

primary schools must be attended with a reduction in the number of school hours. If these two reforms do not go together, scores of our best primary teachers will prematurely break down. Four hours of oral teaching is far more exhausting than six hours of ordinary lesson-hearing.—*Editorial Ohio Educational Monthly.*

## 2. THE WHOLE SCIENCE OF VENTILATION.

To ensure pure air, it should be taken at an elevation of several feet from the ground, and the higher the better. It should be heated by radiating surfaces, so ample, in fact, as not to exceed 220 degrees Fahrenheit. It should, when heated for use, come as relatively near saturation, with moisture, as it was in its nominal condition when taken from the atmosphere. In that event, it will feel soft and bland to the skin, and yield an immediate sensation of warmth and comfort to one coming from the coldest outside weather. And all the wood work of a room thus heated, and the furniture within it, will not suffer injury from unnatural shrinkage. It should enter a room above the heads of the occupants, to avoid sensible currents, and should leave it from its lowest point, and by as many and diffusive places of egress as the architect can readily devise, but mainly at the base of the walls, as it is in contact with these that the warm air first becomes chilled, and hence acquires a specific gravity, which causes it constantly to pour down the same in a steady current. It is also upon the floor of a room that foul air—the product of breathing, and of burning lamps and gaslights, constantly finds a place—for the reason that it is heavier than common air.

## 3. CANADIAN WILD FLOWERS.

This beautiful work, which has just been issued from the press of Mr. John Lovell, of this city, must be regarded as a most valuable addition to the literature of Canada. It is the joint production of two ladies, Mrs. Agnes FitzGibbon, of Toronto, and her aunt, Mrs. Traill, of North Douro, a lady well known to the literary world, sister of Miss Agnes Strickland, the celebrated authoress of the "Lives of the Queens of England," herself a writer of no mean repute, her "Backwoods of Canada," "Canadian Crusoes," and "Canadian Emigrants' Guide," having won for her a high standing both here and in Europe. The work before us, illustrated by Mrs. FitzGibbon, cannot fail to increase her literary fame, and enhance the value of the volume. We find in it ten plates, containing upwards of thirty specimens of the wild flowers of our woods and plains, copied from nature, and executed with exquisite taste and wonderful fidelity.

To Mrs. Traill we are indebted for the botanical names and descriptions of the charming groups, produced by the genius and skill of the fair artist, and never did the pen of the author and the pencil of the artist blend more harmoniously together to produce a work of rare utility and beauty, which cannot fail to awaken the interest and admiration of every true lover of nature and art.

Mrs. FitzGibbon holds up these gems of our native forests, and invites us to examine them, with the most minute inspection. They are so closely copied from the originals, designed and colored with such a masterly hand, that they seem to live and bloom upon the paper, and to defy criticism, while Mrs. Traill, in simple and beautiful language, well suited to the subject, bids us follow her to the sylvan solitudes and describes these wildings of the woods with the love and enthusiasm of a student of nature.

Between them these ladies have produced a work of great merit; and we rise from its perusal full of hope for the future literary reputation of the Dominion.

"Is it possible!" we exclaimed, "that two women, not over gifted with the wealth of this world, could produce by their own unassisted talents, energy and perseverance, a work like this?" A work of which the wealthiest and most civilized nation in Europe might well be proud. A work that ought to awaken the enthusiasm and command the patronage of every well educated Canadian, who has at heart the prosperity of his rising country. Let him recognize in this elegant volume, a symbol of its future greatness, and hasten to secure a copy of the "Wild Flowers of Canada," before they disappear from his view with the receding forests.

This simple wreath, twined by the hand of genius, will go down to future generations when the beautiful forms which compose it have passed away with the trees that fostered and shaded them, and Mrs. FitzGibbon's life-like representations will alone remain to tell that they once decked our native woods and hills.

Think of a pair of female hands, designing, lithographing and coloring 5000 plates for this book, each plate containing three or four specimens of flowers. It is enough to turn one's locks grey the thought of such an herculean labor, cheerfully performed by this gifted woman to advance the growth of mental improvement, and the study of the beautiful in nature and art.

