

### VIII. Short Critical Notices of Books.\*

— **HERBERT, OR TRUCK CHARITY.**—Boston: American Tract Society.—Few who have read *Ministering Children*, by Miss Charlesworth, will fail to remember the boy-hero of that beautiful book, and his sweet noble hearted sister, Miss Clifford. The Tract Society have done good service in reprinting that part of Miss Charlesworth's touching story relating to those two "ministering children." It will do good service to the cause of true religion wherever it is read, and cannot fail to exercise a most beneficial influence on any boy or girl who reads it. We commend it heartily.

— **HELPS OVER HARD PLACES, FOR BOYS.**—Boston: The American Tract Society.—This little book contains most valuable "helps" or hints for boys, conveyed in a most agreeable manner—that of a story; and no little boy can well resist listening to a story. This form, therefore, of rendering "help" has been adopted. Though the structure of some of the stories is a little artificial and constrained, yet the help is no less substantial in itself. To do what other boys do, and to avoid what others avoid, is simple and easy of comprehension to a child. We have no doubt that this book will prove a valuable aid to many of the young pilgrims into whose hands it may come.

— **HELPS OVER HARD PLACES, FOR GIRLS.**—Boston: The American Tract Society.—This little volume, like the preceding, contains a series of stories illustrative of the way in which girls can, "through God's help," get over the "hard places" of bad temper, unkindness, covetousness, envy, sullenness, and evil habits. Most of the stories are admirably told, and represent the experience of little girls.

— **THE PATHWAY OF PROMISE.** Boston: American Tract Society.—This is an attractive and valuable little work. Its purpose is "to set before the believer some of the gracious promises of God's Word, and to suggest some thoughts which may prove consolatory and encouraging to the Christian pilgrim as he journeys to his heavenly home."

— **THE TRANSPLANTED SHAMROCK.** Boston: American Tract Society.—This book contains a touching story of an Irish servant and her mother in one of the American cities. It teaches by contrasts, in an effective way, the duty of mistresses to their dependants in the family.

— **THE THRICE DAILY TEXT BOOK.** Boston: American Tract Society.—This is an excellent little book. It contains a text and a verse of poetry nicely arranged for morning, noon, and evening of every day in the month.

— **THE CELESTIAL CITY.** Boston: American Tract Society.—This book is a reprint of an English work, by the Rev. J. D. Burns, M.A., of London. It contains a series of beautiful sketches, or "glimpses within the gates," of the "Celestial City," founded upon several striking texts or passages in the Revelations, descriptive of the heavenly Jerusalem, its employments and its glories.

— **THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.**—This prince of the Educational Journals maintains its well-earned fame, and comes to us, as ever, freighted with the richest and best in principles, means and methods in education. No other American, perhaps no other man, has done so much as Dr. Barnard to give breadth and completeness to the expression of public education. The twelve volumes of this Journal, as well as former Journals under the control of the great American educator, are themselves abundant testimony of what one man may do, who has a high ideal, and presses towards it with a persistence which neglect, pecuniary loss, and even the apathy of professed friends, cannot check.—Dr. Barnard also publishes, in separate volumes, collated from the *Journal*, the following *Papers for the Teacher*, including (1) American Pedagogy; (2) Object Teaching and Methods of Primary Instruction in Great Britain; (3) German Schools and Pedagogy; (4) Educational Aphorisms and Suggestions; (5) English Pedagogy; (6) Pestalozzi and Pestalozzianism. These six volumes may be obtained at the Educational Depository, Toronto.

### IX. Educational Intelligence.

#### CANADA.

— **ELGIN COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.**—A very gratifying scene took place in the Grammar School on the close of the Winter term. It is not always that so happy a relation exists between teacher and taught, as is revealed in the following Address, which sufficiently speaks for itself. The Address was read on behalf of the other pupils by Master Merritt, one

\* Most of the books referred to in these notices can be obtained at the Educational Depository, Toronto.

of the senior pupils of the school, and the handsome articles of presentation were handed to Mr. Younghusband at the close of the reading. Mr. Younghusband made a suitable reply; and the school was afterwards addressed by His Honor Judge Hughes, Rev. Dr. Caulfield, John Scobie, Esq., M.P.P. for West Elgin, and the Rev. Mr. Rowland.—*Home Journal*.

