

he is made of; and about as sharp, tough, juiceless, and biting to deal with as the other is to the taste. Silas Peckham kept a young ladies' school exactly as he would have kept a hundred head of cattle,—for the simple unadorned purpose of making just as much money in just as few years as could be safely done. Of course the great problem was to feed these hundred hungry misses at the cheapest practicable rate, precisely as it would be with the cattle. So that Mr. Peckham gave very little personal attention to the department of instruction, but was always busy with contracts for flour and potatoes, beef and pork, and other nutritive staples, the amount of which required for such an establishment was enough to frighten a quartermaster. Mrs. Peckham was from the West, raised on Indian corn and pork, which gave fuller outline, and a more humid temperament, but may, perhaps, be thought to render people a little coarse-fibred. Her speciality was to look after the feathering, cackling, roosting, rising and general behaviour of these hundred chicks. An honest, ignorant woman, she could not have passed an examination in the youngest class. So that this distinguished institution was under the charge of a commissary and a house-keeper, and its real business was feeding girls to gain, roots, and meats, under cover, and making money by it."

The article on Rome is almost wholly taken up with modern Roman gambling—not an attractive subject. That on "Counting and Measuring" is excellent, but too short. One good feature about the *Atlantic* is, that it does not use the term *United States* as a synonym for the whole world, or even this new world, as if the United States stretched from Point Barrow to Cape Horn. The last number kindly noticed a *British America*, (long may it continue so); some time ago there were good articles on Guatemalan, Venezuelan and La Plata politics; and the present number devotes a goodly space to Jamaica and Mexico. This is as it should be. One scrap, a perfect bijou, we must give:—

"THE POET'S FRIENDS.

"The Robin sings in the elm;
The cattle stand beneath,
Sedate and grave, with great brown eyes,
And fragrant meadow-breath.

"They listen to the flattered bird,
The wise-looking, stupid things!
And they never understand a word
Of all the Robin sings."

The Boyhood of Great Men. Illustrated. Published by Harper, New York.

Men who have Risen. Illustrated. Published by W. A. Townsend & Co., New York.

That the young should get tired of reading the mawkish good boy books is not to be wondered at, but rather to be expected and met by judicious selections of books of a higher and more practical stamp. It is too frequently the case, that proper and palatable food for the mind is not to be had, and boys are compelled, as it were, to resort to the light and loose literature which is scattered broadcast over the land, and which, it is allowed by all, has a tendency to weaken the mind, and to cause much evil, by encouraging the prurient imagination to run riot. With pleasure, then, we see such books as these before us, written lucidly, replete with information, suggestive of advancement in every field of practical exertion, while as interesting as any novel that exults in the title of the "Broken Spear," or the "Rover's Bride." The first is by the world famed "Russell, the *Times* Crimean correspondent," and contains sketches of the boyhood of forty of those who have made their mark in the world. The other seems to be a compilation, as some of the papers have been issued in another form. One in particular, "The Rise of the Peck Family," is a most interesting paper, quite dramatic, though true. It was first published amongst "Chambers' Papers for the People."

Suggestions on the Improvement of our Schools.

Two years ago Mr. Inspector Duval, then master of the Provincial Training School, issued a pamphlet with the above caption. The time was opportune for such advice, and the man was qualified from experience to give it. Some of the suggestions were acted on in the framing of the present school law, and its partial success results from the adoption of plans recommended in it, and in the Chief Superintendent's Reports of previous years. There are, however, many other subjects which have not as yet been touched by legislation, and which are treated of in this paper. The possible connection between the Normal School and King's College, is one which will most likely attract attention before long, and to those, wishing the progress and advancement of Common School Education, is a subject well worth deep consideration. The present constitution of