

the lannier (*Falco tinnunculus*), goshawk (*Astur Palumbarius*), the kestrel or windhover (*Falco Tinnunculus*); the great horned owl, also called the great northern owl, which hatches in January, seldom bringing out more than two young, and the male sitting on the nest during the absence of the female; geese, ducks, gulls, loons, &c.

The flora of the Mistassini region presents little difference from that on the other side of the Height of Land. All the way up the Chief River I noticed that gooseberries were plentiful, as also red and black currants, high and low-brush cranberries, wild roses, &c. On the Mistassini side my attention was particularly attracted to the *Sarracenia purpurea*, of which the root furnishes the greatest remedy known for that dreadful scourge, small-pox. I may mention that, to my own knowledge, this precious root not only saved my younger brother's life, but its use also appears to wholly obviate the unsightly pitting common to the disease, if it is extracted and dried at the proper season. Indeed, I have known many cases which were considered hopeless by medical men, but which were cured by the *Sarracenia purpurea*; even Indians, with whom the dread malady so often proves fatal, finding it an absolute specific.

(To be Continued.)

THE MIRACLE OF THE HUMAN BODY.

Already in the first man who trod the soil of our planet the great mechanical and chemical discoveries of uncounted coming ages were anticipated. His tissues were woven in a loom no Eastern fingers, no Western machinery could rival. Where strength was needed a power of resistance like that of iron was given to strands of fiber finer than the spider's thread, seen only as it glistens in the sun-beam. Where elasticity was wanted, a substance like caoutchouc exuded and solidified. The pillars which support his frame would crumble under it were they not many times stronger in substance than the columns which support his temples. The leverage of his limbs is adjusted to his needs with an audacity which no engineer would venture. The hydraulics of the circulation are but clumsily imitated in our aqueducts and their distribution. And what are all the flood-gates of human contrivance compared to those delicate translucent valves which stand guard at the great artery, and arrest the solid column of blood coming back upon them like the blow of a hammer, day and night, seventy times a minute for seventy years, and so many more as life may spare us? Man is more than a machine, but as a machine he is an ever present miracle. His heart is a time-keeper which counts the seconds for a century with one winding-up. The heating apparatus of our dwellings in the surfaces of its radiators and the pots of its furnaces only repeats the *calcula committentes* and the *rilli* of our mucous membranes. No telephone conveys a message so faithfully as the membrane of the tympanum transmits it to the listeners in the recesses of the labyrinth. No steam-engine can work with so little fuel as the human organism; no dye-house can reproduce the glow of a youthful cheek; no laboratory can manufacture a gram of albumen; no musical instrument can reach the human heart like a woman's voice; no lens can adapt itself to light like the human eye. And so we come back to the microscope, the perfection of which was developed by imitating as it best might those achromatic arrangements, the pigment, the diaphragm, the adjustments for distance, which were all complete in the first man who opened his eyelids on creation.—
[Oliver Wendell Holmes.]

Here is a sentence forming a triple headed principle of teaching. Let teachers keep it ever in mind: "Your chief business is to make pupils think, not to think for them; to make them talk, not to talk for them; to draw out their powers, not to display your own.—*Wisconsin Journal of Education.*"

Teachers' Associations.

HASTINGS.—The Union Convention of the Teachers of North and South Hastings was held in Madoc, on Thursday and Friday, 7th and 8th inst. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there was a very large attendance of teachers from both Inspectorial divisions. The chair was occupied by J. Johnston, I. P. S. The forenoon was spent in the disposal of business, and the discussion of the subject of Geography, by Mr. Ogden, Head Master of the public school at Stirling.

