

## Notes and Comments.

WE call attention to a typographical blunder in this number. The heading "Educational Opinion" should have been inserted over the article "Professional Supervision" on page 149.

APROPPOS of Sir John Lubbock's list of a hundred books, Mr. Henry Irving says:—"Before a hundred books, commend me first to the study of two—the Bible and Shakespeare," and Mr. H. M. Stanley notes that in going across Africa the books he kept till the last were the Bible, "Sartor Resartus," Maurie's "Navigation" and the "Nautical Almanac."

THE Toronto Teachers' Association held a very successful conversazione on Friday last. Mr. George McMurrich occupied the chair. Mrs. Caldwell, and Messrs. Schuch and Sims Richards sang, and Mr. J. W. Bengough gave one of his excellent "Chalk Talks." The audience (a large and appreciative one), after the conclusion of the entertainment spent an hour in inspecting the exhibit for the Colonial Exhibition.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Forest Free Press* writes:—Arch. C. Stirrett, teacher in a school near Watford, was last week fined for punishing a boy too severely or more than the law allows. The boy was playing truant and when the teacher sent another boy to tell him to come to school he sent back the rudest of messages, and when he came back to school again received the punishment which caused the suit.

INSPECTOR HUGHES states that the Toronto Public Schools' exhibit to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, which promises to be a large and unusually fine one, will be ready about the 15th. In accordance with the anxiety which the Department of Education for this Province has shown that the schools of this city should be worthily represented at the Colonial, arrangements have been made to receive the collection on that date. In consequence of this, Dr. May has postponed the date of his departure for England from the 15th to the 20th inst. On his arrival in London the Superintendent will be occupied for about a month, with a large staff of workmen, unpacking and arranging the educational exhibit. It has already assumed such mammoth proportions that it will with difficulty be displayed in the allotted space.—*Globe*.

THE new University College, Y. M. C. are holding special meetings, at which Mr. Studd speaks daily. Mr. Studd is one of four brothers, three of whom were together on the Cambridge cricket eleven in 1883. While taking a foremost part in every branch of athletics, they were in the habit of conducting prayer meetings in their own rooms, preaching out of doors on Sundays,

and teaching in the Sunday school. The second brother, Mr. C. T. Studd, considered the best all-round cricketer in England, lately gave himself and a fortune of \$500,000 to the China mission. Before his leaving England, mission services were held, and forty other students were induced to join him in this noble work. Mr. J. E. K. Studd has lately been taking a tour through American colleges, and his missions have been in every case accompanied by great power and blessing. His arrival here has been delayed by unavoidable circumstances.

THE Board of Examiners on Friday last commenced their inspection, at the Normal School, of the papers from the Schools of Art and Mechanics' Institutes, which have tested the skill of the students during the past three days. The Examiners present are Dr. May, Superintendent, Mr. Jas. Griffith, R. C. A., representing the London Art School; Mr. W. Brymner, R. C. A., of the Ottawa Art School; Mr. E. B. Shuttleworth, A. R. C. A., Toronto Art School; and Dr. Davis, representing the Mechanics' Institutes. More than seventy packages of examination papers have arrived and are being unpacked and arranged by the staff of clerks. The examiners commenced work upon the papers in grade B. The drawings sent in are divided into three classes in the first instance:—accepted, doubtful and rejected. The board of Examiners afterward grade the accepted papers according to their merit. The doubtful ones are those which, although well executed, are not strictly according to the conditions of the examination papers. In special cases of merit such papers pass. The superintendent, Dr. May, acts as arbitrator, and critically examines every paper sent in.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *London Times* lately had an interview with Leopold von Ranke, during which he asked:—"And your Excellency can still write with ease?" "No, my writing days are done, but I have two secretaries, whom I keep busily engaged in reading, looking up authorities, making excerpts, and writing from my dictation. I have written little or nothing with my own hand since the appearance of my 'English History,' and strange to say some of the works I thus dictated have been better received than others. Dictation sometimes enables one to be less fastidious, and more natural. Of course, I have to be very careful with my mode of life. I have never been a smoker, but I can always enjoy a glass of good wine, and, thank God, my nights are still free from sleeplessness, or I should never get on at all. You may think this house of mine"—a second floor flat in the Lusien Strasse, with the high level metropolitan railway trains screaming past—"you may think this house of mine rather a humble, ill-suited, and unfashion-

able abode; but I have lived in it now for more than the last forty years, and cannot make up my mind to leave it. One good thing about it is that the sun can never get into my working room; and then I have all around me here about 30,000 volumes, which I never could get properly removed and rearranged."

IN a brief notice in our last number of the gift of the works of the distinguished American sculptor, Randolph Rogers, to the State University of Michigan, we allowed a blunder to escape us, in transferring the notice from a contemporary, which we hasten to correct. The eminent Danish sculptor, Thorwaldsen, who claims a rank only second to Michael Angelo among later European sculptors, presented replicas of many of his choicest works, and the whole of his models and casts, to his native city of Copenhagen. They are there preserved and exhibited in the Thorwaldsen museum, a large, quadrangular building, in the central open court of which the great sculptor lies intombed. This noble gallery of art is a splendid school of training for the citizens of Copenhagen; and has had a most elevating influence on the general culture and refinement of the whole community. The corresponding collections of the distinguished English sculptor, Flaxman, were presented to University College, London; and are there available for public study. It is in imitation, no doubt, of those precedents, that the American sculptor, Rogers, has now bestowed as a gift to the university of his native State, the valuable contents of his Roman studio. It may not perhaps be out of place here to recall the fact that J. Thomas, the late distinguished English sculptor, when first engaged by the gifted architect, Pugin, to execute and superintend the sculptures for the new houses of Parliament at Westminster, modelled a fine statue of William of Wykeham, the great patron of learning in the days of Chaucer. He was famous as the architect of his own cathedral of Winchester; and of New College, Oxford, which he founded, as the seat of the new learning, which then superseded the arid philosophy of the school men. The beautiful statue of this noble university reformer and patron of learning of the fourteenth century passed into the possession of Mr. Arthur Wickson, a distinguished graduate of the University of Toronto, by his marriage with a niece of the eminent sculptor; and with her concurrence it was presented to his own University, where it now forms a most beautiful and appropriate adornment of the fine library. The day may yet come when our Provincial University will be asked to become the custodian of some noble collection of the works of a native sculptor, not less eminent than that of Thorwaldsen of Copenhagen.