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JOURNAL OF EDUCATION,

Upper



Canada.

VOL. XII.

TORONTO: FEBRUARY, 1859.

No. 2.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

PAGE

I. EDUCATIONAL SPEECHES BY DISTINGUISHED MEN IN ENGLAND: (1) Sir George Grey, Bart., M.P. (2) Charles Dickens, Esq. (3) Henry, Lord Brougham	17
II. EXTRACTS FROM AMERICAN SCHOOL REPORTS: (1) State of Pennsylvania. (2) State of New York. (3) City of New York. (4) Michigan...	21
III. PAPERS ON PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND COMMERCE: (1) Commercial Intercourse with China and Japan. (2) Present State of India. (3) Parcels by Post in Canada. (4) Other Postal Improvements in Canada...	23
IV. EDITORIAL: (1) Circular to Wardens and County Councils. (2) Order and Classification of Studies prescribed for Common Schools	24
V. PAPERS ON NATURAL HISTORY: No. 3. The Hudson's Bay Company's Fur Rooms at Victoria. No. 4. The Chase; its importance as a Branch of Industry in Canada. No. 5. The Fisheries of the St. Lawrence. (1) Correspondence on the subject of Natural History	26
VI. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES: No. 2. Commander Viger. No. 3. The Hon. Samuel Crane. No. 4. Proposed Statue of the late Hon. Robert Baldwin, C.B.	26
VII. MISCELLANEOUS: (1) Beautiful Snow. (2) What is to be done with our Charlie? (3) Twelve Golden Maxims for Families. (4) Rarity of Success in Mercantile Life	27
VIII. EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE: Canada—(1) University of Toronto. (2) Chief Justice Sir J. B. Robinson on the Causes of Juvenile Crime. (3) Grand Jury's Presentment on Education. (3) Barrie County Grammar School Prize Scholarship. (4) School Examination at Bradford. (5) Duties of Local Superintendents of Union Grammar and Common Schools. (6) North Monaghan Township Library. (7) Education in the Church of England Diocese of Montreal. British and Foreign—(1) The Queen's School in London	30
IX. LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC: (1) Proposed New Material for Paper. (2) Home Manufactures	32
X. Departmental Notices and Advertisements	32

EDUCATIONAL SPEECHES BY DISTINGUISHED MEN IN ENGLAND.*

1. SIR GEORGE GREY, BART., M.P.,

Late Secretary of State for the Colonial (1852-1855) and Home (1855-1858) Departments.

NO IMPROVEMENT CAN TAKE PLACE IN THE MORAL AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE WITHOUT INTELLECTUAL CULTURE AND RELAXATION.

In his speech at the meeting of the Northern Association of Mechanics' Institutes, held in Alnwick, in September, 1858, Sir George Grey remarked as follows:—There is one thing which I should not fail to mention as a subject of congratulation, namely, that in the age in which we live, it is useless and superfluous to dwell upon the advantages of the diffusion of education and of knowledge. The time is happily gone by when, to use the language of a great writer, "The arrogance of learning can condemn to ignorance the great body of the people." (Applause.) The time is happily gone by, too, I may add, when the fears or apprehensions of one class of society can stand in the way or raise a barrier against the enlightenment and education of the great body of another. (Loud applause.) It is now universally admitted that knowledge is a blessing; and the only question which is discussed, the only thing upon which debates and difference of opinion