We hope that this is but the first volume of a series, which may form like "Audubon's American Birds," a book of reference to coming generations, and place its authors among the benefactors of mankind.

Agnes FitzGibbon is a Canadian born, and as such has a greater claim upon the sympathies of the Canadian people. She is the second daughter of J. W. D. Moodie, who for upwards of twenty-three years filled the office of Sheriff in the County of Hastings—a man well known for his literary tastes and pursuits—and of Susanna Moodie, the authoress of "Roughing it in the Bush." Thus she may be considered as inheriting genius as a birth right, and we earnestly recommend her charming book to the patronage of her countrymen.

The taste displayed in getting up the work reflects great credit on the publisher, and the volume will form an elegant addition to our libraries, and the ornamental books that grace our drawing room tables. In conclusion we may quote a passage from a letter received by a gentleman from Professor Hincks, of University College, Toronto. Referring to this volume he says:—"As a popular book of reference respecting the principal Canadian plants, and an elegant ornament for the drawing room table, it has strong claims on the attention of the people of this country, and would, I think, interest a great many in Great Britain."—*Montreal Daily News.*

## VII. Biographical Sketches.

### 1. HON. G. S. BOULTON.

The Hon. George Strange Boulton was born on the 11th September, 1797, at Green Bush, in the County of Rensselaer, New York, where his father lived for some time before finally settling in Canada, which he did about the year 1800, first in Cornwall, and seven years after in Toronto, where he was made judge of the Superior Court. Mr. George Boulton was educated by Dr. Strachan, the late Bishop of Toronto. He was brought up to the profession of the law, and commenced his career as Barrister at Port Hope, where he resided for some years, till his removal to Cobourg, on appointment as Registrar of the County, about the year 1824, which post he retained to the day of his death. The present Chief Justice Draper was a student in his office, also Deputy Registrar, and one or two others, afterwards of note, commenced their career under his auspices. He identified himself with the politics of this country from his earliest youth, and was remarkable for his adherence to the Conservative cause. He clung instinctively to the banners of the Church and State party, which he never once failed to uphold to the day of his death. He represented in the House of Assembly for Upper Canada the County of Durham upwards of 20 years. The last time he contested the county, however, he was defeated by the late John Tucker Williams, Esq. In 1847, he was appointed by the crown a member of the Legislative Council, which post he continued to fill to the confederation of the Provinces into our present Dominion. He was ever an upright and consistent politician. He is one of the remaining few who took an active part in the war of 1812, and as an officer of militia responded to Sir Francis Head's call in 1837. He was also for many years colonel in command of the Fourth Military District of Upper Canada.

### 2. JOHN J. E. LINTON.

Mr. Linton was a native of Rothesay, Buteshire, and at the time of his death was 65 years of age. He was Secretary to the first temperance organization in Scotland—acting in that capacity to a society which was formed in Greenock, under the presidency of Mr. John Dunlop. This was in 1831. In 1833 he came to Canada, and commenced farming. He subsequently removed to Stratford, and assisted Mr. J. C. W. Daly in his store. He afterwards taught school—first at Kastnerville, in Downie, and afterwards in North Easthope. Returning from North Easthope to Stratford, he went into business, and was appointed clerk of the court of requests—corresponding to our present division courts. He took an active part in the formation of the first agricultural society here. In 1847 he was conspicuous in connection with Mr. Daly, who presided at the meetings, in the effort made by the people of Stratford and neighbourhood to have this county set apart. He succeeded in obtaining a separation, and had the honor of naming the county, with Stratford as the County town, when he called it "Perth," out of respect to the first and successful emigrants to North Easthope, who were from Glenquach, Perthshire, in Scotland. In January, 1853, the county was set apart by proclamation, and Mr. Linton was gazetted as clerk of the peace—a position he continued to hold to the time of his death. Mr. Linton was not only a man of great natural goodness of heart, but of strong individuality of character. He was free and outspoken in his sentiments; firm in his resolu-