

to tell her how sadly their governess was feeling; and that kind-hearted monarch, exclaiming, Oh, poor girl! it is the anniversary of her mother's death, hurried to the school-room, where she found Miss — struggling to regain her composure. 'My poor child,' she said, 'I am sorry the children disturbed you this morning. I meant to have given orders that you should have this day entirely to yourself. Take it as a sad and sacred holiday—I will hear the lessons of the children.' And then she added, 'To show you that I have not forgotten this mournful anniversary, I bring you this gift,' clasping on her arm a beautiful mourning bracelet with a locket for her mother's hair, marked with the date of that mother's death. What wonder that the orphan kissed, with tears, this gift and the more than royal hand that bestowed it! This was Victoria, fifteen years ago, and I don't believe she has morally 'advanced backward' since then."

### 3. QUEEN VICTORIA IN THE COTTAGES OF THE POOR.

Rev. Dr. Guthrie says in the *Sunday Magazine* that some three years ago, when in the neighbourhood of Balmoral, he was asked to visit a widow, who, but a short time previously, had been bereaved of her husband—a plain, humble, but pious man—who had been an elder in the Free Church congregation there. Her home was a cottage within the Queen's grounds. "Within these walls the Queen had stood, with her kind hands smoothing the thorns of a dying man's pillow. There, left alone with him at her own request, she had sat by the bed of death—a Queen ministering to the comfort of a saint—preparing one of her humblest subjects to meet the Sovereign of us all. The scene as our fancy pictured it, seemed like the breaking of the day when old prophecies shall be fulfilled; kings become nursing fathers and queens nursing mothers to the church." The *Aberdeen Free Press* tells how she visited a farmer who had been seriously ill for near six months, and lest her visit should have an exciting effect upon him, sent word the previous day that she wished to go to his bedside, and hoped he would not be annoyed, and how afterwards she sent inquiries of kind interest as to his health. It is said that the cottages near Balmoral are often visited by the gentle Queen and the members of her family, and that she has always taken a generous interest in the welfare of their humble tenants. She sometimes goes from door to door with a large roll of serviceable Scotch "linsey" in her arms, and the fabric grows shorter by a "pattern" as she departs from each lowly dwelling. An American paper says:—Some regret has been expressed by the English people that their Sovereign has remained so much in seclusion since her bereavement, but when we think of the pure influence which emanates from the throne at this time, and then refer to the page of a gayer court, we can but rejoice that England's Queen is, as a Sovereign, no less a noble woman.

### 4. PRINCE ALBERT'S CHILDHOOD.

The *Saturday Review*, in a review of the Queen's Memoirs of Prince Albert, says:—"The history of a happy childhood can only aspire to the merit of agreeable monotony. A good little boy who learns his lessons and writes pretty little letters to his grandmamma is at best a good little boy. It is satisfactory, however, to learn from an infantile journal that Prince Albert, on two successive mornings, had a fight with his brother and inseparable companion, the present Duke of Saxe-Coburg. At a somewhat later period he gave Count Mensdori a blow on the nose which left an indelible mark, and at Bonn he won a prize in a fencing match among eight-and-twenty competitors. At the same university he is said to have been distinguished by a faculty of mimicry and caricature, which found a legitimate field in the peculiarities of the professors and of the Prince's military instructor. In after years the exercise of the most amusing of the lighter gifts would have been undignified and indiscreet, and it was consequently abandoned. His biographer might perhaps have done well to correct by additional details the prevailing impression that Prince Albert never was a boy. An idle world is too intolerant of youthful wisdom and virtue when they are not diversified by any touch of levity. A perfect character ought perhaps to pass, like Prince Albert, from the studious innocence of a simple and cheerful boyhood into the gravest responsibilities of mature life; but human weakness regrets the entire absence of noise, of nonsense, and of the simple enjoyment of animal spirits. The Prince's early career was perhaps less remarkable in Germany than it might have been in England. The real and affected contempt for learning which is more or less traditional among English boys forms part of an instinctive suspicion that the precepts of parents and schoolmasters are doubtful, conventionally and partially insincere. A singular fabric of provisional philosophy and morality is therefore temporarily substituted for more legitimate doctrines, and it serves its purpose better than might be expected. German boys are probably less humorous and more manageable, and Prince

Albert and his brother were fortunate in the care of an excellent tutor who conducted their education from their earliest years they left the University."