arise, is as to the best means of effecting an object, the value of which all concur in, and of promoting as widely as possible the blessings of education and of knowledge. (Continued applause.) I believe there is nothing more true than a sentence which I find in an appeal lately issued by the council of this association in behalf of their itinerating libraries—namely, that it is in vain to expect any marked improvement in the moral and social condition of the people, without affording them the means of intellectual culture and relaxation. (Loud applause.) And I am bound to say that I also most cordially concur in the view in a passage from the report, in which it was stated that the object was the withdrawing men from the tavern and the alehouse, which will be frequented, whatever prohibitory laws you pass (applause), whatever restraints you attempt to impose,—so long as the tavern and the alehouse are the only resource which the many have, and where they find social relaxation and intercourse. I say I cannot but agree in the opinion so expressed, that the best way to counteract that evil influence which we all so much deplore, but which I hope is losing its weight and diminishing in this country, is by establishing something which will be attractive to the people, and which, while it will amuse and interest them, will also elevate and improve them. (Loud applause.) It is truly said, therefore, I think, that the best mode of proceeding is to establish a reading room, wherever a reading room can be established, accessible to the public, comfortably lighted, and with other requisites which are necessary in order to make it attractive; and by so doing you present to them, as reasonable beings, as beings accountable not only to the laws of their country, but accountable to God, you place before them enjoyments and objects of interest which, when once appreciated, will withdraw them from those debasing pleasures in which so many, in the absence of other objects of interest, are disposed to indulge. Speaking of the evil effects of intemperance, I may just advert here to some very excellent friends of my own in this county, with whom I have had much intercourse on the subject, but who certainly go further in some of their views than I can go with them, because I think it is not by prohibitory laws so much as it is by presenting counter attractions that you can successfully encounter and defeat the monster evil of intemperance.* (Loud applause.) I was struck the other day, in reading one of the works of that lamented man, Hugh Miller, whose writings I have no doubt most of you are acquainted with, with the passage in which he records some

* In our next number we propose to give extracts from speeches and lectures by public men in Canada.

* For the remarks of Chief Justice Sir John B. Robinson, on this subject, see page 30.

of his earlier days, when he was actually working as a mason, but when his mind was also at work upon higher objects than those on which his hands were engaged—when he had learnt to appreciate the maxims and philosophy of Bacon, and to return from his day's work to his lodging to enjoy the intellectual feasts which works of that kind presented to him. He says that on one occasion he was tempted, in his intercourse with his fellow-countrymen, to transgress the bounds of temperance and to indulge with them in excessive drinking. He returned to his lodging and opened his *Bacon*; his intellect was clouded; and he was unable to appreciate and enjoy it, and from that day he made a resolve—a resolve which I believe he uniformly maintained afterwards—never again to cloud by intemperance that intellect which God had given him; because he felt that, in doing so, he was depriving himself of the inestimable pleasures and enjoyments provided for him by a gracious and merciful Providence.

A JUDICIOUS SELECTION OF BOOKS NECESSARY—NEWSPAPERS—WORKS OF FICTION.

Among the attractions of these places there are requisites which are essential to its success. I think the most important is a useful and judicious selection of books, for the perusal of those who are invited to frequent them. Now, I don't mean, by a useful and judicious selection of books, that we should very carefully weed our village or our town libraries of everything which the fastidious might think ought not to be there. It is by no means necessary that this should be the mode of dealing with libraries. Let there be books of all kinds in these libraries, but let the selection be a wise and judicious selection, with a view to put in those libraries books which, while they attract—and there are many of this character—will also deeply interest, and will excite men to higher motives of action, and will supply them with examples to guide them in their course, in whatever sphere of life they may be placed. (Loud cheers.) In regard to newspapers, I think myself that, looking to the character of the English newspapers of the present day—looking at the variety of information which they contain—looking at the ability with which they are written, in their descriptions of facts occurring in all parts of the world, looking at the reviews of literary works which we find in them, even if newspapers were the only literary food presented in these reading rooms, I would still advocate the reading room being open, even if confined to newspapers, which it is evidently not desirable it should be; and I would encourage newspapers of a good class, containing, as many of our newspapers now do—even including many of those which are published at the cheap rate of a penny—the latest information and events occurring in Europe, in London, and other distant places on the evening before. These cheap papers are conducted with great ability, and even they would be an admirable substitute for the debasing pleasures—if pleasures they can be called—which are afforded by the tavern and the public house. (Loud applause.) But again, let me just for a moment advert to works of fiction. First of all, let me make the observation, that I think it most unfair to authors of works of fiction to class them altogether as a whole, and to draw a broad line of distinction between works of fiction and those works which are not works of fiction. Some works of fiction contain admirable morals; some works of fiction contain instruction of the highest character, and in a form in which perhaps no other works can convey it; and I think it would be most injurious to the interests of those connected with libraries if works of this kind were excluded. I should therefore tender my humble advice to this association, not to think of excluding all works of fiction, because they would thus exclude what are deeply interesting to the great body of readers, and which will also be calculated to convey to them the highest moral instruction. Let me just advert to one book as an example, because it is not written by a countryman of our own, I mean *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. (Applause.) Who here, however much he may object to some works of fiction, will say that *Uncle Tom's Cabin*—a work of fiction—ought to be altogether withdrawn from the perusal of the working classes, there being many of them who have no opportunity of seeing works of this kind except through these reading rooms? (Loud applause.) The wise rule will be to look to the character of the work from its intrinsic merit, rather than to draw any arbitrary rule, which, I am sure—speaking my own opinion—would be most injurious to the interests of those for whose benefit libraries are intended, and would tend very much to defeat the object which those have in view who are zealous in the promotion of those institutions. (Loud applause.)