— **PETERBORO UNION SCHOOL EXHIBITION.**—With the view of procuring funds for a gymnasium, in connection with the Union School of this town an "Exhibition" took place in the Lecture Room of the School house, which we are pleased to say was exceedingly well attended. The room was beautifully decorated with evergreens and tastefully executed floral designs. The exhibition was a decided success in every sense. Some of the young ladies executed many rather difficult pieces of music on the piano with excellent effect and the recitations were admirably delivered. The "exhibition" is an admirable plan for raising money for the school when money is needed, and we sincerely trust that whenever money is required for its benefit that the experiment of Thursday the 2nd of April last may be repeated.—*Review*.

— **COUNTY OF OXFORD TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.**—Pursuant to notice given, the above Association met at Woodstock, East School, on Friday and Saturday, the 3rd and 4th ult. Mr. J. F. Cullen presiding. After some preliminary business, the meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. W. C. Beardsall. Mr. McLean, delivered a lecture of thirty minutes duration on the "First Book of Lessons," approving of the first eight pages, at this point his approbation ceased; on page nine commences a series of lessons, vulgar, unconnected and plentifully interspersed with nick-names, such as Pat, Sam, Ned, Bob, etc. The want of continuity in the subjects of the lessons was highly condemned. After the sentence "Where do the French live?" "the euphonious one, "Can a whelp bark!" The call for English grammar was responded to by Mr. Ainsley. The parsing of the following sentences gave rise to a very pleasing and animated discussion, in which Messrs. Ward, McLean, McKay and Cullen participated: "The more true merit a man has, the more does he applaud it in others. "And there sat in a window a certain young man named Wattyhus." An interesting lecture having been delivered by the Rev. Wm. Stephenson. Moved by the Rev. W. C. Beardsall, seconded by Mr. Fraser, That the thanks of this association be tendered to the Rev. gentleman for his instructive lecture. Carried. Moved by R. McLean, seconded by M. F. Ainsley, That Mr. Cullen be requested to explain and illustrate his method of teaching English Grammar.—Carried. Moved by J. F. Cullen, seconded by Mrs. Atkins, That Messrs. Fraser and McCausland illustrate the method of teaching Geography, as adopted at the Normal School.—Carried. The above gentlemen acquitted themselves with credit and satisfaction to the Association. The female teachers criticising very closely. Moved by J. McCausland, seconded by S. Neil, That all female teachers in the County become Honorary Members of this Association, on signing their names to Constitution. Lost—the female teachers voting *contra*. The following teachers were appointed Essayists for next quarterly meeting. M. F. Ainsley, Canada; R. McLean, Geography; J. F. Cullen, Street Education. Moved by Miss Dundas, seconded by Miss Robertson, That the next meeting of the Association be held at Ingersoll.—Carried. The meeting then adjourned to meet again on the first Saturday of July.

— **LAW SCHOOL EXAMINATION.**—The annual examination of Law Students who attended the lectures delivered during vacation at the Law School of the Law Society, was, in pursuance of an order in convocation made in Hilary term last, held at Osgoode Hall on Thursday last. After a severe and searching test, the following gentlemen were found to have attained the standard fixed by the bench of the society, to entitle them to:—1. Richard T. W. Walkem, 320 marks; 2. James Watt, 302 marks; 3. George Kennedy, 278 marks; 4. George Holmstead, 263 marks; 5. John J. Stevens, 262 marks. The highest number of marks that could possibly have been obtained was 360—the standard being 240. Those who did not reach the standard are not classified. The gentlemen above named, besides receiving prizes, will be allowed two out of the four terms required to be kept by students before called to the bar.—*Leader*.

— **SUDDEN DEATH.**—Mr. Bonner, a student at the Normal School, and who attended to his duties there on Friday afternoon, took suddenly ill last Saturday morning. Drs. Newcomb and Berryman were called, and made every effort to save his life, notwithstanding which, however, he died on Sunday afternoon. A *post mortem* examination of the body was made by Drs. Newcomb, Berryman, and May, who discovered that perforation of the intestines was the cause of death.—*Ibid*.