

jury done to the cause of Education by those who engage temporarily in the business of teaching, using it simply as a means of advancement to other professions. His views were combated by several speakers, who urged that whatever evil might thus be done was more than counterbalanced by the freshness and energy thus kept ever present in our schools. Among other items of miscellaneous business, a resolution in favor of readjusting the school year, so as to have one long continuous term, instead of two short terms as at present, was brought forward and discussed at some length. The resolution was finally laid upon the table. The attendance at the Association was large, the papers excellent, and the discussions, though frank and spirited, were marked by the best possible spirit. No doubt the proceedings will give a marked impulse to education in one of the largest and most populous of our Inspectoral Districts.

### Literary Chat.

"The Russian Stormcloud" is to be the title of a new work by Stepaniak.

The celebrated American historian Bancroft recently celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday at Newport. He is still hale and able to enjoy life even on horseback.

Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie, Associate Editor of the *Christian Union*, is, in accordance with a wish expressed by the late Mrs. Helen Hunt Jacks in shortly before her death, to write a biography of this talented and noble-minded writer.

The forthcoming book containing the private correspondence of Peter the Great, of Russia, will have an immense sale if its contents approach the raised expectations of the public. Of course most Canadian readers—those who understand Russian, will probably not form a long roll of exceptions—will have to wait for the translation, which will be pretty sure to follow quickly.

The fourteenth edition of Miss Cleveland's book "George Eliot's Poetry, and other Studies," is announced by the publishers (Funk & Wagnalls, New York).

*The Voice*—a National Prohibition Party Paper—was started as a regular weekly paper January 1st, of this year. (Funk & Wagnalls, New York.) It has had a surprising success. The weekly issues are now over 60,000. The paper has aroused great interest among temperance men. The price of *The Voice* is one dollar per year.

The author of "The Bunting Ball," whose name has not yet been announced, is preparing for early publication "an opera without music," entitled "The New King Arthur." It promises to be something quite novel in the literary world. The publishers (Funk & Wagnalls, New York) promise the book by November 1st. Below we give the dedication:

TO ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON.

Take, Alfred, this mellifluous verse of mine  
Nor rank too high the honor I bestow,  
Howe'er it thrill thy soul with grateful pride.  
For thou hast sung of Arthur and his knights,  
And thou hast told of deeds that they have done,  
And thou hast told of loves that they have loved,  
And thou hast told of sins that they have sinned,  
And I have sung in my way, thou in thine.  
I think my way superior to thine,  
Yes, Alfred, yes, in loyal faith I do;  
But if I do I may be right or wrong;  
And whether right or wrong, what matters it?  
For shall not swans be swans though geese are geese,  
And if our swans be geese yet swans are deemed,  
The merrier for ourselves that deem them swans.  
So take my verses, Alfred, nor with shame  
Too deeply blush, as when we gain a boon  
So precious that we know 'tis undeserved,  
For thou hast very creditably sung  
Of Arthur, if we judge thee all-in-all;  
And I, if I more creditably sing,  
Can help it not; but let us live our lives.  
For now o'er tilth and wold, o'er waste and weald,  
Full summer broods, the linnets warbles peace,  
The red kine stray and butter has gone down!

*Mind in Nature*, the new monthly journal devoted to psychological discussions, by the Cosmic Publishing Co., Chicago, is improving from month to month. Among the articles this month are, "Mind in Nature," by A. E. Small, M.D., Prest. of Hahnemann College, Chicago, another of Prof. John Fraser's papers, this one "the Supernatural in Literature," a thoughtful article on "Cause or Effect" by "T. G. (presumably an agnostic.) A plea for "Spiritual Force" by Roman C. Cole. "Inspiration" by Emma E. Barlow, "Mental Contagion" and several other interesting papers by other writers.

### Question Drawer.

#### QUESTIONS.

1. In Part II of the new Ontario Readers, Lesson vi., occurs the sentence: "Milk is good to eat in its own form." My class have some doubts about this statement, and I do not admire it myself. Can you throw any light upon the subject?

2. In Part II of the old Ontario Readers, Lesson xii., occurs the statement: "The bear has no tail." In the World of Ico" is an account of a sailor tying two Polar bears (or rather bear skins with men inside) together by the tails. Which is right?

3. Are subscriptions to the Superannuation Fund to be paid yearly or half-yearly? How should they be sent? T. P.  
Lako Opinicon.

Solve—

$$(1) x^2 + y = 7; (2) x + y^2 = 11.$$

STUDENT.

#### ANSWERS.

T. P.—Your first two posers we leave, together with Student's Algebraic problem to be solved by correspondents. In reply to No. 3, the subscriptions, so far as now received, are payable yearly as heretofore, but no new subscriptions are now taken. The money should be sent to the Secretary of the Education Department.

In reply to inquiries from T. P. and others we may say that it is our intention to publish notes on all the Entrance and High School Literature required at the successive Examinations in time to be useful to teachers in preparing classes for these Examinations. We shall complete first the selection from the new Ontario Readers, after which we may supply papers on the selections omitted from last term's series.

### Literary Review.

ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA FOR SCHOOLS, by H. S. Hall, B.A., and S. R. Knight, B.A.; 358 pp. Macmillan's London, Wilhamson & Co., Toronto.

The 3500 well graded examples of this book are admirably suited for beginners, and a large number of them are capable of treatment by short neat methods such as are developed in Dr. McLellan's *TEACHERS' HANDBOOK*. In general the authors have proceeded very carefully from the simple to the complex, from the particular to the general, but they have not held fast to this principle with entire consistency; for example, the simple equation is not introduced till p. 48, whereas it ought to appear among the first and most simple exercises. The examples are well chosen, but the text follows the clumsy traditional methods far too closely in many places, when newer and more powerful examples might have been expected. The principle of Symmetry receives little or no notice, and in Removal of Brackets, H. C. M., and L. C. M., Resolution into Factors, Identities &c., there is nothing new in the text, the old mechanical processes being followed throughout.—But the examples are good and in the hands of a skilful teacher may be made a very effective first course in the science. The general character of the book is similar to that of Hamblin Smith's *Algebra* and his separate collections of examples. While we regret the timidity of the authors so far as the text is concerned, we can cordially recommend their book as a valuable collection of well graded examples, suitable for many of our High and Public Schools.