

master of it. William O. Buell certainly did not, but Adiel S. Buell, nephew of the Sheriff, after whom he was called, and son of the late William Buell, of Rochester, did attend for a short time.

Billa Flint, Henry Easton, George Provost and Isaac Read, were never, I think, pupils of *Master Elms*, Louis Charland, nephew of David and Sir Daniel Jones was the most promising boy in the school, and he was never flogged to my recollection. He died young, about the year 1832, I should say, of consumption. If he had lived he would have taken a prominent part in the affairs of this country. Even in 1830, when quite young, he was very active in supporting the late James Grey, as a candidate for Brockville, against the late Henry Jones, Esq., who was the first member elected to serve in the Provincial Parliament for the Town of Brockville. It was said his health was undermined by his close attention to the business of the Registry office; his uncle, the late Sir Daniel Jones, having made him Deputy Registrar. John Ross, you knew, he was the Hon. John Ross, who died a year ago last winter in Toronto. James Read was the son of the late J. L. Read, of Merrickville, he died many years ago at Chatham, Upper Canada. The Glassford he refers to was George Glassford, the present Deputy Registrar of the County of Leeds. The Gray mentioned was Frank Gray, step-son of the late James Gray, he died in this town somewhere about the year 1850. Tommy Scott, should have been James Scott, he died a few years ago at Port Hope, where he was a practising lawyer. Christopher Leggo is Dr. Leggo of the city of Ottawa. E. Dunham should be Dr. George Dunham of Newboro'. The Hubbell boys were James Hubbell, Esq., now living at Hubbell's Falls, near Pakenham, and his elder brother Jones Hubbell, who died many years ago. Wells is the present Judge Wells, of Chatham, Ont. Landon was, I believe, a son of the late Heman Landon, Esq., of Augusta, he is now dead.

Amongst other pupils at the old Grammar School, were the present Archdeacon Patton, now of Belleville, Judge Sherwood, of Belleville, the late Judge Smart of the same place, the late Judge Friel, of L'Orignal, the late John Bogart, who died about 1843 or 1844. There were many others, also, whose names I do not at present recall. Robert Hamilton was, I think, a son of a gentleman of the same name who resided at Queenstown, and was interested in the steamers *Queenstown* and *Frontenac*.

I remember the old steamer *Ontario*, to which your correspondent refers. She was at one time owned by the late Eri Lusher, who kept a tavern in Ogdensburg, and towards the close of his life in Brockville, he died here shortly after the rebellion. The *Ontario* was advertised to make a trip for the head of the lake once a fortnight, wind and weather permitting. The old *Charlotte*, owned by Captain Gildersleeve, of Kingston, who died in 1850, used to make the trip to the Carrying Place once a week, wind and weather permitting. The *Sir James Kempt* succeeded the old *Charlotte* on the same route, and was a great improvement on her predecessor in speed. The *Dalhousie*, a small boat, ran from Kingston to Prescott, carrying the mail. She went up one day and returned the following day, Sundays excepted. The *Queenstown* made a trip once a week from Prescott to Queenstown. She was commanded by the late Captain Whitney, known to many of your older readers. The *Great Britain* was built at Prescott, and it was said that the earnings of the *Queenstown* on her weekly trip paid off the men who worked on the *Great Britain* every week. The *William the Fourth* was built in Gananoque, in 1831 and 1832. She was an improvement on the other boats for speed. After she and the *Great Britain* were built under the treaty between *Great Britain* and the United States, our steamers and vessels were at liberty to carry freight and passengers from a British to an American port, so long as they did not coast, and the American ships had the same privileges in our ports. The *Great Britain* and *William the Fourth* in their trips touched at Oswego, and went to Niagara as well as to Hamilton. They made weekly trips.

A few years after that, a superior class of vessels was constructed, such as the *City of Toronto*, the *Princess Royal*, and the *Sovereign*. These vessels formed a daily line from Kingston to Toronto, and did not cross the lake. Three of them formed a daily line between these places, and sometimes two boats would keep up the line. This was thought to be a wonderful advance from one trip a week, but now we go to Toronto by rail in ten hours and grumble if we are ten minutes behind time in arriving there.