VALUE OF WORKS OF BIOGRAPHY—MISS MARSH AND HUGH MILLER'S WORKS.

Passing by the newspaper and those literary works, the class of which I think ought to find a place in those reading rooms, I see there is a subject of great congratulation presented to-day—that we have a number of books published, from time to time, which are not

ephemeral, which are not works of fiction, but which possess as deep an interest as can be possessed by any works of fiction, while they are calculated in the highest degree to elevate the minds of those who read them. Let me just refer to some of those which have been published within the last year. Take the *Life of George Stephenson*. (Loud cheers.) Who is there that can read that *Life of George Stephenson*—looking at his early struggles for knowledge, unaided by any of those advantages which Mechanics' Institutes in the present day afford to men similarly circumstanced, laboring to make the best use of that intellect which God had implanted in him—laboring with a success which made him one of the first men in Europe—without feeling the deepest interest in the narrative, and without feeling himself a better man for the attentive perusal of that work? (Applause.) George Stephenson was a self-educated man,—for, while he labored against all disadvantages successfully in cultivating that intellect with which God had endowed him, he did not overlook the immense advantages which the means of high education afford, but he gave his son—the present distinguished man who bears his name, and who also is one of the first men for engineering talent in Europe—gave him the very best education which it was in his power to command, showing how much he appreciated those advantages which these institutions set before the mechanic, and how much he valued those means which are now placed within the reach of all for the improvement of their minds, and for obtaining that knowledge which is conducive to the highest ends. Well, then, let us turn from the life of George Stephenson to the life of a man who moved in a totally different sphere. Who is there that has read any of those short and very interesting memoirs that have lately been published of that great and lamented soldier, General Havelock, (applause); who does not feel the deepest interest, and feel that there is the highest instruction to be obtained in the perusal of the life of such a man as that, moving altogether in a different sphere, and setting an example which some of us, from our different circumstances, may think we might not be able to follow, but still acting from a motive which must and ought to influence all—the highest motive which ought to regulate the conduct of men? Then, again, who is there that has read the narrative of the heroic defence of the beleaguered city of Lucknow by the garrison, out off as they were from all intercourse with their fellow-countrymen, that does not admire the spirit which animated them, and feel himself incited to the highest deeds by reading the matter-of-fact commemoration of their daily trials and their daily exertions? (Loud applause.) I will mention another book which has only been published very recently, since the last meeting of the association, and which will not, therefore, be generally known; viz., *English Hearts and English Hands*, written by an English lady, and recording in the most simple terms her experience among a class of men whose rough exterior and demeanor repels most men—I mean the men employed in making railways—and showing that beneath that rough exterior there is a soil well worthy of cultivation—a generous and noble feeling only requiring to be called out by kindly intercourse with one who has most nobly devoted herself to their welfare. (Loud applause.) This book speaks of Englishmen in a way that is of thrilling interest, and conveys this important lesson, "Go thou and do likewise." (Loud applause.) We may not all be able to do what she did, but let every one be animated by the same excellent feeling towards our fellow-creatures as she was, and then there will not be wanting the means by which they may benefit those around them, whatever their sphere of influence may be. As I have mentioned the name of Hugh Miller, let me also refer to one of the works of that eminent man—a work not recently published, it is true, but which we are able to place in these libraries, to read ourselves, and afford others the means of reading—I refer to *My Schools and Schoolmasters*, which gives the early autobiography of that eminent man. That book is one which I read with the greatest interest, and with feelings of humiliation to think that with all the advantages one had possessed, one fell so far short of what he attained—unaided as he was by those advantages which others more favorably circumstanced have enjoyed. (Loud applause.) I have ventured to allude to those books rather as types of a class of books which, if placed in these libraries, I think cannot fail—in connexion, let it be, with works of another kind, with newspapers and the best works of fiction—to attract and interest. People will not read because they are told to read, and because they are told a book is a good book; but if they find a book full of deep interest, full of narrative and facts, and all the more interesting because they are facts; that is the way in which, I am sure, we will get those reading-rooms frequented. They should attract people to them, and thereby carry on a successful competition against the tavern, the alehouse, and the bear shop. (Loud applause.) In connexion with these reading-rooms I certainly think it is most important that means should be found for extending the itinerating libraries. There are some neighborhoods, no doubt, in which books may be procured, and in which good local libraries may be estab-

