

for the elements of his history. He belongs, evidently, to the school of De Barante, author of the "Histoire des Ducs de Bourgogne," and of Augustin Thierry, who wrote "La Conquete de l'Angleterre par les Normands;" that is to say, he gives more details of private life, and recites with greater pleasure anecdotes from chronicles and local traditions than is usual with authors of the old school. His history thus gains, perhaps, in coloring and brilliancy, but it loses, perhaps, in depth and philosophic worth."

8. THE PRESS OF LONDON.

By a computation which we have made from the "London Catalogue of Periodicals, Newspapers, and Transactions of Various Societies," just published by Messrs. Longman & Co., we find that the whole number of periodical publications of all sorts now established in London is 729. Of these no fewer than 359 are monthly publications, while 254 are dailies and weeklies, 81 are quarterlies, and 35 are Transactions of Societies.—*Reader.*

9. NEWSPAPERS IN AUSTRIA.

Some interesting statistics of Austrian newspapers have been published. 463 newspapers appear in that empire, of which 270 are printed in German; 73 in Hungarian; 45 in Italian; 19 in Techeque; 9 in Serbian; 5 in Slovak; 4 in Ruthene; 3 in Roumain; 1 in Illyrian; 18 in Polish; 8 in Croat; 4 in Slovene; 4 in Hebrew, and 3 Greek.

10. PUBLISHING IN FRANCE.

Like most of the English publishers, Messrs. Hachette & Co. have no printing establishment. The division of labor has, to the regret of eminent bibliophiles, been carried so far as to apportion the printing, stitching, binding, and publishing of books among different firms. The difference of wages in remote country towns, and the speed, certainty, and low tolls of carriage of the railways have led to the establishment of printing and binding establishments in the provinces. All of the post-office printing and binding, which is something immense (besides the almost infinite variety of blanks used, I know eighty-nine different publications issued by that establishment), is done at Rennes, a town 234 miles distant from Paris.

11. THE IMPERIAL LIBRARY IN RUE RICHELIEU.

The imperial library in the Rue Richelieu at present possesses 2,000,000 printed volumes, 200,000 manuscripts, 3,000,000 engravings, 500,000 maps, and, besides all these, a valuable collection of medals and antique gems, &c.

12. FRENCH ESTIMATE OF MACAULAY.

M. Mignet, of the French Academy, has published a volume of the "Eloges Historiques," upon M. Souffroy, Baron de Gérando, Laromiguine, Lakanal, Schelling, Comte Portalis, Henry Hallam, and Lord Macaulay, which he delivered at the annual meeting of the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, of which he is perpetual Secretary. His opinion of Lord Macaulay is thus expressed: "In this fine history [of England], which is epic in movement and resplendent in form, Macaulay sees through the tangle of events with a piercing eye, exposes them with consummate ability, and judges them as an able politician. His narrations carry you away by the life which he throws into them. He gives animation to everything that he relates, and to the knowledge which gives accuracy he unites the art that makes interesting. He enables the reader to appreciate as well as to know; and as a rule, his justice is equal to his clear-sightedness. Macaulay throws passion into history, but he does not falsify it. . . . A very splendid writer, he is in general a very equitable judge. He is attached to what is right, not as a Whig, but as an Englishman; he does not condemn acts of wickedness and tyranny from party motives, but for reasons of justice; he attacks the wrong, which he hates, because he loves what is good; and it is only on account of his own rectitude that he raises his voice against duplicity, and of his own honorable feelings that he denounces perfidy. He pronounces the verdict and distributes the condemnations of history without regard for any reprehensible prejudice, without excusing any fault, without omitting to mention any indignity, whoever may have been the sufferer or offender. Never indifferent under pretext of being impartial, he considers facts in their relations both with moral order, and public utility. He brings only generous sentiments to bear on his study of the past, and draws therefrom noble lessons as well as interesting scenes. He seeks not only to strike the imagination, but to enlighten the reason, and, if he pleases with art, he also instructs with honesty."

Mr. Woolner's full-sized model for the marble statue of the late Lord Macaulay, which is to be placed in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, is now completed.

IV. Correspondence of the Journal.*

1. SCHOOL SUPERVISION.

Of all that pertains to the education of the young, to the success of our common schools, next to the immediate work of the diligent teacher, school supervision is perhaps the most important. Nothing tends to incite the teacher to greater assiduity in his labors, to excite emulation and pride in the scholars, than constant visiting on the part of all who feel, or ought to feel, an interest in the education of the children by whom they are daily surrounded; yet, what is a more fruitful source of just complaint on the part of all teachers than the apathy of the school visitors, or supervisors of their own section? Too often does it happen that weeks and months pass by without any one entering the school house to ascertain whether the teacher is occupying the time profitably or not; that such a course is very prejudicial to the school, the reiterated complaints of all teachers are sufficient proof. Can it be that the parents of the youth who daily assemble for instruction in the various schools throughout the country, are so thoroughly careless and indifferent as to feel no inclination to watch the progress of their own children, as to deem it a matter of no importance whether their own offspring are being trained in such a manner as will enable them to combat successfully the dangers and difficulties which will beset them in life's journey?

I would fain think not, yet is the conviction most forcibly pressed upon us; not one of them would think of purchasing a horse, without first trying his capabilities; but they hesitate not at engaging a teacher, allowing him to form the mind, to mould the ideas of their children, without once attempting to ascertain whether he is capable of so doing; that it is their duty to do so, and that such supervision is attended with good results, few will be found to deny; why then is such visiting not more frequent and common? simply because it is every one's duty, and because every one ought to do it.

If each parent, nay, each adult, in the Section, would but say, "let who will stay away I will not," and make it a point of duty, if they will, (it would soon become a pleasure) to visit the school occasionally, we should, I am confident, find that our schools throughout the province would improve with unexampled rapidity, that our teachers would take a redoubled interest in their work, which indeed would but scarcely enable them to keep pace with the increased and continually increasing zeal of their scholars. But there should be method and a right motive in their visiting, a fault-finding visitor will never be welcomed, spend an hour or two in the school house, give a few words of encouragement, commendation when it is deserved, point out any fault that may be noticed, suggest any improvement that may be thought necessary, in a kind, friendly spirit, and your presence will ever be hailed with delight.

One good effect of such visiting cannot be passed over unnoticed, many of our ill-furnished, badly-built, unhealthy school houses would pass away, if the parents would visit such schools they would soon be sensible of the great disadvantages under which both teacher and scholar labor in being cooped up in a small unhealthy place, ill-provided with the necessary means of education; and if, in place of allowing such inconveniences to keep them away from the schools, they would endeavour to remedy the defects a giant stride would be made in the right direction; to that end it would be perhaps beneficial if each visitor would write some remark in the visitors' book upon the state and appearance of the school house, it would at least keep the subject continually before those who are only too ready to neglect whatever belongs to the common school.

Domine, Esquensing, C. W.

V. Papers on Natural History.

1. BOYS, SPARE THE BIRDS.

The blithe, cheery little feathered songsters who have been spending the winter in warmer climes, are fast returning to our fields and woods, and are ushering in the Spring with sweet carols. Their delightful music is dear to every lover of nature, and every such person bids them a hearty welcome. Not so, we are pained to hear, rude boys in some localities who are pursuing them with murderous guns and shooting them in wanton sport. We hope there are few cruel enough to indulge in such brutal pastime, but wherever there are such, the law should at once be invoked to stop their merciless slaughter. Not only are lovers of birds, as one of the pleasantest

* For want of space, some of the correspondence received has been deferred.