

1. That localities where Sabbath Schools not long since did not exist, are now blessed and adorned with their advantages.

2. That to keep in successful operation, they must not only treat the young with the zest of social meetings, but they must *persevere* in the good work, leaning by faith and prayer upon that arm that sustains the universe.

3. That a great object in view is to add to the libraries, as the existence

of the school depends greatly upon them.

4. That ladies can be eminently useful, even if it be necessary in the superintendency. We would that more of the fair would go and do like those in the previous notice, where men, "the lords of the creation," will not take hold of the mighty work.

Yours as ever,

THOMAS DEMOREST.

*Brampton, Oct. 25th, 1850.*

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## NATURAL HISTORY.

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### DOGS.

The Australian dog never barks, indeed, it is remarked by Mr. Gardiner, in a work entitled "The Music of Nature," that "Dogs in a state of nature never bark; they simply whine, howl, and growl; this explosive noise is only found among those which are domesticated." Somnini speaks of the shepherds' dogs in the wilds of Egypt as not having this faculty, and Columbus found the dogs which he had previously carried to America to have lost their propensity to barking. The barking of a dog is an acquired faculty—an effort to speak—which he derives from his associating with man.

### A REPTILE ROOM BY NIGHT

The following account of a visit by night to the Room in the Zoological Gardens, Regents Park, is taken, with some abridgement, from Bentley's Miscellany:

About ten o'clock one evening during the last spring, in company with two naturalists of eminence, we entered that apartment. A

small lantern was our only light, and the faint illumination of this imparted a ghastly character to the scene before us. The clear plate-glass which faces the cages was invisible, and it was difficult to believe that the monsters were in confinement and the spectators secure. Those who have only seen the boas, and pythons, the rattlesnakes and cobras, lazily hanging in festoons from the forks of the trees in the dens, or sluggishly coiled up, can form no conception of the appearance and actions of the same creatures at night. The huge boas and pythons were chasing each other in every direction, whisking about the dens with the rapidity of lightning, sometimes clinging in huge coils round the branches, anon entwining each other in massive folds, then separating they would rush over and under the branches hissing, and lashing their tails in hideous sport. Ever and anon thirsty with their exertions, they would approach the pans of water and drink, eagerly lapping it with their forked tongues. As our eyes became accustomed to