

palace at Mequinez, and was lately opened with some pomp. The railway has been purposely laid with several sharp curves and steep gradients, by way of showing the Moors the wonderful things that steam can do. The saloon carriage, of which, in addition to engine, tender, and guard's van, the rolling-stock consists, is elaborately decorated and upholstered in a style which, although somewhat *bizarre* to the European eye, was thought to be suitable to the taste of a Moorish Sultan. Muley Hassan did not dare to trust himself in the strange conveyance on the opening day, but he made some of his male relations and Ministers take several trips and recount to him their experiences, which seemed to be thoroughly satisfactory.—*School Newspaper*.

WEBSTER'S EARLY HOME.—“It is only shallow-minded pretenders who either make distinguished origin matter of personal merit or obscure origin matter of personal reproach. Taunt and scoffing at the humble condition of early life affect nobody in this country but those who are foolish enough to indulge in them; and they are generally sufficiently punished by public rebuke. A man who is not ashamed of himself, need not be ashamed of his early condition. It did not happen to me to be born in a log-cabin; but my elder brothers and sisters were born in a log-cabin, raised amid the snow-drifts of New Hampshire, at a period so early that when the smoke rose from its rude chimney and curled over the frozen hills there was no similar evidence of a white man's habitation between it and the settlements on the rivers of Canada. Its remains still exist. I make to it an annual visit. I carry my children to it to teach them the hardships endured by the generations which have gone before them. I love to dwell on the tender recollec-

tions, the kindred ties, the early affections and the touching narratives and incidents which mingle with all I know of this primitive family abode. I weep to think that none of those who inhabited it are now among the living; and if ever I am ashamed of it, or if I ever fail in affectionate veneration for him who reared it, and defended it against savage violence and destruction, cherished all the domestic virtues beneath its roof, and through the fire and blood of a seven years' revolutionary war, shrank from no danger, no toil, no sacrifice, to save his country, and to raise his children to a condition better than his own, may my name and the name of my posterity be blotted forever from the memory of mankind.”—*Ex.*

THE suggestions of improvement which President Eliot, of Harvard, in the *Atlantic* for August, makes and elaborates with argument and illustration are comprised under five heads:

1. Better teachers are needed. To this end a better tenure of office is necessary, in order to secure for the function of teaching greater consideration and dignity. A large proportion of male teachers is also desirable in order that general longer continuance in the work may be effected, and that the habit of teaching from day to day without that seriousness of purpose that belongs to the hope of achieving a recognised professional success may be done away with in the largest possible measure.

2. Courses of study must be improved. “A good course of study will not execute itself,—it must be vivified by the good teacher; but an injudicious course is an almost insuperable obstacle to the improvement of a city's schools. As a rule, the American programmes do not seem substantial enough, from the first year in the primary school onward. There is not enough meat in the diet. They do