

# JOURNAL OF

Upper



# EDUCATION,

Canada.

VOL. XVII.

TORONTO: NOVEMBER, 1864.

No. 11.

## CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER:

|   | PAGE |
|---|------|
| I. THE GREAT SCHOOLS OF ENGLAND.....  | 162  |
| II. PAPERS ON PRACTICAL EDUCATION—(1) Questions on School Management for Males in the English Normal School. (2) Some of the answers to the foregoing Examination Papers, with Remarks. (3) Questions on School Management in an English Normal School. (4) Training Female Teachers in Domestic Duties. Teaching the Letters. (5) Ineffaceable Teaching. (7) Lessening the Teachers' Salaries..... | 163  |
| III. CORRESPONDENCE OF THE JOURNAL—Supply and demand of Teachers.....   | 167  |
| IV. PAPERS ON NATURAL HISTORY—(1) Why Bees work in the Dark. (2) A Ten Mile Army of Ants, and their Exploits. (3) The Pines of Canada. (4) Trees Characterized. (5) The Glory of the Pines.....   | 168  |
| V. PAPERS ON SCIENTIFIC SUBJECTS—(1) Canada before the British Association. (2) The Sky an Indicator of the Weather. (3) The Progress of Steam Navigation.....  | 169  |
| VI. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES—No. 42. Walter Savage Landon. No. 43. Captain Speke. No. 44. Ira Schofield, Esq. No. 45. The Rev. Dr. Cahill. No. 46. Vice-Chancellor Esten. No. 47. Park Benjamin, Esq.....  | 170  |
| VII. MISCELLANEOUS—(1) War and the Household. (2) The Last Hours of Prince Albert. (3) The Prince and Princess of Wales. (4) A Bishop's Receipt for making Acceptable Preachers. (5) Little Robert, the Trapper; or, the safety of Trusting in God. (6) Led, not Driven. (7) Duties of Parents. (8) A Chapter of First Things. (9) Children in Japan.....   | 171  |
| VIII. EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.....   | 174  |
| IX. DEPARTMENTAL NOTICES.....   | 178  |

## THE GREAT SCHOOLS OF ENGLAND.\*

ETON School is a school attached to a collegiate foundation, the legal title of which is "The College of the Blessed Mary of Eton, near Windsor." As originally constituted in 1441, the college was designed to consist of a provost, 70 scholars, 10 fellows, 10 chaplains, 10 clerks, 16 choristers, one head master, one lower master or usher, and 13 bedesmen. In the reign of Edward IV., when it was deprived of some of its estates, the number of fellows was reduced to seven. The college now consists of a provost, seven fellows, 70 scholars, a head and a lower master, three conducts or hired chaplains, 10 lay clerks, and 12 choristers, besides 10 servants—the place of the bedesmen being occupied by 10 almswomen.

Although strictly subordinate to the college, the school has so greatly outgrown the original foundation that it must now be regarded as a distinct institution. The distinction is, however, only roughly practicable, the two branches of the foundation being necessarily entwined with each other. Of the masters of the school two only (the head and lower master), and of the scholars seventy only (called "Collegers" or "King's Scholars,") are members of the college—the other scholars, constituting the great bulk of the school, living out of the college, and hence called "Oppidans" or "Town Boys." Some of the officials of the college are, and some are not, connected with the school;

\* Abridged from the Report of the Royal Commissioners on Public Schools. Availing ourselves of the valuable information presented in this elaborate Report, we propose in the present and succeeding numbers to give some account of the foundation, progress, and course of study of each of the schools embraced in the inquiries of the Commission.—Ed. *English Educational Times*.

and the site, finances, and government of the one are inseparably mixed up with the other.

The school contains at present altogether from eight to nine hundred boys. The numbers in the list published at election 1861 were as follows: Upper school, 730; Lower school, 99—total, 829. Deducting the seventy King's Scholars, the number of "Oppidans," or boys not on the foundation, was thus 749.

In 1862, there were 840 boys, and therefore 770 Oppidans.

We have no account of the rise of the school. That the founder of Eton, like the founders of Winchester and Westminster, desired and intended that the benefits of his grammar school should not be confined to a single class, is sufficiently clear from the statutes. The statutes of Eton College contemplate distinctly three classes of scholars:—

1. Foundation boys (King's Scholars), lodged, fed, and in part at least clothed, by the founder's bounty.
2. Boys lodged and fed by the college with the foundationers, but at a charge sufficient to cover the expenses of their maintenance.
3. Boys resorting to the school for instruction, but not boarded within the college (Oppidans).

The boys in the second class, styled in the second class "Commensales," sons of noblemen and gentlemen, answering exactly to the Pensionarii at Westminster, and to the Commoners and Pensioners at the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge, did formerly exist at Eton, there is no doubt. The first Cavendish Earl of Devonshire, then a boy of nine, with his elder brother and a servant, was admitted on these terms in the year 1550. Between 1564 and 1648 the old audit books of the college contain the names of the "Commensales" who dined in hall during that period, varying in number from 37 downwards. They have entirely disappeared since the Restoration.

The original number of "Kings Scholars" does not appear to have been at any time increased, and the Oppidans have thus for centuries constituted the great bulk of the school.

The division of the school into Upper and Lower does not appear to have been created by the Statutes, but to have arisen from the necessity of providing some preparatory instruction for the younger pupils who were unqualified to enter upon the regular studies of the school. The lower master—the *ostiarium* or usher of the original foundation—is now the head master of the Lower School, subject to the control of the Provost. The subjects taught are elementary classics, history, geography, arithmetic, writing, and dictation. Hardly any age is considered too