## VII. Educational Intelligence.

— TRINITY COLLEGE UNIVERSITY.—The Convocation of the University of Trinity College was held in the hall of the College. In consequence of the serious illness of the Bishop of Toronto, the proceedings were conducted as briefly and quietly as possible, no business being transacted beyond the conferring of degrees and the admission of matriculants, of which we give the particulars. In the absence of the Hon. J. H. Cameron, the President, the chair was occupied by the Provost, the Rev. Mr. Whitaker. B. A.—Poussette, Alfred Passmore; Shaw, Alexander L.; Lee, Charles Russell; Cumberland, Frederick Barlow; Garrett, Tho.; Foster, Charles Coley; Moffat, Louis Henry; Musson, Ephraim Horace; Waters, Henry Harcourt; Kennedy, Angus Ross. M. A.—Williams, Rev. Alex.; Viner, Geo. Barber Peregrine; Grout, Geo. Wm. Geddes. MATRICULANTS, —Cox, Robert Gregory; Harman, Lloyd C. A. M.; Jarvis, Arthur; Osler William; Jones, Louis Kossuth; Armstrong, Thomas.

— EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT, QUEBEC.—Dr. Louis Giard, Superintendent of Education, announces that the education department will be shut in Montreal on the 20th October (now past), and opened in Quebec on the 5th November.—*Witness*.

— SCHOOL OPENING.—An inauguration festival was held in the new school house, in Section No. 16, in the Township of Hamilton, on Friday, the 18th ult. The new building is a commodious and elegant brick structure, which reflects honor on the enterprise and liberality of the Trustees and the entire section. An exhibition of the school took place in the afternoon. The programme consisted of recitations and singing by the scholars, which did credit to themselves and their teacher. The quiet and orderly conduct of the children during this part of the proceedings is well deserving of notice. The entertainment was a free Tea Meeting, provided by the taste and liberality of the ladies of the neighborhood. Mr. James Russell, one of the Trustees, was called to the chair, and deservedly complimented the Teacher, Mr. Thomas France, for the energy and efficiency with which he had conducted the school and superintended the arrangements for the day's proceedings. The Rev. W. H. Withrow, M. A., of Plainville, was then called upon, who very ably addressed the meeting on the beneficial results of popular education. The Rev. C. Pedley, of Cold Springs, gave an able address, urging the cultivation of the moral faculties, as well as the intellectual powers. The Rev. Mr. McKenzie, of Baltimore, gave some most excellent counsel to the parents and children, on their obligation and duties to themselves and their teacher. John Henderson, Esq., followed in a few pleasing and encouraging remarks. Mr. Thomas France expressed his great gratification for the high appreciation of his services, manifested by both parents and children, and for the harmony and consideration which had marked the conduct of the Trustees. The addresses were interspersed with vocal music by a choir selected from the scholars, under the direction of the teacher.—*Com.*

— THE ASSOCIATED TEACHERS OF ELGIN.—At one time the Teachers of Elgin stood prominent among the Teachers of the Province, for their zeal in endeavoring to promote mutual improvement, and to elevate the standard of their profession. We had at one time the most successful Association ever started in the Province. It was large in the number of its members, influential in its character, and instructive in its proceedings. Each session one or two lectures on important subjects were delivered; methods of teaching were illustrated; experiments were tested; and subjects of divided opinion were discussed. There was moreover a capital library attached to the Institute. It numbered several hundred volumes; and in addition to this, a number of illustrative diagrams and a quantity of apparatus. These were used in illustrating lectures on the sciences, or in proving the superiority of new methods of teaching certain branches of Common School instruction. The organization broke up, and the property has remained unused for some years. We are glad to observe that an attempt to revive the laudable effort has lately been made in East Elgin. The Teachers of that Riding have organized themselves into an Association, and have held several successful meetings. The last of these was held in the School House, in the Village of Aylmer, on Saturday last. A. F. Butler, Esq., Local Superintendent of the Riding, occupied the chair; and Mr. Calvert acted as Secretary. After an excellent and eloquent introductory address by the Chairman, and the transaction of preliminary busi-