

## EDUCATIONAL JOTTINGS.

**HONOURS TO A CANADIAN.**—We are pleased to notice that an esteemed contributor to the Mathematical Department of this Magazine, Professor Edgar Frisby, M.A., formerly of Toronto, and now in charge of the Naval Observatory, Washington, has been honoured by the American Government with the commission to proceed to California, to observe and report upon the total eclipse of the sun, to take place on the 11th January next. The location selected for Professor Frisby's observations, is a point on the Pacific Coast, about 250 miles south of San Francisco.

Professor Frisby is a graduate of Toronto University, and won the Silver Medal in Mathematics in 1864. His talents and high repute as a Mathematician have deservedly won for him the present acknowledgment of the United States Astronomical authorities.

**PUNCTUAL** attendance is secured in the Liverpool Board Schools by closing the doors against late scholars at 9.15 in the morning, and 1.30 in the afternoon.

**THE** English Kindergarten Society lately held its annual meeting in London. It is in a prosperous condition, numbering 217 members, of whom 40 are new ones since last meeting. Its funds show a handsome balance, and of the twenty-two candidates who presented themselves for examination under its auspices, not one was plucked, but all received first-class certificates.

**PROFESSOR BLACKIE**, of Edinburgh, lately, in a short address in connection with a bazaar that had been held for the purpose of aiding the students of the University to clear off a debt upon their Club, expressed very pithily his opinion of this means of raising money. "It was a proper thing to spoil the Egyptians on all occasions. No greater good could be done to the public than that of taking money out of the pockets of the people for a laudable object."

By a new law to be introduced by the Minister of Education of Belgium, elemen-

tary instruction in that country is to be freed completely from clerical control by a plan of "neutralization," and agitation is going on to bring secondary Schools and Universities under the same law. Compulsory education is regarded as a necessary and indispensable consequence of this secularization, or rather, nationalization of the Schools.

## EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

**COBOURG COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.**—We observe that the Principal has made arrangements for "Half-hour Lectures," to be delivered at the Institute, by ministers of the town, and others, every alternate Friday at one o'clock,—the exercise constituting the close of the week's work. This is a capital arrangement, for both pupils and the public; and Mr. McHenry will be thanked for his enterprise. The first address was delivered by Rev. T. W. Jeffrey, Methodist Minister, on the subject, "Incentives to Earnest Study," which was treated in an able and thoroughly practical manner. The Rev. gentleman first very forcibly showed the importance of useful knowledge, and then dwelt upon the various incentives to study, as the only means of its acquisition. The students and ex-students present manifested the deepest interest in the address, which cannot fail of inspiring them with greater earnestness in the pursuit of their studies. It is intended that these half-hour lectures form a definite and valuable adjunct to the regular work of the school; the senior pupils being required to furnish an abstract of each address, after its delivery.

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY.**—The friends of this institution throughout the country have conceived the happy idea of raising what are termed "District Scholarships," varying in value from \$100 to \$25, to be renewed, it is expected, from year to year. The total sum thus placed at the disposal of the Senate is \$1,190, and, at a special convocation of this body on the 4th instant, the allocation resulted as follows:—

1. *Matriculation*, \$425.—The department