

"He's out o' bates, and clean discouraged."

"And where ye going?"

"Down to Abner Smith's to borry \$700,000 to send to Cyrus to get a cheap pair of shoes, and we're going to write him a long, long letter, and send him a box o' pills, and tell him to hang on to the last; for if Cyrus gets low-spirited and begins to let go, the infernal Yanks will be riding over us afore we kin back a mule outter the barn."

"That's so—that's so!" nodded the other. "I kin let you have the money myself, as well as not. I was saving up to buy three plugs o' tobacker and a box of matches all to once, but the army musn't go barefute when it only takes \$700,000 to \$800,000 to buy a purty good pair o' shoes."

AN EDUCATED MAN.

According to Ruskin, an educated man ought to know these things: First, where he is—that is to say, what sort of a world has he got into, how large it is, what sort of creatures live in it, and how, what it is made of, and what may be made of it. Secondly, where is he going—that is to say, what chances or reports are there of any other world beside this, what seems to be the nature of that other world. Thirdly, what he had best to do in the circumstances—that is to say, what kind of faculties he possesses, what are the present state and wants of mankind, what is his place in society, and what are the readiest means in his power of attaining happiness and diffusing it. The man who knows these things, and who has his will so subdued in the learning of them that he is willing to do what he knows he ought, is an educated man; and the man who knows them not is uneducated, though he could talk many tongues.

THE PROPHET'S INGENUITY.

The Mahdi has, it is said, an ingenious method of "raising the wind." It reminds one of the American Indian's fashion of making a present and then demanding something of greater value in return. It seems that from time to time the Prophet receives a divine command to give up everything he possesses into the public treasury or the "Bait el Mal"—charity-box. All offers to aid him are sternly rejected. "The command is for me, not you." Pretty soon similar commands arrive for the most wealthy of his followers. "They have seen the Prophet himself complying with these directions of the 'Presence,' and how dare any one else disobey? Accordingly, making a virtue of necessity, goods and slaves all find their way to the charity-box, otherwise the Prophet's chest."—*Christian Union*.

Teachers' Associations.

VICTORIA.—A union Convention of the teachers of the two inspectorates of this county was held in the high school, Lindsay, March, 2nd and 3rd, and was largely attended. Mr. W. F. O'Boyle, President, opened the proceedings with an address which was followed by a well-written paper by Mr. J. H. Knight, I.P.S., on Reading and Spelling. The discussion which followed plainly showed that teachers are not unanimous in their mode of teaching these subjects. Mr. J. C. Pomeroy's paper on Literature, exemplifying his method of teaching it, was very practical and satisfactory. Dr. McLellan, Director of Institutes, illustrated his plan of imparting first ideas of numbers, and was listened to with rapt attention. "A Trip to Germany," was the subject of a graphic paper read by Miss Holtorf. In the evening a very large audience assembled in the Opera House to hear Dr. McLellan's lecture on "Education in Ontario." Wm. Grace Esq. chairman of the Board of Education, presided. The eloquent lecturer contrasted the state of education in the country, when he was a boy, with its present advanced condition and also compared our system with that of the United States. He maintained that in many respects ours is superior, especially as regards public school work and professional training of teachers. On the motion of Col. Deacon, a hearty vote of thanks was given to Dr. McLellan.

After routine business the second day, Dr. McLellan gave some very practical hints on "The Art of Questioning," after which Inspector H. Peazin, read a short paper giving the history entrance examinations.

"Grammatical Analysis" formed the subject of another "talk" by Dr. McLellan, which was followed by a brief address by W. O'Connor, M.A., on the importance of Experimental Physics as a branch of study. He thought the Education Department had acted wisely in making it an obligatory subject of study. Resolutions were passed approving of the appointment of directors of institutes, and of the suggestion to plan out a course of literary and scientific reading for teachers. It was decided to hold another convention in the Fall, same to be in union with the West Victoria Association if a director of institutes would attend, and if not it is to be held in Lindsay. The following officers were elected for 1885: Wm. O'Connor, M.A., president; S. Armour, 1st vice; Miss Peplow, 2nd vice; Jno. Head, Lindsay high school, secretary treasurer; W. J. Hallett, librarian; committee, Messrs. J. H. Knight, O'Boyle, O'Brien, Sheppard, Miss Holtorf and Miss Rowe.

Literary Review.

Webster's Practical Dictionary. A Practical Dictionary of the English Language, giving the spelling, Pronunciation and Definition of words, with an Appendix containing various useful Tables, chiefly derived from Webster's unabridged Dictionary, edited under the supervision of Noah Porter, LL.D., President of Yale College, by Dorsey Gardner, with nearly Fifteen Hundred Illustrations.

This compact and comprehensive work of 634 pages, will prove very valuable for general use. The great condensation of the work is due mainly to several novel expedients. One is the system of referring words, formed upon a common prefix, to the first of those words which occurs alphabetically: the prefix being then explained once for all. Another is the consolidation into one paragraph of words derived from the same root, provided they have the same initial letter. By the use of these and other space-saving methods, the editor has been able to condense a vast amount of useful information into a small volume. The numerous illustrations add materially to the value of the work. S. S. Wood, 134 1/2 W. 33rd St., New York, Sole Agent.

The Sixth and Seventh Books of Herodotus; with a life of Herodotus, an epitome of his history, a Summary of the Dialect, and explanatory Notes, by Augustus C. Merriam, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor of Greek in Columbia College, New York. This volume is another of Harper's Classical Series for schools and colleges. Like others of the series the typography of the text is beautifully clear. The notes seem sufficiently copious for the ordinary student. The epitome of the contents of the whole history and the summary of the Herodotean dialect are two features which add materially to the value of the work for school purposes. Harper & Brothers, Franklin Square, New York.

HARPER & BROTHERS have also just published *THE WORKS OF VIRGIL*, with explanatory notes, by Edward Searing. 719 pages, 8vo. cloth, illustrated. Price by mail, post-paid, \$2.00. This work is a revision and enlargement of Searing's *Aeneid*, and contains The first six books of *Aeneid*, with map of the Roman Empire, and Life of Virgil, the *Eclogues* and the *Georgics*, with Virgilian Vocabulary, a metrical index, a fac-simile of a page of an original MS., etc.

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, by the Superintendent of Education, a large pamphlet of 236 pages, is to hand. It covers the school year 1883-84. We shall be glad to make use of some of the interesting facts it embodies in our Educational Notes and News from time to time.

ELECTRA, a Magazine of Pure Literature, edited by Annie E. Wilson, and Isabella M. Leyburn, comes to our table from the *Courier Journal* Building, Louisville, Kentucky. The typography of the Magazine is excellent, and its make-up generally attractive. The current number contains some fourteen articles and stories, by writers of both sexes, some of them well known in the literary world, besides an extensive editorial department. We are glad to place *Electra* on our list of exchanges.

We have on our table the February, and March numbers of the *V. P. Journal*, a Monthly Magazine of some fifty pages, published by the Science Association of Victoria University, and devoted to Science, Literature, Education, and the popular treatment of social, intellectual and moral topics. The March number contains amongst other interesting articles two on the living question of College Confederation, one of them giving the *pros* and *cons*, so far as Victoria is concerned fairly and ably, the other setting forth the *cons* in a forcible style. The *V. P. Journal* is a credit to Victoria, and especially to its Science Association.