

foundland" is included among the Canadian Islands, "on the east coast."

We are also told that "The climate of Canada is healthy" (We hope the climate may continue in good health. Perhaps a State doctor might be appointed to give the climate a pill regularly); and that "In the east it is colder than the west—the temperature of Ontario being continued from Manitoba westward, although nearly 700 miles farther north."

Strange climate—"colder east than west" and yet the same—Nor are we told what is "700 miles farther north." Further on we are told that "the thermometer sometimes ranges, in winter, from 30° to 40° below zero." No mention is made of the climate save this. Small wonder that Englishmen think the Canadians live under ground, when the authorized Canadian Geography describes the climate of Canada in the above terms. This description reads like a quotation from an English newspaper. Special pains have been taken to state that the St. Lawrence is frozen over five months in the year.

Why was such a geography ever authorized in a Canadian province?

Passing over such absurdities as: "The Great Pacific Railway, extending from Montreal to British Columbia;" "Quebec is peopled principally by descendants of the original French settlers, some of whom are also to be found in the other provinces," the Indian lands have their own villages and houses," &c., &c.; we shall direct the reader's attention to the paragraph on the Constitution of our Government. "The Dominion form of Government is the same as that of Great Britain." This is the Queen's English we suppose? "It consists of Her Majesty the Queen, represented by the Governor-General, and a Parliament, consisting of the House of Commons and the Senate." The Queen is the "Dominion form" of government? She is growing stout, that is a satisfaction. She is "represented by the Governor-General and a Parliament"? Many people suppose we are governed by a Parliament, composed of the House of Commons, the Senate, and last the Queen's representative, the Governor-General. Similar errors occur in the explanation of the Ontario Legislature, page 17.

Again we are told "The Provinces were united under the name of the Dominion of Canada, on the 1st July, 1867." On referring to the list of provinces we find eight named. Therefore the only inference is that these eight were united on July 1st, 1867. Perhaps the student is to follow the plan of the book, i. e., learn the truth by having errors presented.

Trifling errors, as: "Canada was first discovered by Jacques Cartier, in 1535"—abound on all sides; so this one will be analysed as a sample. If Cartier was the "first discoverer" of Canada, all good authorities place the year of his arrival at 1534; but he was not the "first discoverer." The learned editor does not seem to know that Canada includes the maritime provinces, but thinks it still consists of Ontario and Quebec. Without referring to the certain discoveries and settlements of Scandinavians on Canadian shores centuries before Cartier's time, all will admit the honor of discovering Canada belongs to Cabot, who explored our seaboard in 1497. Equally reckless and wide of the facts is the statement that "Quebec and Montreal were the first towns founded by the French." Port Royal, the present Annapolis, was founded several years before either of the named places, and continued first in importance for many years. It is evident that the Rip Van Winkle editor went asleep before the Dominion was formed, as Canada is repeatedly referred to as including only Ontario and Quebec.

Why does the Minister of Education continue to permit the use of this book in Ontario?

We shall ask the reader to refer to the Geography in question, when he will find that these sixty odd errors in fact, occur on two pages of the work; and almost as many more have been overlooked as of minor note.

Space will not permit of more than a cursory review of Ontario, for on three pages in the text-book devoted to this province, over two hundred errors occur—more than one-half the number being mis-statements of fact or of order, and the remainder being important omissions of facts. Attention is, however, directed to the following:

"Ontario, formerly called Western Canada." Ontario lies "west and south of the Ottawa River," contains "forty-six counties." Duf-

ferin County is omitted entirely. "Victoria," "Haliburton," "Peterboro'," "Hastings," and "Lennox" counties are located "on Lake Ontario." "Bothwell," "Monck," and "Cardwell" are spoken of as "counties" in three separate places; then we are told, "they are, properly speaking, only Parliamentary Ridings."

What is a "Parliamentary Riding."

The great lakes, lying between Canada and the United States, are again said to be in Ontario. Their location, according to the oracle, is as follows: These lakes "occupy the hollow between the water-sheds, from which the rivers of the North-West Territory to the north, and those of the United States to the south, flow." Query—Where is this North-west Territory?

"Lako Superior is remarkable for the extensive copper and silver mines on its shores." Such remarkable inferences as this are found over and over again throughout the book.

The River Kamin istiquia is not mentioned in Ontario or elsewhere but the following does occur: "From Fort William a road has been constructed which, with some stretches of navigation, extends to Manitoba." On turning to the map we are not surprised, but somewhat mystified to see that Fort William is within the boundaries of Manitoba, the province with which it is connected by road and water stretches. Besides, according to the text, both "the road" and the "stretches of navigation" extend to Manitoba. The "St. Mary River" and "Sault Ste. Marie Rapids" are spoken of, the author being seemingly ignorant that the names are the same, and are used interchangeably according to the whim or nationality of the writer. "Lake Simcoe is drained into Georgian Bay by the River Severn." Thus our most beautiful of Ontario inland lakes—Couchiching—is wiped out of existence. Following this mode of defining—Lake St. Clair is drained into the Atlantic Ocean by the River St. Lawrence. Further on, "Lake Huron flows into Lake St. Clair"—this must be a fine sight—and "Lake St. Clair is a shallow lake with a strong current."

Mitchell is not mentioned as on the Thames River; nor is that part of the river from Oxford County passing Woodstock and Ingersoll even hinted at. The Sydenham River is passed over—its name being entirely ignored. Important towns, as "Cayuga," "Fergus," &c., are treated with contempt—no notice being taken of them in the list of Grand River towns. "Below Grand and Navy Islands a series of fierce rapids begin," is good composition compared with the rest of the book. In describing the Falls the author details one scene viewed by few tourists, viz.: "the whole volume of the river is precipitated over the Falls." We feel confident it would require more than the orthodox "50c." to get a view of this wonderful scene. However, "it recovers itself and then flows with a smooth but rapid course towards L. Ontario."

After naming the Trent, Moira, and Napanee, we are told: "The other rivers are numerous but small." Inference—the Napanee is large?

Oakville, Whitby, Oshawa, Bowinville, and Brighton (the latter famous for its harbor), are omitted from the list of towns on L. Ontario, but to make up for their loss, Rochester, Oswego, and Sackett's Harbor are classed among "the principal Canadian towns on Lake Ontario."

Again, "Large quantities of—ashes—are annually exported," and "melons" are "extensively cultivated." "Grapes, melons, and peaches" are the only fruits in Canada, according to this instructive work.

To whatever paragraph the attention turns mistake on mistake, blunder on blunder, impropriety on solecism, and solecism on barbarism are encountered. Eyen Toronto is not properly described, "Toronto was one of the Capitals of United Canada before Ottawa was chosen." The union of Upper and Lower Canada is referred to as the "United Canadas" by all good writers, and the term "United Canada" is reserved for Canada since Confederation. Again, Ontario is referred to as "the upper province;" both Hamilton and London are situated in the western peninsula, see pages 15 and 17, yet Hamilton is styled "the second city in Ontario in population and commercial importance," and London "the principal city in the peninsula." This ranks Toronto third. Further on: "St. Catharines is a favorite resort for invalids and for summer residence" is inserted to illustrate how perfectly a master mind can apply the English language.