

as to the scholars. Sancho Panza invoked a blessing on "the man who invented sleep;" with equal reasons might we of the teaching profession bless the inventors of the summer holidays. We purpose to say a few words as to holiday study, premising that we do not mean by "study" a prolongation into the vacation recess of those exercises which form the staple of the school-room work. The brain and nervous system should have the benefit of entire rest from the work-day pursuits. Our first study during the holiday season should be to take rest. This does not come as a matter of course, and there are many ways of spending the holidays which are anything but "rest." To hurry from one excitement to another, to spend in dissipation the leisure purchased by hard work, is but to substitute one form of nervous excitement for another. The most of the summer holidays should be spent in close communion with nature. We should assimilate and make our own some one aspect of the beautiful land we live in, of whose scenery quietude is a distinguishing feature—the stillness of her woods, the calm of her lakes, the tranquil progress, "without haste, without rest," of her rivers. But as Dr. Johnson has recorded of Mr. Carr, the originator of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, that he never even looked out of the window without thinking of serving the interests of his magazine, so the true teacher, even in pleasure seeking, will not be unmindful of that which is the real business of his life. A most useful form of holiday study would be the mastering of at least one subject parallel to, but not identical with, those in the school-room course; such as a given period of French or German history, or the practical study of a science such as botany, but capable in a high degree of being utilized as a means of interesting scholars, and interpreting to them in some measure the meaning of this little corner of God's universe in which their lot is cast. In fact there is no subject of intellectual study which will not enable the really earnest teacher to return to the school-room with fresher illustrations, a newer stock of anecdotes, keener and more varied power of interesting and developing the growing intelligence with which he has to deal.

THE REVISED NEW TESTAMENT.

The German poet, Heinrich Heine, well said "when God willed to give the German people the German Bible, He did not leave the work of translation to an ordinary mortal, but created a Martin Luther for the purpose." We believe this to be no mere poetical fancy, though Heine, who wrote it, was a Jew by birth and a sceptic by profession; for all the great translations of the Bible were the work of men of vast intellectual force, and exercised a powerful influence on the thoughts of the age in which they appeared, from the earliest we now possess, the Latin Vulgate by Jerome, in the fifth century, to our present authorized version in the reign of James I. A new version, or rather a revision of the present one, had become necessary; the great advance of scholarship had altered our conception of the meaning of many words and passages, while the inevitable growth of the language made certain changes desirable in order that the sacred text should be intelligible. The result is now

before the world. The first thought that strikes one is the small amount of change, and the fidelity with which, when change was unavoidable, the manner and rhythm of the old version has been retained. It is not possible to pronounce authoritatively as to the acceptance which the new version will ultimately meet—on the whole the impression seems in its favor, and there is no doubt that an important contribution has been given to what will be, for all the English-speaking race, the Bible of the future.

THE LAST APPOINTED INSPECTOR.

The progress of education in Ontario has not been unlike the progress of Milton's planets,

Now high, now low, then hid;
Progressive, retrograde, or standing still.

The period just preceding the appointment of County Inspectors must be classed under the "standing still," if not under the "retrograde." But with the appointment of these officers a new order of things was inaugurated. A rapid advance began along the whole educational line. New school-houses were built, old ones repaired and enlarged, play-grounds beautified, and the well-qualified teacher took the place of the incompetent. Where so many appointments had to be made, strange indeed would it be had all turned out well; but, on the whole, the Inspectors are well-educated, earnest, enthusiastic men, practically trained in the school-room to know the defects of our schools and the best method of remedying these defects. The last addition to the ranks of the Inspectors shows that County Councils are not proving unfaithful to the high trust bestowed on them.

At their late meeting the County Council of Simcoe appointed the Rev. Thomas McKee to the Inspectorship of South Simcoe. It is not often that a County Council has the choice of four or five thoroughly qualified candidates, and it is no small compliment to Mr. McKee that the choice fell on him. We are sure that he will more than justify the confidence placed in him. Mr. McKee brings to the discharge of his new office high character, broad scholarship, long experience, and eminent success in all the positions which he has filled. He is a graduate of the Provincial Normal School, holding the highest grade of certificate. Subsequently he matriculated in the University of Toronto, and as a student of University College his name stands in the honor roll in several departments of study. While prosecuting his literary studies he became a student of Knox College, and in due time became licensed to preach the Gospel. Mr. McKee has been Principal of the public schools in the town of Cawawa, and in the cities of Ottawa and Kingston. While in the latter city he attended lectures in the Medical School with a view of better fitting himself as a teacher of the natural sciences. We cordially congratulate the trustees and teachers, the parents and pupils of South Simcoe on the appointment, feeling assured that the schools of that county will ere long be distinguished for good scholarship and good government.