In the afternoon.—The first subject was "Elementary Reading," by Miss Wootton, of the Madoc Model School, who exemplified her method of teaching this important subject by a class. Her plan of taking up this subject and developing language, together with a couple of kindergarten songs, sung by the children, won the praise of all present. Miss Powers of Marmora, with one of her classes then gave an excellent lesson on teaching Word Building to juniors. Mrs. W. O'Flynn gave a vocal solo entitled "Break." J. A. McLellan, M.A., LL.D., Director of Teachers' Institutes, followed with the A. B. C. of Arithmetic. He introduced the subject with a short discussion on Mental Science, and its importance to those engaged in teaching. The next was Elementary Drawing by Arthur J. Reading, teacher of mechanical drawing and perspective in the Ontario School of Art, who gave a short practical address on this subject, illustrating by a number of sketches on the blackboard. In the evening Dr. McLellan delivered an able and interesting address on "Education in Ontario," to a large audience, in the Presbyterian Church. A. F. Wood, Esq., M.P.P., occupied the chair. On re-assembling the chair was occupied by W. Mackintosh, I. P. S., North Hastings. Mr. Reading continued the subject of Perspective and Model Drawing, exhibiting a number of models used in teaching this subject. Miss Diamond, of Belleville, rendered a vocal solo entitled "A Summer Shower." Dr. McLellan continued the subject, The A. B. C. of Arithmetic, explaining his method of introducing the study of numbers to those just commencing. Miss Macinnes, of Belleville, gave a recitation entitled "How he saved St. Michaels." Mr. O. S. Hicks, of Sidney, explained the method adopted by him in teaching language and practical grammar to the various classes. The lesson was an excellent one and showed how this may be taught efficiently in an ungraded school. Analysis and Grammar was the next subject, by Dr. McLellan. Miss Robertson, of Belleville, gave a vocal solo, after which Mr. Marshall, Head Master, Madoc Model School, moved, seconded by O. S. Hicks, that as teachers of Hastings we are glad to learn that the Minister of Education has under consideration the propriety of establishing a course of professional reading for teachers, and we believe such a course wisely and carefully arranged would be of great service to the profession, and that the Secretary be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Minister. Mr. Kennedy, of the *Canada School Journal*, recited "Papa's Letter," after which Dr. McLellan proceeded to discuss the Art of Questioning, explaining and illustrating the various methods, and the objects to be attained by them. On the motion of J. W. Dufoe, seconded by Mr. Ogden, a hearty vote of thanks was tendered Dr. McLellan for his excellent addresses on the subjects taken up, after which the Institute adjourned. The officers for South Hastings Institute for the ensuing year, are: President, J. Johnston, I. P. S.; Vice-President, Miss Urquhart; Sec.-Treasurer, S. A. Gardner; Committee, J. A. Narraway, W. McKeown, O. S. Hicks, G. W. Sime, Mr. Fearier, Mr. Jennings, W. J. Emerson, Jas. Wheeler, and Mr. Grow. Delegate to Provincial Association, E. H. Anderson.

DIGBY AND ANNAPOLIS, N. S.—The sixth annual session of the Teachers' Association for Inspectorial District No. 4, Counties of Digby and Annapolis, met at Digby on April 30th and May 1st, L. S. Morse, M.A., Inspector of Schools for the district, presiding. About sixty teachers were in attendance, the number being small on account of the disagreeable state of the weather. Able written and interesting papers were read by G. B. McGill, Esq., Clementsport, on "A Few Points in Grammar Logically Treated;" by W. G. Parsons, B.A., on "The Art of Teaching;" by W. C. Jones, Esq., Barton, on "Union among Teachers;" and by W. C. Parker, Esq., Weymouth, on "Composition and How It Should be Taught." The points brought forward by the writers were thoroughly discussed. Lessons were taught by Miss M. A. Wallace, Primary Dept., Digby Academy, on "Solids;" by Miss A. E. Parker, Elementary Dept., Digby Academy, on "Colors;" and by W. H. McGee, Esq., Principal of Digby Academy, on "The Common Pump." The lessons were considered to be well taught, and were listened to with interest. Prof. F. H. Eaton, A.B., of the Provincial Normal School was present and took part in the proceedings. The clergymen of the town also aided in the meetings. On the evening of April 30th Rev. H. Fisher, of Granville Ferry, delivered an able and instructive lecture on "Francis Bacon, Viscount St. Albans," before a large and interested audience. The learned lecturer portrayed Bacon's life and character, and eloquently maintained his position as the originator of modern methods of thinking. On the whole it was one of the most interesting sessions yet held.