The population of Scotland is 2300000 square miles [repeated by two others *totidem verbis*].

The religion of Scotland is Protestant the people are Catholics.

One quarter of the inhabitants of the globe live in Scotland.

The religion is Catholic.

Oats are the favourite food of the people.

The climate of Scotland is in a very thriving condition.

Ireland is nice and clean in some places and dirty in others; it exports tallow, candles and cork.

It is very flat and has many deserts and plains.

Ireland is flat; the occupation of the people is to dig potatoes,

Its ports are Aberdeen and Dundee and it exports fish.

FRENCH.

(From the first and second classes of an Upper Girls' School, with a residence Governess, and only French spoken during most of the day.)

The letters I have received are charming; I will send some of them.—Translated thus,

Les letters que j'aie recu sont charmantes, je les eu enverrai.

Les lettres que j'ai reçus sont charmant, j'eu envogerai à leur.

None were correct.

Again,—

I know it as well as he.

Je sais il comme bien comme il.

French into English,—

L'hotesse dormait d'ans une coin de la cuisine.

(By a pupil aged sixteen)—The hostess slept in a —— with the cook.

(By a pupil aged twenty-two)—The hostess slept in a —— with her cousin.

ARITHMETIC.

Question.—Subtract one thousand and one from one hundred million forty thousand seven hundred and six.

Out of 46 answers, only 5 were satisfactory; 39 were utterly worthless.

Specimens,—

(1.)
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  100040706
  000101000
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  100939706
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(2.)
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 10000000400000007006
                 10001
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 10000039999970005
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(Two others are as long.)

(3.)
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  140706
  100001
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  40706
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Of course it is not asserted that these are fair specimens of the schools examined. But it must be remembered that many teachers refused admittance into their schools. And it may reasonably be assumed that the schools unexamined are, to say the least, not better than those reported on.

We get here and there a glimpse of the qualifications of the men and women who can teach young ideas how to shoot in so extraordinary a fashion. A schedule of questions (1) was sent to the teachers,—Museum.

# SCIENCE.

## Canadian Geology.

In the London Quarterly (July 1868, art. VII.—Siluria, a History of the Oldest Rocks in the British Isles and other Countries, by Sir Roderick J. Murchison Bart., K. C. B. Fourth Edition. London, 1868) we find the following on Canadian Geology:

(1) We shall give these and the answers returned, in our next.

'Siluria' forms in itself a sort of cyclopedia of palæozoic geology. It furnishes a large amount of information regarding the geological structure of the British Islands, and even of foreign countries; it gives copious details comparing the older formations throughout Europe and America; it contains a storehouse of data from which the order of succession among the early races of marine invertebrates is made out. Nor among this crowded array of facts are there wanting topics provocative of interesting speculation. Sir Roderick himself halts now and then in his laborious grouping of details to point out their relation to more general questions, and there are many places which naturally suggest a similar task to the reader. The book is one which has established for itself a place in every geological library. It is therefore almost beyond the pale of periodical criticism. But the present edition, in the additions which it has received, offers an opportunity of reviewing one or two of the most generally interesting discoveries recently made in the geology of the older formations, and of noticing some of the topics which are at this moment the chief subjects of discussion among geologists.

Foremost among the new announcements, is the story of the *Eozoon Canadense*, in other words, the account of a formation infinitely older than the Silurian, yet containing traces of lowly forms of organized beings. Until only a few years ago, it was believed by many geologists that life was first breathed upon the globe during the accumulation of those vast masses of sandstone, grit, and slate that underlie the lowest members of the Silurian system. Hundreds and thousands of feet of rock, piled bed above bed and representing a succession of ancient sea-bottoms, had been searched with care, but only a few rare and humble forms of life had been discovered. It was thence inferred that these barren rocks represented an early period of the earth's history when the waters of the ocean were correspondingly devoid of life, and that the growing numbers of the fossils found in the succeeding formations, showed how when living things at last appeared, they obeyed the command to increase and multiply. And what helped to foster this belief was the mystery that hung over the beginning of these earliest geological records. In this country, at least, no base had been found to the Cambrian rocks which had yielded the most ancient organisms. It was not known on what they rested, whether they were the oldest stratified rocks, or whether vestiges of still more ancient sea-floors might not lie buried deep beneath them.

But a series of investigations had been in progress in Canada which were destined to throw much light upon this subject, and, indeed, to open out a new and still older leaf of the earth's history. Charged with the conduct of the Geological Survey of the Canadian Province, Sir William Logan, with a quiet energy and perseverance which have happily overcome all the hindrances whereby at different times the very existence of his Survey was imperilled, has found a formation of great thickness lying below all those hitherto known. He has traced it over an extent of country equal in size to France, and it may reach much further. It consists of rocks of a highly crystalline character—such as gneiss, mica-schist and quartzite—rocks which in the early days of geology would have been regarded as vestiges of the first crust of the planet as it cooled from a molten condition. Treating this formation, however, as he had dealt with the other stratified deposits of the province, in conjunction with his small but able staff of assistants, he mapped out its folds and contortions, following its different bands of rock from river to river; even through wild regions where the primitive state of the country has not yet been modified by the settler. The announcement of his discovery was received with no little interest in this country, and the interest increased when the further tidings came not only that the newly-detected formation was of vast thickness, and could be surveyed in detail, but that it actually contained two distinct divisions, the younger of which lay upon the previously upturned edges of the older. For this fresh fact furnished another proof, if any such addition had been needed, that