

of it for ninety? Who has any right to find fault either with the publishers for providing such editions, or with the teachers and pupils for purchasing them? If they were compelled, by want of enterprise on the part of the publishers, to use unedited texts there would soon be an outcry of another kind. To ask the Minister of Education to interfere with the price of books not specially authorized by himself is as sensible as would be a request from the readers of the paper we quoted from, to Mr. Crooks to fix its subscription price. The publishers of edited texts know better than any one else what it costs to get them up, and when there are several rivals in the field the public may rest assured that the publishers will not make a gigantic fortune out of a work that has so limited a circulation.

The remarks about the University authorities are equally absurd. The work of preparing candidates for entrance into the University is carried on chiefly in the high schools, though the great majority of the pupils in these schools have no intention of going to college. But those who are preparing for the university examinations, as well as those who are not, study English, and the most obtuse can understand that it is better for the schools to have the pupils all reading the same work in English than to have them divided up into two or more classes. The Department wisely adapts its programme in English to that of the University, and it does this in the interest of the schools, not of the University. If it is preposterous thus to make the work in English in the high schools uniform then by all means get as much variety as possible introduced into the programme in order to provide employment for the teachers, who are, of course, hard set to keep themselves busy as it is.

—Some vigorous remarks on the necessity of paying more attention to English in England were recently made in a public address by Prof. J. F. Hodgetts, late of Moscow. After describing the Russian Educational system and calling attention to the importance attached to the study of German in Germany and of Russian in Russia he added:—"There are not above a dozen scholars in England who know English as every German student of philology knows German, and every Russian student, all round, knows Russian. Now, considering that our old English is the finest, the most copious, the strongest, and most musical of any language in Europe, while our literature is the richest, the most complete, and most instructive of any literature of either ancient or modern date, I think it time to make a strong appeal to the powers that be, urging the necessity of a study of English in England, as a chief subject for honours." At no distant day it will be a source of amazement that in the Provincial University of Ontario no English work older than Chaucer has ever been prescribed as a subject of study. It is the thing to be familiar with archaic Greek, Latin, German, and French, but few become familiar with the language of Spenser, and fewer still with that of Chaucer, while not a candidate is expected to be able to read the "Vision of Piers Ploughman," to say nothing of still older English and purely Anglo-Saxon writings. Those in this country who cultivate any acquaintance with these old works must do it, not as a matter of college reading, but during the pauses of busy professional life.

S. P. DAVIS, M.A.

As we go to press intelligence reaches us of the sudden death of S. P. Davis, M.A., who has for some time past filled the position of Principal of Pickering College. His loss will be keenly felt by a large and rapidly widening circle of friends, for to become acquainted with Mr. Davis was to admire and love him. After a successful course in Toronto University he graduated with distinction in that institution in 1875. During his attendance at University College he was more than usually popular with his fellow students on account of his geniality and unassuming worth. He selected teaching as his vocation and was well calculated to shine in his profession. Naturally an enthusiast, he threw himself into his work with the whole-souled earnestness that characterized all his undertakings. His connection with Pickering College commenced when he became assistant to J. E. Bryant, M.A., and when the latter accepted the principalship of the Galt collegiate institute Mr. Davis became his successor. Seldom, indeed, is it the lot of the journalist to record a more melancholy case of a life of promise cut short by an untimely death.

Geographical Notes.

CIVIC CORPORATIONS IN ONTARIO.

The following list of cities, towns, and incorporated villages in this Province has been compiled from the census of 1881 by Mr. W. S. Howell, of Thornyhurst. All villages with a population of less than 1000 have been omitted except the two that, in spite of their want of extent, are county towns. It is possible that the census may be misleading at times as to whether a place is technically a town or a village; in the event of any mistakes having been made we shall be glad to publish the necessary corrections:

NO.	CORPORATIONS.	POPULATION.	COUNTY.
<i>I. Cities.</i>			
1.	Toronto	86,415	York
2.	Hamilton	35,961	Wentworth
3.	Ottawa	27,412	Carleton
4.	London	19,746	Middlesex
5.	Kings	14,091	Frontenac
6.	Guelph	9,890	Wellington
7.	St. Catharines	9,631	Lincoln
8.	Brantford	9,616	Brant
9.	Belleville	9,516	Hastings
10.	St. Thomas	8,367	Elgin
<i>II. Towns.</i>			
1.	Stratford	8,239	Perth
2.	Chatham	7,873	Kent
3.	Brockville	7,609	Leeds
4.	Peterborough	6,812	Peterborough
5.	Windsor	6,561	Essex
6.	Port Hope	5,585	Durham
7.	Woodstock	5,373	Oxford
8.	Galt	5,187	Waterloo
9.	Lindsay	5,080	Victoria
10.	Cobourg	4,957	Northumberland
11.	Barrie	4,854	Simcoe
12.	Goderich	4,564	Huron
13.	Cornwall	4,468	Stormont
14.	Collingwood	4,445	Simcoe
15.	Owen Sound	4,426	Grey
16.	Ingersoll	4,318	Oxford
17.	Berlin	4,054	Waterloo
18.	Oshawa	3,992	Ontario
19.	London East	3,890	Middlesex
20.	Sarnia	3,874	Lambton
21.	Strathroy	3,817	Middlesex
22.	Dundas	3,709	Wentworth