

very different temperature from that obtained by the older ratios of over 2,000° Fah. The holes in which we placed slow registering Negretti and Zambra thermometers were drilled, slightly inclined upward, to a depth of 10 ft. from the face of the rock, and plugged with wood and clay. In these holes the thermometers were left from one to three months. The average annual temperature of the air is 48° Fah.; the temperature of the air at the bottom of the shaft was 72°.

It is in Africa, not in America, that shots are fired which involve serious consequences. The Italian defeat at Adowa has kindled the fires of fanaticism in the deserts and made expedient a British demonstration of military force on the Nile. The defense of Wady Halfa by an advance

to Dongola and the expulsion of the Dervishes seem a sympathetic movement in behalf of Italy rather than a necessary precaution for the protection of lower Egypt. Yet Lord Wolseley, who attended the last cabinet meeting, must have advised it, and he knows the Nile Valley and understands how explosive is the Mahdist enthusiasm after a victory. It hardly seems possible, although today's *Times* plainly foreshadows it, that the occupation of Dongola points the way to the reconquest of the Soudan. In that event, Gordon's death would be avenged through Italy's reverses. England surely renders a great service to Italy's demoralized forces by this timely movement, which may tend either to quiet or to excite the Dervishes around Kassala and Suakim.—*New York Tribune*.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

ARBOR DAY.

We commend to the attention of our readers, the summary of "forest laws" published in this number. Such a summary shows very clearly the value attached by the peoples of Europe to forests and the great care bestowed by them on the life of trees.

Ontario was a province of trees, most valuable and beautiful. Every one should join in preserving our forests, and these should be cultivated as any other crop. Many tracts of land can produce nothing else, and in producing this they are neither barren nor unfruitful. Many a farmer in Ontario now regrets the severity of the "clearing" process. He well knows the additional beauty a few tall elms, graceful maples, or wide

spreading beech, gives to the homestead, and in heart would much rejoice if such tall sentinels had been left standing to remind all passers by of the primal crop of his well tilled farm. Spare trees, plant trees, cultivate trees everywhere.

EXAMINATIONS 1896.

Attention is directed to the dates on which the various examinations begin, viz :—Specialists' (non-professional) 1st. May; School of Pedagogy, 26th May; Normal School, 9th June; High School Entrance and Public School Leaving, 2nd July; High School, Form I. 7th July; High School, Form II. and Commercial Specials', 9th July; High School, Forms III. and IV., 11th July.