

that if the Trustees had investigated the complaint, the interference of Mr. Peters would have been unnecessary, and consequently unjustifiable and worthy of censure. Mr. Simpson states that this interference of the magistrate was necessary, because the Teacher had treated the Board with contempt, in failing to appear before them, and Mr. Peters shelters himself under the same excuse. Miss Mathieson's statement is specific on every point, and in perusing it I was prepared to give it as much credit as if it had been on oath. I think from it that it could be established by formal legal proof that the Trustees knew the true reason for Miss Mathieson not having personally appeared at their meeting, and that it was occasioned by physical inability arising from a weak state of health, and not from any intention to disregard the proceeding of the Board. They must have known that Miss Mathieson had left a written statement of the facts, and should have read it; and they must also have been aware of the doctor's certificate, and of the true cause of her non-attendance.

The new Board was left to deal with the matter, and if it is not true, that they dropped it "as being too trivial," it was their duty to have given Miss Mathieson an opportunity of being heard, before being pronounced contumacious, and the authority of a Justice of the Peace invoked. I regret that in the exercise of an official duty, my views should reflect on others who are also assuming to discharge official duties; but I think I am bound to declare as explicitly as possible, in the interest of Education, that the discipline in the school, which the Teacher can alone exercise beneficially, should not be impaired by the interference of School Trustees or Justices of the Peace, except in a grave case of undue severity or cruelty.

(Signed) ADAM CROOKS,
Minister of Education.

Education Department,
28th April, 1877.

(10) PENNSYLVANIA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

We have received the following circular relating to the next meeting of the State of Pennsylvania Teachers' Association in August next.

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our Inspectors and Teachers to the matter, and trust that many of them will be able to arrange so as to be able to attend the meeting of the Association. The Teachers of Ontario are under many obligations to the Hon. Mr. Wickersham and other public men in the State, for the attention paid to them and other friends of Education from Canada, during their visit to the Centennial Exhibition, under Dr. May's superintendence last year:—

"The Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania State Teachers' Association, unanimously resolved to extend through you, a cordial invitation to their professional brethren, the Teachers and School officers of the Province of Ontario, to meet them in convention assembled, at Erie, Pa., August 7th, 8th and 9th, 1877.

"The members of the Pennsylvania State Teachers' Association will esteem it a rare privilege to have their proceedings enlivened and rendered more profitable by an expression of the views of the enlightened teachers of the Province of Ontario, and trusting that the advantages of more intimate acquaintance may be mutual, and knowing something of the zeal in the cause of education, that animates the educators of the Province of Ontario, from the Honourable Minister down to the elementary school teacher, they have extended the above invitation, in the hope that it will be accepted, and that the next Meeting of the Association will thus become a conference long to be remembered. I am with profound respect, your humble servant,

"R. H. BUEHRTE,
Chairman Executive Committee.

"I cordially unite in the above invitation.

"J. P. WICKERSHAM,
State Superintendent, Public Instruction."

II. Education in Various Countries.

(11) EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.

Summary of the Month.

The New Educational Code for 1877 has been issued by the Education Department. No grant will in future be paid to any elementary school except on a report from an inspector, unless the inspector is prevented by some cause from visiting the school. Inspectors may have assistants to examine schools. Grants will be issued to elementary schools once in the year, and the income of

the school is to be applied only for the purposes of public elementary schools. Schools not open for a whole year, or which have been closed by reason of epidemics, will have proportionate reduction of the number of attendances required. A "child's school book" will have to be deposited with the teacher in proof of age by every child admitted after the first January, 1878. A special grant may be made on a favourable report of the inspector, if the population of the school district is less than 300, and no other recognised schools available. The amount which may be claimed by the managers (Articles 19 to 22) is reduced if it exceeds 17s. 6d. per scholar in average attendance during the year (Article 13) by its excess above the income of the school from all sources whatever other than the grant, provided that this reduction is not to bring the grant below 17s. 6d. per scholar. After the 31st of March, 1878, not more than three pupil teachers will be allowed in any school in respect of each certificated teacher serving in it. The age of admission will be 14, and the engagement will be for four years. When the average attendance exceeds 220, a second adult certificated or assistant teacher will be required. Two stipendiary monitors will be allowed, either in place of a fourth pupil teacher, or to fill, for not more than two years, a vacancy in the staff of pupil teachers in any school. Stipendiary monitors will not be less than twelve years of age; will pass on admission the examination in reading, writing, and arithmetic for Standard 4; and that for Standard 5 at the end of the first year. They will be paid a fixed stipend by the managers, and will assist for not more than three hours each day in the school, receiving during the rest of the school hours special instruction either by themselves or in one of the higher classes of the school. This arrangement, if the managers wish it, may be adopted in any school where the year ends before the above-mentioned time.

The National Education League, which has been in active operation for nearly eight years, is about to be dissolved. The object of the League, which was founded in 1869, was "the establishment of a system which shall secure the education of every child in the country." This, as is well known, was proposed to be accomplished by means of universal School Boards, compulsory attendance, secular instruction, and free education in all schools supported or aided by local rates. These points have so far not commended themselves, at least in their entirety, to the friends of National Education, and, in face of the prejudices against some of the advanced views of the League, although perhaps in some cases exaggerated or even unfounded, it is, we think a wise decision on the part of the Executive to dissolve an organization which was every year arraying a stronger opposition against it. A meeting of the Executive Committee took place on the 11th January, in which it was resolved to call a meeting of the Subscribers, to be held at the office of the league in Birmingham, on the 28th March, to receive a resolution of the Executive for the dissolution of the Society, a circular being in the meantime sent round to the members explaining the reasons which have led to the step.

Apropos of the Universities Bill now before Parliament, a correspondent of *Nature* has abridged from the Oxford University Calendar of this year the following useful summary of facts with regard to teachers and students in that University. There are about 2,400 undergraduates, or persons *in statu pupillari*, on the College and University books; 400 of these graduate in each year, the average time spent in the University being over 4 years. Of these, 75 per cent. read for honours in the various Schools or Faculties, whence it appears that there are about (probably less than) 1,800 students in Oxford reading for honours. Of these 1,800, it appears that 33 per cent. read for the school of Literæ Humaniores (philosophy, classical history, and philology), 20 per cent. for the school of modern history, 17 per cent. for the school of theology, 15 per cent. for the school of law, 7 per cent. for the school of mathematics, and only 6.5 for the school of physical science. Of the 2,400 graduates 24 per cent. hold college scholarships or exhibitions varying in value from £30 to a £100 a year, exclusive of scholarships or exhibitions granted by external bodies. There are at this moment 360 fellows of colleges exclusive of heads and professors, of whom 140 (out of a total of 160 college lecturers and tutors) are resident and engaged in teaching. The average endowment of a fellowship is £250. There are 37 University professors, of whom nine give no definite courses and have no pupils. They are distributed on subjects thus: theology, 5; medicine, 2; law, 4, and a reader; Lit. Human. 7; and a reader: mathematics, 3; physical science, 7, and 4 readers; modern history, 3, and a reader; fine art and modern languages, 7. Taking the total number of teachers, both collegiate and professional, and the total number of honour students, according to the subjects which they respectively teach and pursue (which subjects may be ascertained from the calendar), we find that in Literæ Humaniores the proportion of collegiate and professional teachers to students is 1 : 5.5; in mathematics, 1 : 6; in physical science,