

teachers to the great benefits recognized as resulting from teaching children at an early stage to draw from the objects themselves, instead of from drawings.

In pure mathematics there is apparently to be no change; we have already indicated what steps the Council is taking with reference to British History, General Geography, Music and Drawing. A revised scheme of Entrance Examination and course of study for the Normal School was adopted. It was also ordered that after the next ensuing examination Normal School students shall be examined at the same time and on the same papers as the teachers throughout the Province generally. All Normal School students who desire to compete for the Provincial or other medals must do so at the midsummer competition, along with all other candidates. A resolution was passed empowering the Principals of Normal Schools, after consulting with their colleagues

to remove from the roll the names of any students who show marked incapacity for the teaching profession; or who have been reported by the teachers of the Model School as unlikely to receive even the lowest mark upon a Normal School certificate. This is what the masters of the Normal School have been doing all along, but it is just as well that they should be able to fall back on official warrant for their action. In accordance with a suggestion of the Public School Inspector for Halton, the lists of subjects for study, and the revised limit table will be printed and pasted inside of the covers of text books. The Council, after acknowledging the important services rendered by the High School Inspectors in the report above alluded to, and directing the attention of the Text Book Committee to the text books used in Roman Catholic Separate Schools, adjourned.

CHOICE MISCELLANY.

THE MISUSE OF KNOWLEDGE.—The truth is, that most men want knowledge, not for itself, but for the superiority which knowledge confers; and the means they employ to secure this superiority are as wrong as the ultimate object, for no man can ever end with being superior who will not begin with being inferior.—*Sidney Smith.*

CIVILIZED AND SAVAGE MAN.—A Choctaw could run from here to Oxford without stopping. I go in the mail coach; and in the time that the savage has been employed in learning to run so far, I have employed in something else. It would not only be useless in me to run like a Choctaw but foolish and disgraceful.—*Sidney Smith.*

—Learned professors have occasionally been outwitted by the sayings of the simple. Dr. Hill, an Edinburgh professor of the last century, met in the suburbs of the city an inoffensive creature who was generally regarded as an imbecile. Somewhat irritated by the creature's intrusion on the privacy of his walk, the professor

said to him, "How long, Tom may one live without brains?" "I dinna ken," said Tom; "how lang hae ye lived yersel?"—(From *May Home and School*, Louisville, Ky.)

CHINESE ASTRONOMY.—China furnishes us with the most ancient observations of which we can make any use astronomically. The earliest eclipses of which we have any mention can only serve the purposes of chronology, on account of the vague manner in which they are reported. But these eclipses prove that the epoch of the Emperor Yao, was more than two thousand years before our era. Astronomy was cultivated in China as a basis of religious ceremonies. The calendar and the announcement of eclipses were important objects, for which they had created a tribunal of mathematics. They observed the meridian shadow of the gnomon at the solstices, and the passage of the stars over the meridian. They measured the time by clepsydras or water-clocks. They determined the posi-