

the common schools of Nova Scotia, according to the Provincial course of study, and not a teacher from Grade D to Grade A need have a knowledge of it to take his diploma.

#### MINERALOGY.

Some perfect garnet crystals from schistose rock on the Stikine River, Alaska, have been received for the museum of the Pictou Academy. The largest is over an inch in diameter, and weighs over an ounce.

In the Mineralogical Magazine W. H. Hudleston advances the theory that diamonds are formed in eruptive rock, and that super-heated steam was the eruptive agent. The carbon is supposed to have been derived from certain carbonaceous shales, which were distilled under great pressure, when the carbon would have "no choice but to assume the crystalline form." He points to the soft earthy breccia made up of fragments of many kinds of rocks in South Africa in which the diamonds have been found in support of his theory.

Mr. W. Cross thinks the topaz may be a sublimation product, especially in certain igneous rocks from Colorado.

A new locality for emeralds has been found in North Carolina. The crystals are pale green, and occur in decomposed black mica associated with quartz, rutile and hiddenite.

During 1883 *sixty millions* of pounds of copper were extracted from the Lake Superior mines.

#### ORNITHOLOGY.

The Ornithological Club of the Pictou Academy has taken and mounted since its organization in March last over fifty Nova Scotian birds for the Natural History Museum.

The Academy is Station No. 420 of the American Ornithological Union.

#### ENTOMOLOGY.

The butterflies of Amherst, U.S.A., are being described in a popular style in the Bulletin of Massachusetts Natural History, Vol. I., No. 1, issued April 15th, 1884.

#### ZOOLOGY.

Bonnet beheaded an earth worm eight times, and regeneration followed each time. A worm was cut into fourteen pieces. One piece died, the others reproduced both head and tail.—*Dr. C. Bulon.*

#### POPULAR SCIENCE.

"The popularization of science is now a leading theme of scientific men," says Mr. Lester F. Ward, of Washington, D.C. "To accomplish this certain branches of science must first become a part of liberal culture. The pursuit of fashion, which is usually regarded as a production solely of evil, may be made an agency of good. If it could become as much of a disgrace to be found ignorant of the flora or fauna of one's native place as it now is to be found ignorant of the rules of etiquette or the contents of the latest new novel, devotees of botany and other branches of natural history would instantly become legion, and the woods and fields would be incessantly scoured for specimens and objects of scientific interest. It should be the acknowledged work of educators to make science fashionable and call to their aid these powerful social sentiments in demanding the recognition of its legitimate claims."

#### No life

Can be pure in its purpose and  
strong in its strife,  
And all life not be purer  
and stronger thereby.

—*Owen Meredith.*