

On the evening of February 12th, the anniversary of the birthday of Th. Girardot, Esq., I. P. S., Sandwich, a number of his friends presented him with a handsome easy chair, and his wife with a beautiful silver casket, accompanied by an appropriate address, indicating the high appreciation in which he is held.

MR. DICKENSON'S January (Stratford) Public School report is as follows:—"Number on roll, 1,045; average attendance, \$39. To do good work the average attendance should be 90 per cent. of the number on the roll - whilst for January it only reached 80 per cent. The report also recommended the separation of the sexes."

DURING a school celebration in Port Stanley a short time ago, a coal oil lamp exploded and set fire to a curtain. A panic ensued, and in the great rush that was made for the doors several of the school children were severely bruised. Would it not be well if the children in our public schools were drilled in leaving school rapidly and in order? In fires, in a crowded building, more are killed usually in the crush than by the flames.

A school section in Haldimand Tp., Northumberland Co., Ontario, is so large that it is proposed to erect two school houses and that the school rate be levied on all the property in the section to meet the expenses of both. Arbitrators have been appointed to report. The section contains about sixteen square miles, being about four miles square. There are, however, hundreds of sections in the Province that are a good deal larger.

SOME suppose that every learned man is an educated man. No such thing. That man is educated who knows himself, and takes accurate common-sense views of men and things around him. Some very learned men are the greatest fools in the world; the reason is they are not educated men. Learning is only the means, not the end; its value consists in giving the means of acquiring, the use of which, properly managed, enlightens the mind. -*Ex.*

It is reported that a very modest young lady teacher who wanted a pair of garters addressed the shopman thus:—"It is my desire to obtain a pair of circular elastic appendages, capable of being contracted or expanded by means of oscillating burnished steel appliances, that sparkle like particles of gold leaf set with Alaska diamonds, and which are utilized for retaining in proper position the habiliments of the lower ex remities, which innate delicacy forbids me to mention."

BELFORD'S Monthly Magazine has already become a popular publication and bids fair to secure what its predecessors failed to accomplish, a large circulation. Its enterprising publishers deserve success, and we trust will receive that measure of encouragement which is their due. The contents of the numbers already issued have been varied and select, the serials being the best that could be obtained. J. G. Holland's popular story, "Nicholas Minturn," occupies a leading position. In the March number the publishers announce the discontinuation of "Topics of the Times," "Olla Podrida," "Educational Notes," and "Progress of Science." While we regret that the "Educational Notes" have been discontinued, the space devoted to them will no doubt be occupied by matter that will prove more generally acceptable to the class of readers among whom the magazine circulates.

THE importance of a comma is well illustrated in the following clause of the Act of Congress in appropriating \$1,500,000 to aid the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia:—"The appropriation heretofore made shall be paid in full into the treasury of the United States before any dividend, or percentage of the profits shall be paid to the holders of said stock." The United States Circuit Court has decided against the Government claim for the \$1,500,000.

Who would not secure an education? The editor of the *Lakeland News* discourseth thus:—"The other day a man killed another man's dog. The son of the man whose dog was killed, therefore, proceeded to whip the man who killed the dog of the man of whom he was the son. The man who was the son of the man whose dog was killed was arrested by the man who was assaulted by the son of the man whose dog the man assaulted had killed."

HARRY P. VAN AKEN, a Philadelphia schoolboy 14 years old, has been presented with a hunting-case gold watch, valued at \$150, for his conduct during a fire in the school building on February 6. On that day the boy, having been sent down stairs, found that the building was on fire, but instead of raising an alarm he quietly informed the teachers in the various rooms, who as quietly dismissed the children under their charge, and got them all out without a panic.

THE Superintendent of Education in British Columbia having received from teachers in other parts of Canada so many letters to which it would be impossible for him to reply, in reference to situations, &c., has written to the *Toronto Globe* to say that all the schools there have been supplied with competent teachers at from \$50 to \$125 per month. As vigorous efforts are being made to induce young and promising pupils to enter the profession, the supply will, therefore, be easily kept up. There are now in the province 42 schools with 52 teachers.

THE publisher of one of our most popular Ontario weeklies is pleased to write us as follows:—"Your chromo is a rich one, and deserving of a large patronage, and the COMPANION AND TEACHER cannot be beaten, and will certainly make its mark in Canadian literature. Endless power to your elbow and oceans of good luck." For all of which and a host of similar letters from subscribers we return our thanks. Our friends can help us best, however, by talking to others about the good things we send them if they subscribe.

At the last Conference of the British National Union of Elementary Teachers (numbering over 10,000 members), a plan was adopted to establish within the Union a Provident Society, the object of which society is to provide for its members all or any of the following benefits—1, sick pay; 2, a sum of money payable at the death of a member or of a member's wife; 3, annuities in old age, and when permanently incapacitated; 4, a sum of money payable to a member or his nominee at the end of a term of years (endowment). One hundred and thirty-six lengthy and exhaustive rules were framed. Old age allowance may commence at 65; but members over 65 cease to draw from the funds when their deposits with accrued benefits become exhausted. In these and several other respects the scheme is far less favorable to the teacher than the superannuation system of Ontario.