lished, but even those libraries must be fixed libraries; and the time may come, perhaps, when they may be read through, and there is a great advantage in having a change of books, and if these itinerating libraries—such libraries, I presume, not always being of the same kind, but varying in the character and description of its books—if these itinerating libraries are sent about to remote villages and hamlets, and are there detained for three months, and then changed for others, you keep up the interest, which otherwise would flag; and I think it of the greatest importance that these libraries should be as widely diffused as possible.

GOOD LECTURES A STIMULANT TO READING.

Let me for one moment now advert also to lectures. Now, I think that, however good lectures may be, they are not a substitute for reading or a substitute for books. They are a most useful auxiliary to the reading-room and to books. The great object of the lecture is, I think, to lead people to books, ("Hear, hear," and applause), not to let them go away satisfied that they have got from the lecture what no lecturer would ever think or dream himself capable of giving them, a thorough knowledge of the subject on which the lecture is given; because the great object of the lecture, I think, ought to be to excite an interest to stir up the mind, and to excite that curiosity of the mind which is implanted in every man, and which only wants a right direction, and to give that curiosity a right direction. If lectures are so understood,—if they are intended to stir up a spirit and taste for reading,—then I think they are in a proper place, and cannot be too highly commended. (Applause.) Books, however, it has been observed by M. Guizot, in a recent work of his, in a sentence which is worth remembering, "Books are the tribune from which the world is addressed." Lecturers can only address the few present confined within the walls in which they lecture, but books circulate among thousands. Books convey sentiments, exhortations, narratives, incidents, and instruction which may be diffused as the means of spreading those books exist; and therefore I still, without undervaluing the advantages of those lectures, attach the greatest importance to the reading-room, to a well-selected library, and to the itinerating libraries. (Loud applause.)

ALLEGED FAILURE OF MECHANICS' INSTITUTES.

I will just, then, advert for a moment or two, now before I sit down, to the complaint which has been made by some—they are termed ignorant people, and I believe, generally speaking, that ignorant and perhaps not very zealous friends of education do complain, that mechanics' institutes have been failures. And here let me just say that sometimes people depreciate them and say, "Why, what can a man get from reading the books in these institutions, for the knowledge is all superficial and will do very little good?" and they therefore throw cold water on the efforts of benevolent persons who try to spread education among the masses of their countrymen.

