

and Spartan firmness of his uncle, the same loyal attachment to British institutions, as also his faith in the great future of his native Province of Ontario.—*Chronicle and News*.

MR. GEORGE ANTHONY BARBER was born in 1801, at Hitchin, Herts, England, educated at a public school, and subsequently for a short time at Oxford, where he obtained the sound education which he was able to apply so beneficially in this his adopted country, to which he removed in 1826, on the invitation of the Rev. Dr. Philips, former Principal of Whitechurch Academy, Herts, of which he had been an assistant-master, to join him in establishing the old "Toronto Blue Grammar School," an institution well and deservedly regarded as having done good service in the early days of Canadian education. On the subsequent establishment of Upper Canada College by Dr. Harris, the first Principal, Mr. Barber undertook for a time the conduct of the commercial as well as the classical department. In 1844, he was chosen Local Superintendent of the Public or Common Schools, which honourable position, after filling it with the greatest efficiency for many years, he resigned to accept the no less responsible one of Secretary of the Board of School Trustees, which he continued to hold till the period of his death. It will be seen, therefore, that, taking into account his first introduction into the field of tuition before his removal to Canada, he may be said to have been incessantly connected with it for the long term of half a century, and we can appreciate the satisfaction with which he could look back on the day of small beginnings in Canadian education to the Toronto of the present day, with its full system of educational institutions, and especially of public schools, to the efficiency of which he had lent no small assistance. In the school of politics he was a Conservative, and for some years served his party by editing with vigour the *Toronto Herald*, files of which still exist to testify to the ability and readily applied power of the editor in a cause to which his devotion was unceasing, but in which he latterly, as filling a public position, wisely avoided any pointed interference, rather taking pleasure in applying himself earnestly to the duties of his office, and finding his relaxations up to the last in those good old manly pastimes to which we have already referred. Long will he be remembered as a social companion and a worthy citizen, while many a joke will pass the cricket ground in memory of "Old Barber," and where his well-known form and hearty love of the game will long be remembered. In his death we feel that another landmark of the early days of Canadian life has been removed, and can hardly be replaced.—*Mail*.

MR. PAUL DELANEY was born in Ireland, where he devoted the earlier years of his manhood to educational pursuits, and distinguished himself as an energetic and successful teacher of youth. Some time prior to the establishment of the *Journal of Education* for Lower Canada, he came out to this country and was selected one of the staff of the Jacques Cartier Normal School. In this capacity he discharged the important duties assigned to him in a way to gain the approbation of his seniors and superiors, as well as the respect of colleagues, and the affection of all his pupils. When the Local Government was established, in the year 1867, Mr. Delaney was appointed to the post of Clerk of English Correspondence in the Ministry of Public Instruction, the Educational Department having now been removed to Quebec and converted into a branch of the Civil Service of the Province.—*Quebec Journal of Education*.

MR. DANIEL LIZARS, Clerk of the Peace for the County of Huron, died at Goderich on Sunday, in the eighty-second year of his age. He has held the office since 1841. Mr. Lizars was a gentleman of fine tastes and high culture in literature and art, with genial and gentlemanly manners, and has died universally and deeply regretted, within eight days from the decease of his talented son Dr. John Lizars.

VII. Papers on Boys and Girls.

1. A LITTLE TALK TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

It is very hard for boys and girls between ten and twenty to believe what other people tell them concerning the selection of reading matter. If a book is interesting, exciting, thrilling, the young folks want to read it. They like to feel their hair stand on end at the hair breadth escapes of the hero, and their nerves tingle to the end of their fingers at his exploits, and their faces burn with passionate sympathy in his tribulations—and what harm is there in it? Let us see what harm there may be. You know very well that a child fed on candy and cake and sweetmeats soon loses all healthy

appetite for nutritious food, his teeth grow black and crumble away, his stomach becomes deranged, his breath offensive, and the whole physical and mental organization is dwarfed and injured. When he grows older he will crave spices and alcohol to stimulate his abnormal appetite and give pungency to tasteless though healthful food. No man who grows up from such childhood is going to have positions of trust and usefulness in the community where he lives. The men who hold those positions were fed with milk and bread, when they were young and not with trash.

Now, the mind like the body grows by what it feeds upon. The girl who fills her brain with silly, sentimental love-sick stories, grows up into a silly, sentimental, lackadaisical woman, useless for all the noble and substantial work of life. The boy who feeds on sensational newspapers and exciting novels has no intellectual muscle, no commanding will to make his way in the world. Then, aside from the debilitating effect of such reading, the mind is poisoned by impure associations. These thrilling stories have always murder, or theft, or lying, or knavery as an integral part of their tissue, and boys while reading them live in the companionship of men and women, of boys and girls, with whom they would be ashamed to be seen conversing, whom they would never think of inviting to their houses and introducing to their friends, and whose very names they would not mention in polite society as associates and equals. Every book that one reads, no less than every dinner that one eats, becomes part and parcel of the individual, and we can no more read without injury an unwholesome book or periodical than we can eat tainted meat and not suffer thereby. Just as there are everywhere stores full of candy, and cake, and liquor and tobacco, and spices so there are everywhere books, newspapers and magazines full of the veriest trash and abounding in everything boys and girls should not read. And just as the healthful stomach, passing all these pernicious baits, will choose sound aliment, so the healthful mind will reject the unwholesome literature current everywhere, and select such as are intrinsically good.

The other day we picked up a popular Juvenile weekly, and presently found ourself knee-deep in slang, over our head in vulgar allusion over and in the midst of a low-lived metropolitan crowd, where cock-fights, dog-fights and man-fights, were the condiments offered to whet the appetite for reading; and yet we know families where that paper is regularly taken. Do their parents reads it? Do they know what company their children are keeping?

But says the young enquirer, What shall we read, and how shall we know if books are suitable? Read such books as give you valuable information, works that are approved by people of correct judgment. Our leading magazines contain a vast amount of reading, interesting alike to young and old. Do not read what renders distasteful the duties of life, or renders vice attractive, and makes you long for an impossible and romantic career. A correct taste once formed and carefully consulted will enable you to select the good and eschew the pernicious.

"Might I give counsel to any young hearer," says Thackeray in his lecture on Prior, Gray and Pope, "I would say to him, try to frequent the company of your betters. In books and life that is the most wholesome society; learn to admire rightly; the great pleasure of life is that. Note what the good men admired; they admired good things; narrow spirits admire basely and worship meanly.—*N. Y. Tribune*.

2. MAKE CHILDREN USEFUL.

The energy which some children manifest in mischievous pranks may be made to subserve usefulness and instructive purposes. Little odds and ends of employment may be given them—work suited to their small capabilities may be assigned them—and under judicious direction and considerate encouragement their little heads and hands can accomplish much, and that gladly. The bright little ones who would "help" mamma should not be repelled with a harsh word, but some simple task should be devised for their occupation, and some trifling thing—so very great to them—should be the reward of its performance.

As a general rule, give your children something to do. A daily employment of some sort will exercise their minds healthfully, and develop elements of usefulness and self-reliance which may prove incalculably valuable to their manhood and womanhood. Miserable is the plea urged by some that they "have not the time" to look after their children. No such pretext can divest them of the grave responsibilities which the having of children imposes. The laws of God and of humanity demand of parents the best care and training for their children they can bring into exercise. How many poor wretches there are, taxing society with their maintenance, who owe their worthlessness and sins to the negligence of their parents