Soon we shall be able to take a railway carriage and go, without change of car, to Halifax, on the East or to Vancouver Island on the West. This is a world of progress, and Canada advances, notwithstanding our neighbours think we are slow and unenterprising. Your correspondent ought to come down and see the progress that has been made in his native town. He can find

"The school boy spot
We ne'er forgot though there we are forgot."

but the Gaol Yard covers part of the spot where the old school house stood, yet on enquiry he will find the old building itself converted into a small dwelling at the corner of Home and Water streets.

AN OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL BOY.

Brockville, July 19, 1872.

ELLIS A. DAVIDSON'S ANIMAL KINGDOM.

AUTHORIZED TEXT BOOK IN ONTARIO.

(To the Editor of the *Globe*.)

SIR,—In *The Globe* of the 22nd ult., there appears an article, purporting to be a review of the text book on the "Animal Kingdom," recently adopted by the Council of Public Instruction, on which I beg to be allowed to make some remarks. I desire, however, to give replies in detail to some of the statements of the reviewer, (and these I select merely as specimens) not on my own authority—my statements are already put forth in the book—but by quotations selected from the highest authorities in Europe, which I trust will satisfy the Canadian public as to the truth of all the instruction conveyed in my little book.

The reviewer says:—"On page 35, the *Spermaceti Whale* is credited with a head the length of which equals the rest of the body,—the real fact being that the head is somewhat less than a third of the length. On page 36, implicit credence is given to the old belief that the spouting of the whale consists in blowing out through the nostrils a quantity of water which had entered at the mouth. On page 38, our author, diving into geology, informs us that there were two species of elephants formerly in existence, (one of which was a *Mastodon*); and on page 43, we hear that fossil remains of the Hippopotamus are found in the London clay. We recommend the speedy publication of the latter fact in particular before some learned society."

In answer to this I quote the following:—

"The act of respiration is facilitated by the position of the nostrils, which are situated nearly at the highest point of the head, so that the animal can breathe as soon as the head comes to the surface of the water.

"The whales have the power of forcing out water through these passages by means of a peculiar apparatus with which they are provided. This consists of two pouches or reservoirs situated beneath the nostrils and communicating with the back of the mouth by the usual nasal passage, which is furnished with a valve.

"When the animal wishes to eject water contained in his mouth, it moves its tongue and jaws as if about to swallow it: but by closing the pharynx it compels the water to ascend through the nasal passage—whose valve it forces open—and to distend the reservoirs.

"There it may be retained until the animal desires to spout, and this is effected by the forcible compression of the pouches, which compels the water to escape by the nostrils or blow holes, its return to the mouth being prevented by the valve just mentioned."—*Carpenter's Zoology*, sec. 209.

"When the whales breathe they are forced to rise to the surface of the sea, and there make a number of huge respirations which are technically termed *spoutings*, because a column of mixed vapour and water is ejected from the nostrils or blow-holes, and spouts upwards to a great height, sometimes as much as twenty feet. In order to enable the animal to respire without exposing itself unnecessarily, the blow-holes are placed in the upper part of the head, so that when a whale is reposing itself on the surface of the sea, there is very little of its huge carcass visible, except the upper portion of the head and a part of the back. The *spoutings* are made with exceeding violence, and can be heard at some distance."

—*Rev. J. G. Wood's Illustrated Natural History*.

"Professor Owen, in his work on the fossil mammalia of Britain, gives descriptions and illustrative figures of the remains of the mammoth, of a large hippopotamus, two species of rhinoceros, and one of a mastodon, an animal equal in bulk to the elephant, and like it furnished with tusks and a flexible proboscis. These mighty quadrupeds, once ranged over tracts which are now occupied by the busy towns, the verdant plains, and the stately homes of England, their bones too are sometimes full fathoms five in the seas that encircle her shores, and the trawling-net of the fishermen, when it encounters their heavy mass, has been known to break under its burden. Such occurrences recall to mind the adventures of the fisherman narrated in the *Arabian Nights*; but the fancy of the Eastern romancer falls short of the reality of this hauling up in British seas of elephants more stupendous than those of Africa or Ceylon."—*Patterson's Zoology for Schools*, p. 410.

"The hippopotamus has for years been extinct in Europe, but the fossil remains of the animal are found abundantly in the London