BENEFITS OF EVEN SUPERFICIAL KNOWLEDGE.

I was reading the other day one of those able papers written by one of the deepest thinkers, perhaps, of modern times—I mean the late Sir James Mackintosh—in which he combatted this objection. I contend that there is no deeper thinker and better informed man—a man whose knowledge can be called deeper than his upon most subjects; and yet he says, he stands there as the advocate of superficial knowledge. I don't mean of superficial knowledge as against knowledge of a deeper kind, but superficial knowledge in those who have to choose between what may be termed superficial knowledge and ignorance. Sir James Mackintosh says, speaking of the immense advantages which the art of printing has conferred upon the world, that it has broken down a barrier between the rivalry of a great body of mankind. But then, he says, a great body of the people cannot be profound, but, at the same time, the great truths which regulate the moral and political relations of men lie not very far below the surface; and it does not require that a man should be a philosopher, that he should go deep into the arcana of science, in order to apprehend those great moral and political truths. (Loud applause.) He goes on to say that the great works in which scientific discoveries are made, and scientific truths are stated, are not read except by a few; but that the truths which these works contain, pervade gradually the minds of a reading people—even though that reading may be of a kind that is almost superficial, and, by a variety of almost unseen and circuitous channels, they penetrate everywhere, even to every shop and every hamlet. (Loud applause.) He then goes on to compare and demonstrate this by a beautiful illustration, which I only wish I could repeat *verbatim*, but the substance of which is this:—He says that this may be illustrated by reference to the course of nature; and he then describes, in his glowing language, a magnificent scene, in which there is an expanse of a beautiful lake over the course of a magnificent river, which

attracts the admiration and commands the attention of those who look at it; but they regard not for a moment, or understand and appreciate that unseen mist which, exhaling from the surface of the lake and river, spreads itself over the adjoining country, and produces that beauty and fertility which we admire and profit by. (Loud applause.) Do not let us, therefore, be discouraged by thinking that all knowledge which by wise men, or rather by very learned men, may be termed superficial, is useless; and don't let any man abstain from entering upon the path of knowledge, and endeavor to lead others to do the same, because they may not attain those heights which they might desire, but which circumstances may place beyond their reach.

MIDDLE CLASS EXAMINATIONS.

Let me advert to an important subject of public interest—I mean that of those examinations which are to be held, the examiners being members of two universities, in different parts of the country, and of which we have heard a great deal lately. I see that a paper was read at one of the meetings of this institution, I think two or three years ago, by Dr. Dodd, in which he lamented that there was much talent which was wasted, which was thrown away, which was not developed, because there were no stimulants to honors to draw it out. He then contended that a university residence was not essential to the acquisition of knowledge, and that if knowledge could be acquired, and a sufficient test of the acquisition of that knowledge could be obtained, the great object was then within our reach; and he recommended for this purpose some southern university. Now, without undervaluing at all the advantages of a residence at universities, I could agree that it is most important and desirable that those whose means, circumstances, employment, and occupations debar them from access to universities as residents, should have places within their reach for having that stamp placed upon them by competent authority which was acquired by others more fortunate than themselves at the university. (Applause.) I rejoice, therefore, that the council of the union has placed itself in communication with the authorities of the universities, and that arrangements have been made by which examinations will be held in the present year by members of the University of Cambridge at Newcastle, and that it is hoped a similar examination will take place by the examiners at the University of Oxford in the course of next year. I hope that many of our northern youth will enter as competitors for the honors thus placed within their reach,—not because they will estimate the honor itself as any advantage, but that they will look upon it merely as empty honor to be paraded only—but that it will give them a stimulus to their own exertions and a confidence in their own powers, and thus lead them on to be useful members of society, and to confer benefit by the exercise of their talents not only on themselves but upon their fellow-countrymen; I cannot help hoping that there will be a large number of our northern youth who will avail themselves of those advantages, and that the young men of the north of England will hold their own—to say the least—against the young men of other parts of the country in obtaining honors. (Loud cheers.)

