

for the great battle of life. Twenty-five years hence this number may be augmented by as many more. We can ill afford to fold our arms and let the progress of the age whirl by. If we do so, we may expect to go to the wall. The watchword of this age is "educate." Our schools are our lines of fortifications. "Education," says an eminent writer, "is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army." Let us then see to it that our liberty is ensured, our army of educators well disciplined, our march one of continued triumph. Ours are noble conflicts—struggles for the mastery of intelligence and virtue over ignorance and vice. Go on, then, teachers of Ontario, with your noble work. Build our educational institution so high that it may reach heaven in its aspirations; so noble and pure as to be a temple of living and sanctified souls; and may the spirit of our country's greatness throb in its structure, its corner stone, and belfry, its dust unite with immortality, and the beauty which lingers around its summit melt away into eternal sunshine.

SLANG.

(From the Sackville College "Argosy" for April.)

DEAR EDITORS,—In the last issue of the *Argosy* there appeared an article from the pen of "Slap Bang," advocating the extension rather than the suppression of slang. I have no idea that the editors or a majority of the patrons of the *Argosy* coincide with "Slap Bang" in that particular. Nor do I think that he himself would like to be bound down to his own vocabulary. Were such the case, we certainly might tremble for our "noble tongue."

"Slap Bang" objects to Worcester's definition, and gives us his idea that slang embraces all words and phrases that are not classical. "To call," says he, "all slang 'vulgar,' is, I think, unfair and untrue." It may be unfair and untrue to call all the words vulgar which his wide classification would bring under the appellation of slang; but does it make the low, unmeaning jargon, now known as slang, purer or more comprehensive to place it with all the other words in the language not purely classical?

With all due deference to the ideas of "Slap Bang," in my humble opinion, from the origin of the word, Worcester's definition of slang is the correct one. From good authority we claim that the word itself came in use in the following way. In many countries criminals were sent to the galleys for punishment. While there they were chained in couples to prevent them from escaping. These fetters were usually fastened on their legs, so as to leave their hands free for labor. Now the bonds with which these convicts were thus hampered, were called *slangs*, and their dialect was called *slangus talk*, or talk peculiar to those wearing slangs, and from that expression we receive the term slang. Thus we see that slang is only an abbreviated name for the language of thieves, robbers and all kinds of criminals and convicts. Since language is the expression of thought, can it be expected that from such a source we would get strong expressive terms, refined and polished speech? Would we not, on the contrary, expect the language of such a class to correspond with their thoughts and actions? And must we now surrender the thoughtful expressions of our master minds for a coarse, unmeaning dialect, originated in dens of vice by the lowest refuse of society?

"The polite world," says he, "is sickening of a 'vague disease,' that disease is propriety, and the malady is 'catching.'" Were the above true, does he expect to arrest the "vague disease," and forever stay its ravages by substituting for words that "go with freedom, thought and truth to rouse and rule the world" those born in slavery, destitute of meaning, and shorn of virtue and truth? Then if this "vague disease," propriety, is "catching," the use of slang must be still more contagious, for he claims to have a majority.

In my opinion, the use of slang, in most cases, is a proof of ignorance, for no gentleman with a noble language at his command would be compelled to draw from the vocabulary of roughs and rowdies to express his ideas.

Go on, "Slap Bang," if you want to, and instead of saying aristocracy say *big-bugs*, or *upper crust*, as I heard a pupil in one of our schools define the word a few days ago. "Sling your

slang" around if you think you can do so with impunity, but remember that of it you cannot say—

"It goes with all that Prophets told and righteous Kings desired.
With all that great Apostles taught, and glorious Greeks admired—
With Shakespeare's deep and wondrous verse and Milton's lofty mind—
With Alfred's laws, and Newton's lore—to cheer and bless mankind."

•PUR'TY OF SPEECH.

Mathematical Department.

Communications intended for this part of the JOURNAL should be on separate sheets, written on only one side, and properly paged to prevent mistakes. They must be received on or before the 20th of the month to secure notice in the succeeding issue.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT, ONTARIO.

JULY EXAMINATIONS, 1879.

THIRD CLASS TEACHERS.

ARITHMETIC.

TIME—THREE HOURS.

Examiner—J. A. McLELLAN, LL.D.

Values.

- 20 1. Shew that $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{8}{12}$ and that $\frac{4}{5} = 9 \div 5$.

Simplify

$$\left\{ 2\frac{1}{4} \times 4.75 \div \frac{2}{3} \text{ of } (4\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{2}{3}) + \frac{1.75}{8\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{4\frac{3}{10} \times 2\frac{7}{10}}{21.5 \times 13\frac{1}{2} \div .25} \right\}$$

of $(3\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{5}{8} \div 9)$ of £5 16s. 8d.).

- 20 2. Explain the rule for "pointing" in division of decimal numbers.

Divide 81.47 by 839.2765 correct to five decimal places, and find the product of 8.706205 by .0084005 correct to six decimal places. [20 marks if done by contracted methods, otherwise 10 marks.]

- 20 3. Extract the square root of .097199881 to six decimal places.

Simplify $(\sqrt[3]{.54} - 2\sqrt[3]{.000390625}) \div (\sqrt[3]{.16} + \sqrt[3]{.02})$.

- 20 4. A rectangular courtyard, 180 feet long and 185 feet wide, has a path running round it of the uniform width of 10 feet 6 inches; the path is covered with gravel at a cost of 22½ cents a square yard, and the remainder of the courtyard is covered with turf at a cost of 17½ cents per 100 square feet: find the entire cost.

- 20 5. The amount, at simple interest, of a sum of money at a certain rate per cent. is \$693.33 for 8 years, and \$640.80½ for 5½ years: find the principal and the rate per cent.

- 20 6. A grocer mixed two kinds of wine, worth, respectively, \$2.40 and \$3.20 a gallon, in such proportion that by selling the mixture at \$2.80 a gallon he made a profit of 10%: find the proportion in which the wines were mixed.

- 20 7. A merchant invested a sum of money in Federal Bank stock at 112, and after receiving a half-year's dividend at 4% he immediately sold out at 116½; he received altogether (i.e., from dividend and profit on sale of stock) \$310 more than he had invested. Find the amount originally invested.

- 20 8. A and B form a partnership, A's capital being to B's as 5:8; at the end of 6½ months A withdraws 20% of his capital, and a month after, B withdraws 88½ of his capital; at the end of the year the profits are found to be \$3047: how should this be divided?

- 20 9. A note drawn at 185 days, with interest at 8% per annum, is discounted by a broker 75 days before maturity; the broker gives \$375.80 for the note, and makes at the rate of 1½% per annum on his money. Find the amount for which the note was drawn.