

does not seem to have practised his profession. Little wonder. He was ahead of his age, and the superstitious people of the time believed him to be in league with the devil. He left Renfrew, and emigrated to Virginia where he afterwards died. Search is now being made in Virginia for any trace of this great man that may haply still linger there. His memory cannot be allowed to perish; indeed at the time of writing there is an immediate prospect that the matter will be brought before the meeting to be held in London, to commemorate the jubilee of the public use of electric telegraphy. And one leaves the modest little case, with its precious contents, wishing that this monument placed here by the enlightened zeal of the Librarian of the Greenock Library may not always be the only one erected to his memory.

A few steps more and you enter the reading room where there is a fine chest, beautifully carved,—the arm-chest of some old Spanish galley. There are two others like it in the British Museum.

In the same room you may study the handwriting of the Iron Duke, of the Chelsea Philosopher, of the historian Macaulay, of Nelson's Captain Hardy, of Dr. Chalmers and Charles Darwin, of Gladstone and Daniel O'Connell, of Dickens and Thackeray and Walter Scott and Jenny Lind and of James Watt, whose shadow seems to linger round the place, and finally of another great inventor, a Canadian—Alexander Graham Bell.

And now you will be sorry enough to say good-bye to the place where such a pleasant hour has been spent.

But you will be more sorry to take farewell of the Librarian who has made it a pleasant hour. Allan Park Paton was not unknown to you, because you remembered that he was the learned editor of the Hamnet Shakespeare, which critics praise and students regard, and you will never con its pages again without feeling more strongly the benign influence of his kindly and enthusiastic spirit.

H. M. M.

THE RECENT UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS.

BY T. ARNOLD HAULTAIN.

IT has been my duty during the last few weeks to read and mark more than a thousand examination papers. Such a task—involving as it does the careful gauging of the mental capacity of each pupil, the accuracy of his information, his general intelligence, his command of language, and his power of thought—such a task gives one of the best possible opportunities of testing the general efficiency, first, of the school-masters and mistresses of our High and Public Schools, and, second, of the working of the educational machinery of Ontario. Such

an opportunity should not be allowed to slip by without giving the public some information as to the manner in which their sons and daughters are being educated. I have not as yet seen in any periodical any allusion made to these examinations. I venture, therefore, to present a few hints and suggestions with the object chiefly of evoking an expression of opinion from those who by age and experience are far better fitted to express an opinion on these matters than am I myself.

Concerning the details of the inter-