

salaries, is thus condensed by the *School Guardian* (England):—“An attempt has been made at Swansea to reduce the salaries of teachers. We cannot too much press upon managers that this is the last resource to which, in their struggle for economy, they should betake themselves. They who know anything of the efforts of those who worked for education, say thirty years ago, are aware that the great exertion of the time was to raise the status of the teacher, and to make it worth the while of a better class of men and women to engage in the work of Education. This, too, was the object of the historical Minutes of August and November, 1846. From that time the aims of all our Committees, and Commissions, and Training Colleges, has been to raise the teacher. It is a necessary accompaniment of such a change for the better, that he should be better paid. We must have good teachers, and, if we are to have good teachers, we must pay fair salaries. In this, as in other things, the laborer is worthy of his hire.”

—A Mr. James Bullock, Head-Master of the St. James-the-Less School, Westminster, adopted the following strange method of teaching the gospel:—

At the Westminster Police Court, on Wednesday last, Thomas Bullock, head-master of the St. James-the-Less (Westminster National Schools, appeared before Mr. Partridge on a summons charging him with assaulting a boy named Frederick Teasdale, eight years of age. The complainant deposed that he was one of the scholars at the school, and on the 27th ult. the defendant violently boxed his ears, blackened his eye by the force of the blows, and bruised his face, because he was unable to answer some questions in his Scripture lesson. In cross-examination by Mr. Dutton the boy denied that he was playing or looking about before his ears were boxed. He was quite sure that he did not cause the injuries by knocking his face against a slate. The punishment of the school was caning on the hand and boxing of the ears. Two of the complainant's schoolfellows corroborated this evidence, one of the boys stating that the defendant gave complainant as many as ten knocks on the head and ears. Mr. Teasdale, the father of the complainant, stated that, finding that his son had been knocked about by the schoolmaster, he at once took the lad to Dr. Pearce, the divisional surgeon of the B division of police. Dr. Pearce gave the following certificate:—“October 27. This is to certify that, having examined Frederick Teasdale, aged eight years, I find that the whole of the left ear and side of the face is very much bruised and discolored, and the boy is very unwell in consequence.” A postscript was added to the certificate, dated November 1: “The marks of contusion are still visible, and the boy has not properly recovered.—G. PEARCE, M.D.”

We are glad to be able to state that this man, who violated so grossly the rules of the Scriptures he was teaching, was fined 40s. and costs.

—The following opinion of Dr. Boulton, in the *Medical Record* (London), will have interest for those who study the conditions of school hygiene:

In a communication on the Physical Development of Children, Dr. Boulton, in the *London Medical Record*, states his conclusions from observations, not on single individuals, but from repeated ones on the same, extending over ten years, that different healthy children grow at different rates, and that in average English children, brought up under favourable circumstances, the rate is two to three inches per year—a growth of more or less than this should excite apprehension. The healthy child, that grows regularly two inches per year, becomes a short-statured adult, whilst the rate of three inches per year indicates a tall adult. Whatever the rate of growth, he affirms that weight for height should be in each case

identically the same; and all healthy children should grow broad in proportion to their height. Between 3 and 4 feet, the increase in weight should be 2 lb. per inch; and between 4 and 5 feet, 2½ lb. per inch. And further, the average weight at 3 ft. is 2 st. 8 lb.; at 4 ft., 4 st. 4 lb.; and at 5 ft., 6 st. 6 lb. These weights may be exceeded slightly within healthy limits, but the author gives 7 lb. below these averages as the margin of safety; below that limit the children are ill-developed, and readily succumb to constitutional diseases.

—The *London Free Press* of March 3rd, has an able article criticising the attack on Mr. Crooks in the Ontario Legislature. The *Free Press* considers that Mr. Crooks was weak in his defence of the University appointments, but strong in vindicating his management of the Public and High Schools of the Province. This was of course by far the most important point at issue, the University appointments question being what Carlyle calls “an extinct Satan.” We quote, with approval, our contemporary's remarks:—

“In fact, Mr. Lauder and those gentlemen who join with him here, laid themselves open to the charge flung in their face by Ministerial supporters, that they are ignorant of the questions which they undertake to discuss. They will find no man who understands the subject thoroughly, who will agree with them, that most of the changes introduced are not improvements. The true facts are just the reverse. If there has been progress made since 1871, and we believe there are few intelligent men who will care to question it, then to the better system of inspection that now prevails must much, yea most, of this improvement be ascribed.”

—The *Chatham Tribune* has a leader on State Support to all but primary Education, which, again, it would restrict to the three R's. It avows that “the project of disendowing Upper Canada College is only part of the larger project of disendowing all schools and colleges, except the primary schools.” Precisely so; and this movement is only a Canadian wave of the tidal wave against public Education which has lately swept over the States, a movement which was essentially supported by the rich Philistines who grudged paying for the education of the poor. It is directed against secondary education and the High Schools and Colleges, but its next object of attack will be the public schools of the country. This is a “poor man's question.” Our contemporary lauds the Bobcaygeon *Independent* as “an outspoken journal, which cares not who it hits.” And whom does it hit when it attacks High Schools? The poor man and his children.

—*Tom Sawyer* was no work of creative genius, but it was amusing and fresh. It was calculated to remind us all, especially those engaged in teaching, of the large part of boy-life that lies outside School and even Home, and of the genuine “good” in the midst of “things evil,” such as idle habits, slang, or irreverence. But the “bad boy” has been sadly overworked: his diary, his doings, his scrapes and his dialect are all the very worst reading that could be put before the youth of a generation not too remarkable for reverence, courtesy, sacred things and reputable ways. Besides, the “Bad Boy” is not only “bad” but stupid; let us have no more records of the habits and toilet mysteries of tramps, in glorification of the juvenile dunce and rough.