

santed to the circumstances and conditions of the country, is a crying necessity for Ireland, and we sincerely trust that a remedy for the present unhealthy state of things shall be found, and applied, at the earliest opportunity.

Samuel T. Hopper, B.A., has accepted the head mastership of Brighton High School. It affords us pleasure to note the progress of a promising career and therefore we give a brief record of Mr. Hopper's advancement. He graduated from Victoria University, May 1883, winning the Prince of Wales, gold medal for general proficiency and a silver medal in classics. He taught as assistant in Newburg High School for one and a half years and in Chatham High School for nearly a term as classical master. We wish him abundant success in his new sphere.

A correspondent of the Halifax *Herald* says of the popular Superintendent of Education, P. E. I.:—"Mr. Montgomery is a very pleasing speaker; he talks plainly and to the point. No stranger that ever addressed the Association made a better impression. He is a tall, slim man of 38 years of age, with sandy hair and mustache, and has been six years in his present honorable position. Before that he was Principal of the Normal School for three years and received his university training at McGill College. His accent betrays his Scotch descent." We agree with this graphic description of Mr. Montgomery in every particular except the part relating to his stature. Unless he grew "tall and slim" since we saw him last June, the *Herald* correspondent is astray. The newspaper man's ears were evidently good but we would advise him to get a better pair of spectacles.

The attendance in the Brighton High School has largely increased.

In England and Wales there was last year accommodation for 4,826,000 scholars, an increase of 150,000 or 3.3 per cent. for the year. In Scotland there was accommodation for 656,000, an increase of 3.5 per cent. The scholars on registers had increased in England and Wales 1.5 per cent., and in Scotland 3.3 per cent.

The annual meeting of the London branch will be held to-morrow night. The following is the prescribed course for 1885-6, and forty minutes each day from October 1 to July 1 will enable members to accomplish it:—History and Literature—Baines' History of Rome, Chautauqua Text Book of Roman History, Preparatory Latin Course in English, A Picture of Roman Life. Readings in Chautauquan—"Wars and Rumors of Wars To-day," "Relations of Rome to Modern History," "Modern Italy," "Italian Biography," "The Age we Live in." Philosophy, Science and Art—Political Economy, Studies in Human Nature. Readings in Chautauquan—"Electricity, past, present and future." Philosophy made simple—"Moral Philosophy," "Mathematics," "Art." General and Religious—Pomegranates from an English Garden, Select Poems from Robt. Browning, The Bible in the Nineteenth Century. Readings in the Chautauquan—"Religion in Art," "God in History," "How to Live." Sunday Readings—"Parliamentary Practice," International Law.—*London Free Press.*

The first Annual Announcement of Petrolia High School is to hand and it is pleasing to mark the rapid growth and healthy condition of the school. Although its age is only one year its record entitles it to rank among the best schools of the Province. Thirteen candidates were sent up to the local examination of Toronto University and eleven passed, and at the recent non-professional examination for Teachers' Certificates, seven succeeded in obtaining second-class, grade A; three, second-class, grade B; and nine, third-class. The staff of teachers is made up of S. Phillips, B.A., Principal, who takes Mathematics, Physics and Modern Languages, D. M. Grant, B.A., History, Geography, Classics and Chemistry, and Mr. J. Brebner, English Master. We congratulate the teachers on their successful work.

Literary Chat.

The October number of the *North American Review* contains twenty-three Articles by as many different contributors—among whom are an English Cardinal, an American Admiral, two American Major-Generals, two American ex-Ministers to European Courts, an American Artist, an N. Y. Assemblyman, an ex-United States Senator, the Mayor of New York, an ex-Governor of New York, two distinguished American Men of Letters, and a famous American Financier—Manning, Ammen, Ben. Butler, Fitz-John Porter, Elhu B. Washburne, Wm. Waldorf Astor (his first appear-

ance in literature), J. B. Eustis, of Louisiana, Wm R. Grace, of York, Theodore Roosevelt, Horatio Seymour, E. P. Whipple, Charles T. Congdon, Dorman B. Eaton, and some others less known. There is also a very characteristic private letter from Gen. Grant to his father, written from Milliken's Bend, just two days before he started in the Vicksburgh Campaign. It is contributed by Col. Fred. Grant.

It is said that Messrs. Harpor & Brothers have secured the exclusive services of W. D. Howells, at a salary of \$10,000 a year, the engagement to come in force as soon as his next story, about to be commenced in "The Century Magazine," is concluded.

At a breakfast given in New York by a distinguished judge to Mr. Irving, the host asked Matthew Arnold, who was present, why he did not take the title of Doctor, which he had seen conferred on him at Oxford. "There can never be but one Dr. Arnold," was the answer.

An English publisher is about to issue a second edition of that curious and scarce book, Jesse's Biography of Beau Brummell. It will contain a good deal of matter not to be found in the earlier editions, many additional notes, and upwards of forty illustrations.

Professor Suley is writing a brief life of Napoleon the First.

It is announced that Mr. John Morley is about to retire from the Editorship of "Macmillan's Magazine."

Little, Brown & Co. (Boston), will shortly publish a popular edition, in two volumes of Parkman's "Montcalm and Wolfe." The same firm has brought out a new and cheaper edition of Grote's History of Greece.

The "Bigelow Papers" of Mr. Lowell are shortly to be issued in two volumes in the Riverside Aldine Series.

The Venerable Whittier sent the following letter of congratulation to Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes on the seventy-sixth birthday of the latter:—

"My Dear Holmes: Amidst the thanks and congratulations of thy birthday, I hope the kindly remembrance of thy old friend will not be unwelcome. My father used to tell of a poor innocent in his neighborhood, who, whenever he met him, would fall to laughing, crying and dancing. 'I can't help it, Sir, I can't help it. I am so glad you and I am alive!' And I, like the poor fellow, can't help telling thee that I am glad that thee and I am alive—glad thy hand has lost nothing of its cunning, and thy pen is still busy. And I say, in the words of Solomon of old, 'Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth, and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth;' but don't exult over thy seniors who have not found the elixir of life and are growing old, and 'past their usefulness.' I have just got back from the hill and am tired, and a pile of unanswered letters are before me this morning, so I can only say, God bless thee!"

Miscellaneous.

FINISHED.

She has graduated from her fashionable boarding school and come home. She has "finished her education," and next fall she will "come out." The chrysalis state is ended, and the butterfly state begins. She has been a nun for four years; and she thinks that quite long enough. Her father has paid four or five thousand dollars for her education. When he takes an account of stock, he shakes his head doubtfully, if he dares, he would question audibly whether the investment has paid. But he is under altogether too good discipline to raise any question. Besides, if the truth must be confessed, he knows more about the value of pork than of Latin, French, mathematics, and music. But he sometimes looks at the finished young lady, and remembers the artless and simple-hearted little girl of eight years ago, and in his heart of hearts he wishes that she had been left unfinished. He has the uncultivated taste to prefer the pine in its native wildness, as he remembers it in the pasture of his boyhood, to the pines in his Italian garden, trimmed and fashioned in all fantastic and unnatural shapes.

But though he sometimes has misgivings, she never has. She has gone through the appointed probation; has completed the ro-