

women who do not marry speedily, and who teach on for years. Fancy what these people endure at the hands of Puzzle and of Puzzle's peers!—*The Schoolmaster*.

Character of Mary Stuart.—The following extract comes from Mr. Swinburne's lately published play of "Mary Stuart," and has been highly praised for its felicity of language and insight. It is put into the mouth of Sir Drew Drury.

Nay myself

Were fain to see this coil wound up, and her
 Removed that makes it: yet such things will pluck
 Hard at men's hearts that think on them, and move
 Compassion that such long strange years should find
 So strange an end, nor shall men ever say
 But she was born right royal: full of sins,
 It may be, and by circumstance or choice
 Dyed and defaced with bloody sins and black,
 Unmerciful, unfaithful, but of heart
 So fiery high, so swift of spirit and clear,
 In extreme danger and pain so lifted up,
 So of all violent things inviolable,
 So large of courage, so superb of soul,
 So sheathed with iron mind invincible
 And arms unbreached of fireproof constancy—
 By shame not shaken, fear or force or death,
 Change, or all confluence of calamities—
 And so at her worst need beloved, and still,
 Naked of help and honour when she seemed,
 As other women would be, and of hope
 Stripped, still so of herself adorable
 By minds not always all ignobly mad
 Nor all made poisonous with false grain of faith,
 She shall be a world's wonder to all time,
 A deadly glory watched of marvelling men
 Not without praise, not without noble tears,
 And if without what she would never have
 Who had it never, pity—yet from none
 Quite without reverence and some kind of love
 For that which was so royal.

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.

THE WEATHER—UNIFORM STANDARD OF TIME IN UNITED STATES—LUMINOSITY OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS—OLEOMARGARINE AND BUTERINE—CAUSE OF "FISH-OIL" TASTE IN OUR DRINKING WATER—MANUFACTURE OF EVAPORATED FRUIT AND CORN.

The general topic of conversation for the past few months has been our remarkable weather. Whilst our Canadian winter has been unusually mild, equally abnormal weather has prevailed over Europe. Last November was, we learn, the warmest November in North Britain for the past 118 years. Over the British Isles there had been so little frost that, at the end of January many plants presented an appearance and bloom such as it would be difficult