

in the letterpress, the maps, and the illustrations. The latter are more numerous and of a higher class than we have before seen attempted in any work of the kind. The cities, with their leading features, the natural products and industries, the animals and plants, are all displayed in a series of engravings of first-rate excellence, which are a credit to Canadian artists and engravers, and are fully equal to the embellishments in those American serials, which for the last few years have won such high repute in art of this kind.

But the maps beyond all else are valuable. For accuracy and completeness nothing like them, we are satisfied, has ever been given to the public, certainly not either in English or American school manuals. We have tested them in reference to an experience unusually extensive, as has been said, of various localities in Canada and also in Great Britain and abroad. With regard to the cartography of the work we have been simply astonished at its accuracy, clearness, and fidelity. Although special attention is given to British North America and to the States, this geo-

graphy is remarkable for the fulness of its information with respect to Europe and the less known continents.

Mr. Lovell, to whom we owe this handsome book, with its less ambitious but still excellent predecessor, is indeed a representative man in Canada. His earliest history was associated with the birth and growth of our literature. He was afterwards equally distinguished as a volunteer in 1837, and now has crowned a long list of services to his country by publishing a book invaluable to our teachers, although perhaps beyond the requirements of most of them, and in an artistic and literary point of view, we fear not to assert, unequalled of its kind.

The "Advanced Geography" is peculiarly suited to the needs of the scholar and the man of letters. As a book of reference it will be found invaluable, on a vast variety of topics, social, physical, industrial. There is hardly a point on these subjects in our natural history or statistics which is not treated of. We heartily and confidently commend the book to the profession.

NATURAL SCIENCE AT OXFORD.—The preamble to the statute "for establishing a faculty of natural science and degrees therein" was rejected by Congregation by a majority of 89 to 47. The proposal, it may be remarked, was to make a faculty of natural science co-ordinate with the faculty of arts, to attach degrees of B.N.S. and M.N.S. to it, and to permit in that faculty alone the omission of Greek as a compulsory subject in the earlier stages of the University course. The measure has undergone as many vicissitudes as important measures usually undergo in Oxford. In one stage it has passed, in another been amended, in another altered, in another rejected. In the earlier stages the measure met with favour because it was supposed to represent the wishes of the natural science professors, but it presently appeared that the majority of them, headed by Dr. Odling, were strongly opposed to it, on the ground that the new faculty would rank in public estimation as an inferior faculty. In moving the preamble of the amended statute, Professor H. Smith urged that the University had already declared itself in favour of the proposal, that it was a fair compromise with the opponents of compulsory Greek, and that it would be easy to induce Parliament to extend to graduates of the new faculty the suffrages and other privileges now enjoyed

by the graduates in arts. Dr. Odling, on the other hand, urged that the statute was a sham statute, the whole of its "viscera and vertebrae" having been taken out of it by previous amendments, that the vast majority of the science professors and teachers were against it, and that the Parliamentary aspect of the question was full of difficulty. He urged that the proper solution of the question was to be found in removing Greek from the list of compulsory subjects in the arts course. Professor Nettleship (professor of Latin) followed on the same side, regarding this measure as an attempt to deal by a side-wind with the great question of the relation between the older and the more modern studies. Oxford ought to co-operate with Cambridge, where a syndicate composed mainly of classical scholars had, after collecting the opinions of all the eminent schoolmasters in England, decided to recommend the abolition of compulsory Greek from the honour course in the faculty of arts. Whether his advice would be followed it was impossible to say. It is, however, quite evident that if Cambridge offers the arts degree to those who do not bring up Greek, it will not do for Oxford to offer anything less; and if the scientific men think a natural science degree undesirable, it cannot be forced upon them.—*The Educational Chronicle*.