

There are words which seem to be of no great antiquity, and yet whose origin is hidden; with these an ingenious guess is pardonable, but it must be given as a guess. It is in such words as these that the unscientific etymologist seems to take the greatest interest; to him it is of prime importance to know whether *caucus* is from the *call-house* in Boston, or from Gaelic; whether *bachelor* is *bas chevalier*, or from the Welsh *bachgen*, or from Low Latin *baccalarius*; the most fanciful derivation is usually the one preferred.

Mr. Fleming's tenth and following chapters will be found to contain many examples of "far-fetched" derivation, and though a large proportion of

these be admissible, the lists contain so many old guesses that they are quite untrustworthy for reference.

On the whole, then, with the exception of Mr. Connor's book, and that with the reservation we have made, we have not much occasion to congratulate the Ontario teaching profession on the character of the Etymological text-books which possess the authorization of the Department. It is quite time that, in so important a subject, we should have text-books of a higher character of scholarship, and better adapted to the wants of our Public and High Schools. Is it hopeless to expect the Department to recognize and supply these wants?

WE are much pleased to learn that the new "Intermediate" Geography, designed to take the place of "Lovell's Easy Lessons," in that enterprising publisher's series of school books, is to appear early in September. We also learn that the "Advanced" Geography in the same series, which is to take the place of the "General Geography,"—the first text-book on the subject published in this country—will be issued in October next. Mr. Lovell announces that the new issues will, in their literary and mechanical execution, be in advance of anything hitherto published in Canada, the books having been carefully edited by competent scholars, and scrupulously revised by gentlemen familiar with the results of modern geographical research. We hope to notice them at length in our next number.

THE Young Ladies' Class conducted by Mrs. Lovell, of Montreal, will open at her residence in that city early in September. The object aimed at by Mrs. Lovell is to direct the studies of young ladies, well-grounded in the elementary branches, who may desire to pursue a course of reading that will thoroughly train their minds. That result is achieved by means of lectures and

conversations on literary, art, and scientific subjects, and by weekly conversaziones devoted to art, music, and literature, at which the pupils are brought into contact with intelligent and cultivated society, which Mrs. Lovell's accomplishments, her enthusiasm on behalf of the Higher Education of Women, and her position in Montreal society enable her, at stated intervals, to bring together.

THE Institution, Dufferin House, conducted by Miss Dupont, John Street, Toronto, will re-open on the 8th September. It is of no little moment—if the fair sex in Canadian society is to exercise that influence which many of their English sisters are now exercising in the domain of mind, as well as in that of society circles,—that such an institution as Miss Dupont's should exist in our midst, affording facilities not only for acquiring a high-class education, but for the imparting of those graces of manner and bearing which stamp the true lady, and exert a wholesome refining influence. Ably assisted by resident governesses and by visiting professors, Miss Dupont's establishment easily leads among similar institutions of the city and province.