

feats an English style of his own, which it would be sheer presumption in us to criticise. This, time will perhaps either amend or considerably attune our ear to; but it would be well, while grammarians generally agree upon what is the correct English of a simple sentence, that the *Journal* should not set before the teachers of the country any very gross instances of its violation. On the question of style, we might, at the same time, suggest what must be patent to everyone but the conductors of the *Journal*, that educational topics demand a dignity of treatment which in the April number of the publication, at any rate, they cannot be said to have received. We refrain from comment on the questionable taste of the *Journal's* splenetic detraction of the Minister who, like its Editor, is a public servant, and more than this, the official chief of the Central Committee, of which the editor is a member. Mr. Crooks has personal claims, aside from his official position, to be considered a gentleman, and to be spoken of and treated as such, and it might be worth while if the conductors of the *Journal*, ere they issue another number, would reflect upon this fact.

AN English Journal recently made this facetious remark, that, "Ages hence learned Archæologists may authoritatively declare that the great Needle was erected in England to mark the period when women abandoned the art of sewing, and began the competition with men which will then have resulted in feminine supremacy." If our contemporary, in his delicate rebuke of our wives and sisters, had extended the point of his satire, by some reference to the centuries of baking the needle had undergone in the hot sands of Egypt, and had included the abandonment of the art of cooking on the part of the sisterhood, he would have added a graver charge to his indictment of the sex. But the English public have less to charge themselves with in these respects than we in Canada, for not only is Domestic Economy—including needle work and cooking—both theoretically and practically taught in the Art Schools of Kensington, but over the country much at-

tention is devoted to these important branches in thousands of the public schools. With us, however, the pressing claims of these necessary branches of education have never been practically recognized as subjects of school instruction—public opinion, seemingly, never having been sufficiently influential to secure their being taught. So apathetic, indeed, is the public mind on the subject, that in regard to Domestic Economy, the Minister of Education publicly admitted the other day that some recent efforts he had made to have it included as a branch of study for women at the Toronto Normal School, had resulted in failure. Now without repressing the sex's laudable pursuit of the 'Higher Education of Women,' we venture to declare that their abandonment of the kitchen and their unwillingness to familiarize themselves with even the rudiments of the culinary art, is an untoward misfortune, not only to the sterner sex, but to themselves, and to the households of which they form a bright and graceful part. It may be, however,—happy thought!—that Mr. Crooks's experiment was resented because our young women knew already as much of cooking and of household duties as they were likely to learn at the Normal School—and the high reputation Canadian women enjoy as proficient alike in the kitchen and the drawing-room, may be safely taken as indicative of this—but a comprehensive theoretical and practical course of Domestic Economy, it will be admitted, includes much that, if properly taught, would be an important acquisition to the sex, and we hope larger views on the subject will yet prevail, and that schools of cookery will ere long become—if we must use the word—"fashionable" in Canada.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

Goldsmith's Traveller and Gray's Elegy; by William Williams, B.A., and John Tait, Collingwood Collegiate Institute. Toronto: James Campbell & Son. Messrs. Williams and Tait have put together with considerable care the necessary material for the use of students preparing for an examination in these two classical works. It is, of course,