

Dogs. Charybdis, off the coast of Sicily and opposite Seylla, is probably caused by the meeting of several currents, and is sometimes so powerful as to place the undecked boats of the country in considerable danger, yet by no means so formidable as represented by the ancients. Etna, the greatest volcano in Europe, was white with snow for one half its height, while at its foot, and all along the shores of Italy and Sicily, were hills and valleys, beautiful with vines and gardens, and groves of lemons, figs and oranges. The remainder of the time of the Mediterranean voyage was spent quite monotonously. We had beautiful mornings, sky and sea. The sun shone very warm, and an awning was spread over the deck during the day. In the evening we had beautiful sunsets, and at night there was much pleasure in watching the phosphorescence of the water and the bright constellations of the heavens. On the eighth day from Marseilles we saw a long, low line of the sand coast of Africa, with here and there a hillock, a clump of palm trees, an Arab village, or the white walls and dome of a saint's tomb. Then we caught sight of Pompey's Pillar, and the light-house, and soon after we thought we saw a forest, but it proved to be the many masts of the shipping in the harbor. Where the light-house now stands was once one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Pharos of Alexandria, erected by Ptolemy Philadelphus, 300 years before Christ. That massive tower was a square building of white marble, and the fires continually burning upon its top could be seen, it is said, a hundred miles at sea. The following inscription was placed upon the tower:—"King Ptolemy, to the Savior Gods, for the use of those who travel by sea." Sostratus, the architect, wishing the glory of such a work, cut his own name in the stones, covered it with mortar, and in this softer material he cut the name of Ptolemy. In time, the mortar scaled off, Ptolemy's name disappeared, and the inscription read:—"Sostratus of Cnidus, the son of Dexiphanes, to the Savior Gods, for the use of those who travel by sea." The entrance to the harbor is crooked and difficult, and vessels cannot enter it by night. Had we been fifteen minutes later, we should have staid outside until morning. A magnificent looking ship in the harbor, we were told by the pilot, in his broken English, belonged to the Khedive, and within it had trimmings of gold, silver, and diamonds. Our ship, at anchor, was immediately surrounded by a swarm of boats, and in a few moments the swarthy, turbaned, long-loose-robed Arabs, and half-clad negroes, black as night, thronged the deck, and woe to any timid passenger, alone and unused to the customs of such a landing place, for he would be seized by half-a-dozen at once, each uttering an unintelligible jargon of sounds, and endeavoring to drag him into his boat. Each article of baggage would be seized by others, and at best his position would be very awkward and unpleasant. But our conductor had traveled through Egypt a score of times, and by him we were relieved of all of the vexations of the solitary tourist. Our baggage and ourselves were all very soon in a large open boat of four rowers, and in a few minutes more we were on shore, showing our passports and having our baggage examined in the custom-house, after which, in carriages we passed through the gates into the city, and along its narrow streets to our hotel, each frequently crying, "See this!" "Look at that!" "How strange!" "I never dreamed of anything like this!" and other such expressions.

Teachers' Associations.

CARLETON. - The semi-annual meeting of the Co. Carleton Teachers Association was held at Bell's Corners on the 16th and 17th of October. The attendance was large, the papers of a high order, and the discussions lively, interesting, and general.

On Thursday afternoon the subject "Winter Pupils" was introduced by Mr. T. J. Hunter in a carefully prepared paper. He first explained who are the "winter pupils," their probable attainments on entering school, and the nature of the course of study best adapted to such. The writer explained very fully what he considered the most effective methods of teaching and governing such classes. He advocated strongly the necessity of instructing winter pupils in a class by themselves where practicable. The views of many of the teachers were at variance with the essayist in reference to a special classification of pupils entering for

the winter months, it being held that such a plan must, of necessity, operate injuriously upon the regular classes of the school. The essay in the main was thoroughly practical in its bearing, and elicited a discussion which must be productive of good throughout the schools of the county.

The Rev. H. B. Patton, of Bell's Corners, then gave a very interesting and instructive paper on "Teachers' Hindrances," which was so highly estimated by the teachers present that they requested permission to have it published in the local papers.

On Friday forenoon "The Teaching of Temperance in our Schools" was introduced by Miss E. Steadman in a well written essay. She commenced by showing the evils resulting from intemperance, and the necessity of using every means in combatting such an enemy. She held that teachers should not be behind ministers or editors in advocating the cause of temperance, and that the pupils in all our schools should be taught to avoid the use of liquor as a beverage. The great physical and moral degeneracy it entails, the curse and degradation sure to follow in its track, should be impressed upon the minds of the rising generation by talks and lectures on the subject, illustrated by diagrams showing its baneful effects on the human system.

"The Essentials of a Good Text-Book" was next taken up by Mr. D. D. Keenan. After referring to text-books in a general way, and the late annoyances from frequent change, he proceeded to point out some of the characteristics of a good text-book: 1st. The print should be of good size, such as may be read without straining the eyes. 2nd. The paper should be of a bluish or yellowish tint—black letters on a white ground may look well, but the effect is injurious to the eyesight. 3rd. The statements in any book treating of science or art should be clear and distinct, the definitions concise, especially such as may require to be memorized. 4th. A scientific division of the subject treated of. Among many text-books which he mentioned and criticized, he said that Kirkland and Scott's Arithmetic was admirably adapted for use in our schools. It was not written merely to show how much the authors knew. He also spoke very highly of the new set of school books published by Gage & Co., though he took exception to some changes in the rendering of old stories, which were by no means an improvement in a literary point of view.

"The Bible in our Schools" was brought before the Association by Mr. W. Beck in an elaborately prepared paper. He argued strongly in favor of Bible teaching in its broadest sense, and treated the subject throughout with clearness and ability. The subject was discussed with the reverence due to it, but no definite conclusion was arrived at as to what place the sacred volume should occupy in our Public Schools.

A full report of the proceedings of the Provincial Association was given by the delegate, Mr. A. Smiley.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are:—President, A. Smirle, I.P.S.; Vice-President, J. McElroy; Sec.-Treasurer, J. H. Moffatt; Monitoring Committee, Miss L. Richardson, Mrs S. Hunt, Mr. T. J. Hunter, Mr. J. A. Lackey, Dr. McPherson; delegate to Provincial Association, James McElroy.

Literary Review.

A TEMPERANCE PHYSIOLOGY for Intermediate Classes and Common Schools by Mrs. Mary H. Hunt, with a preface and endorsement of scientific accuracy by A. B. Palmer, M.D., LL.D. A. S. Barnes & Co., New York and Chicago.

This neat and attractive work has been prepared to meet the demands of a legislation in New York and other States, which requires that provision shall be made by the proper local school authorities for instructing pupils in Public Schools in physiology and hygiene, with special reference to the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants, and narcotics upon the human system. The subject is one which evidently requires careful handling in the present unsettled state of scientific opinion, but the treatment in this book seems cautious and free from extravagant overstatement. Many of the facts stated are indisputable, and nothing but good can result from having them impressed upon the minds of the young. In mechanical execution the book is excellent, and the style is simple and easy of comprehension, though not free from occasional looseness of expression.

THE SONG OF HIAWATHA, by Henry W. Longfellow. With notes, in two parts. Houghton, Mifflin & Company, Boston and New York. The Riverside Press, Cambridge.

These two little volumes constitute No's. thirteen and fourteen of the Riverside Literature Series. They are neatly printed; the notes, though not numerous, are well-chosen and seem to meet all that is needed by way of explanation and illustration of the text. Each contains a vocabulary of Indian names, a very interesting as well as useful appendage.