

ty for which his own family and neighborhood are suffering. So educate the child that when he becomes a man all his faculties shall have a relative and proportionate activity, instead of being nervously excitable on one side of his nature, and palsy-stricken on the other.

SPEED OF THE MAGNETIC CURRENT.—A long experience in the Coast Survey, with some different lines of telegraph, establishes the fact, that the velocity of the galvanic current is about *fifteen thousand four hundred miles per second*. The time of transit between Boston and Bangor was recently measured, and the result was, that the time occupied in the transmission was *one hundred and sixtieth of a second*, and that the velocity of the galvanic current was at the rate of sixteen thousand miles per second, which is about six hundred miles per second more than the average of other experiments.

The best water for plants is rain ; not a quart of it should ever be wasted. Hard water is injurious—mineral waters are often so ; river water is next to rain in value, if it be soft , but even that ought not to be used cooler than the air of the house. Pond water is next to river water, if there be nothing noxious flowing into it. The best plan for those who keep plants is, to conduct rain water into a tank or tub inside of the house, and thus always keep a supply on hand.

Ætna, the far-famed burning mountain of Sicily , is divided, in relation to temperature, into three distinct districts or regions. They have distinct climates corresponding with the gradations of ascent, and divided into the torrid, the temperate, and the frigid. The mountain has, however, been divided according to other differences, and thus we have described to us the fertile region, the woody region, and the barren region. The fertile region extends fifteen miles from the city of Catana, whence the traveller usually commences his journey, and from which part the ascent commences. The surface of this region is reckoned at upwards of 220 square leagues. It abounds in pastures, orchards, and fruit trees ; and there the vine flourishes. The next advance is the woody region. It is estimated at from 71 to 80 miles in circumference, with a surface of about 40 or 50 square leagues, forming a girdle round the mountain of vivid green, composed of oaks, birches, and other trees, in a soil of vegetable earth. The climate here is most agreeably mild, and every breeze is filled with delicious odors.

"Do you believe in forerunners ?" asked a nervous lady of Deacon J. "Yes ma'am," replied the Deacon, "I've *seen* them !" "Bless me !" exclaimed the lady, "do tell." "Yes," continued the Deacon, fixing his eyes with a solemn stare on a dark corner of the room, "*I see one now !*" "Mercy ! mercy on me !" shrieked the lady ; "where !" "There ! there !" said the Deacon, pointing to where his eyes were directed. "That cat, ma'am, may be called a forerunner, for she runs on all fours !"

WITTY REPLY.—Walter Scott does not seem to have been the soul at school which some have stated. Once a boy in the same class was asked by the "dominie," what part of speech *with* was. "A noun, sir," said the boy. "You young blockhead," cried the pedagogue, "what example can