice, and cultivating in them the growth of the social virtues and affections—that go so far toward promoting a healthy condition of society.

With such discipline as these exercises indicate, the pupil learns to bring into use, on all occasions, the resources of his own mind. He is less a slave to books and to the dicta of others. He becomes more self-reliant, and thus is better fitted to pursue a knowledge of truth untrammelled by a blind veneration for what he cannot understand. This course of discipline continued to the age of eight years, will be of more value to the child than much longer time spent in the usual routine of school studies. It will fit him to go forward in the more literary processes of book instruction with vastly increased speed and power, and stamp a decidedly marked superiority upon the character of his whole life.—*Wisconsin Jour. Education.*

VII. Miscellaneous.

1. INDIAN SUMMER.

BY EMELINE B. SMITH.

Just after the death of the flowers,
And before they are buried in snow,
There comes a festival season,
When nature is all aglow—
Aglow with a mystical splendour
That rivals the brightness of spring,
Aglow with a beauty more tender
Than aught which fair summer could bring.

Some spirit akin to the rainbow
Then borrows its magical dyes,
And mantles the far-spreading landscape
In hues that bewilder the eyes:
The sun, from his cloud-pillowed chamber,
Smiles soft on a vision so gay,
And dreams that his favourite children,
The flowers, have not yet passed away.

There's luminous mist on the mountains,
A light azure haze in the air,
As if angels, whilst heavenward soaring,
Had left their bright robes floating there.
The breeze is so soft, so caressing,
It seems a mute token of love;
And floats to the ear like a blessing
From some happy spirit above.

These days, so serene and so charming,
Awaken a dreamy delight—
A tremulous, tearful enjoyment,
Like soft strains of music at night.
We know they are fading and and fleeting,
That quickly—too quickly, they'll end,
And we watch them with yearning affection
As at parting we watch a dear friend.

Oh! beautiful Indian Summer!
Thou favourite child of the year—
Thou darling whom nature enriches
With gifts and adornment so dear!
How fain would we woo thee to linger
On mountain and meadow awhile,
For our hearts, like the sweet haunts of nature,
Rejoice and grow in thy smile.

Not alone to the sad fields of autumn
Dost thou a lost brightness restore,
But thou bringest a world-weary spirit,
Sweet dreams of its childhood once more!
Thy loveliness thrills us with memories
Of all that was brightest and best;
Thy peace and serenity offer
A foretaste of heavenly rest.

2. THE QUEEN AS "LADY OF THE MANOR."

The Queen of England may be seen galloping on a Highland pony along the banks of the Dee, scarcely noticed by the peasantry on her estates. Every Highlander believes himself to be born a gentleman. In his conduct in the presence of royalty he fully justifies his pretensions. Instead of standing and staring in the exercise of a vulgar curiosity as the Queen rides past, he uncovers his head and barely looks at the royal lady, or looks as if he looked not. Those neat white cottages that cluster round the royal property have been built by the Queen. That beautiful school-house has the same royal origin. That lady you may see any day paying a visit to the former, and hearing an examination in the latter, is the Queen of England. The exquisite lichens of endless variety that cover the birches and granite rocks are as expressive and eloquent proofs of the wisdom and presence of the Deity, as the pines and birches that have waived in the hurricanes of a hundred years. Even so these little acts of personal sympathy on the part of the Queen are richer evidences of her worth than the more imposing acts which history records, for in these the woman shines through the Queen, and the Christian glorifies both.—*From "The Queen in Scotland" in the London Review.*

VIII. Short Critical Notices of Books.

— OLIVER CROMWELL; New York. A. D. F. Randolph.—This sketch of this remarkable man's life is edited by the Rev. Francis L. Hawks, D.D., of New York, and is one of a series of "Biographies of the Heroes of History." The work does not profess to be anything more than a brief sketch of the life of the Lord High Protector, during his eventful career. It is illustrated with several good wood engravings.

— ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO; Philadelphia. Lindsay and Blakiston.—This is a most valuable book on two of the most potent destroyers of mankind. It was specially written for the popular reader, and is therefore happily divested of many of those technicalities of expression which are so uninteresting to the general reader. The essay on Alcohol was written by Professor Miller, at the request of the Directors of the Scottish Temperance League, and was published by them. The other essay was written by the eminent Dr. Lizars, Professor of Surgery in Edinburgh, and had passed through eight editions there in 1859. This two-fold book cannot fail to have a very decided influence in arresting the baneful practices of drinking alcoholic liquors, and of smoking, chewing, and snuffing tobacco.

— ROUGHING IT WITH ALICE BAILLIE, PAROCHIAL SCHOOLMASTER, NORTH BRITAIN AND ELSEWHERE. By Wm. J. Stewart. New York: R. Carter and Brothers. As "Ernest Bracebridge" gives a graphic account of life in an English school, so does this book give an equally graphic account of life in a Scotch school, but of a lower grade. The plot of the story reminds the reader of some of Dickens' tales, but the details and incidents are, of course, less artistic. The character of Richard Baybee, thought doubtless the representative type of a class, is a sad blot upon the book, which, however, that of his brother, the kind and pensive William Baybee, relieves.

— FARADAY'S CHEMICAL HISTORY OF A CANDLE. New York: Harper and Brothers. This book is a reprint of a course of Six Lectures on the Chemical History of a Candle, to which is added a Lecture on Platinum, by Prof. Faraday, delivered before a juvenile auditory at the Royal Institution of Great Britain during the Christmas holidays of 1860-1. In this juvenile auditory were some of the Queen's children, which fact gave additional éclat to the lectures, and probably led to their publication. They are nevertheless admirable in their style, arrangement, and matter; and although the title is so modest, their illustrations are by no means confined to the homely phenomenon of a Burning Candle. The subjects of heat, light, hydrogen, oxygen, water, air, acid, car-