2. CHARLES DICKENS, ESQ.

The Pursuit of Knowledge illustrated by recent examples of Working Men.

NUMBER AND OBJECTS OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Charles Dickens was recently appointed chairman of a public meeting held at Manchester, to distribute prizes to competitors at recent examinations of pupils at the evening schools, made up entirely of mechanics and laboring men. His speech, which explains the objects and success of the institution, is thus reported in the *Guardian*:—At the top of the public announcement of this meeting are the words, "Institutional Association of Lancashire and Cheshire." This title does not suggest to me anything in the least like the truth. I have been for some years pretty familiar with the terms "Mechanics' Institutions" and "Literary Societies;" but they have unfortunately too often become associated in my mind with a body of great pretensions, lame as to some important member or other, which generally wants something done for it, and which is very seldom paid for, and which takes the names of the mechanics most grievously in vain, for I have usually seen a mechanic and a dodo in that place together. (Laughter.) I therefore began my education in respect of the meaning of this title very coldly indeed, saying to myself "Here's the old story." But the perusal of a very few lines of my book soon gave me to understand that this Association is designed to correct the old story, and to prevent its defects from becoming perpetuated. I learned that this Institutional Association is the union in one central head of 114 local institutions and mutual improvement societies, at an expense of no more than one dollar to each society, suggesting to all how they can best communicate with, and profit by, the fountain-head and one another, keeping their best aims steadily before

them, advising them how these aims can be best attained, giving direct end and object to what might otherwise easily become waste forces, and sending among them not only oral teachers, but, better still, boxes of excellent books, called, "Free itinerating Libraries."

FREE LIBRARIES AND THEIR INFLUENCE IN THE RURAL PARTS OF ENGLAND.

I learn that the books of these free libraries are constantly making the circuit of hundreds upon hundreds of miles, and are constantly being read with inexpressible relish by thousands upon thousands of toiling people, and that they are never damaged or defaced by one rude hand. (Hear, hear.) This and other like facts led me to consider the immense importance of this fact—that no little cluster of working men's cottages can rise in any Lancashire or Cheshire valley, at the foot of any running stream which enterprize hunts out for water power, but has its educational friend and companion ready and willing for it, acquainted with its thoughts and ways, and turns of speech and thought, even before it has come into existence. No central association at a distance could possibly do for those working-men what this association does. No central association at a distance could understand them, could possibly put them in that familiar and easy communication one with another as that a man or boy eager for knowledge, in the valley seven miles off, should know of a man or boy eager for knowledge, in the valley twelve miles off, and should occasionally trudge to meet him, that the one might impart his learning in one branch of acquisition to the other. Yet this is a distinct and most important feature of this society. On the other hand it is not to be supposed that these honest men, however zealous, should as a rule succeed in establishing and maintaining their own institutions of themselves. It is obvious that combination must materially diminish their cost, in itself a vital consideration; and that experience, which is essential to the success of all combination, is especially so when its object is to diffuse the results of experience and of reflection.

EXAMINATIONS, PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES FOR MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

But the student of the pleasant and profitable history of this Society does not stop here in his learning. He finds with interest and pleasure that the Parent Society at certain stated periods invites the more eager and enterprising members of the local societies to submit themselves to voluntary examination in various branches of useful knowledge, of which examination it takes the charge and arranges the details, and invites the successful candidates to come to Manchester, to receive the prize and certificates of merit which it impartially awards. The most successful of the competitors in the last of these examinations are now among us; and those little marks of recognition and encouragement, I shall have the pleasure of giving them presently. I have looked over a few examination papers. They comprise history, geography, grammar, arithmetic, book-keeping, decimal coinage, mensuration, mathematics, social economy, the French language—in fact, they comprise all the keys that open all the locks of knowledge. I felt most devoutly grateful as to many of them, that they had not been submitted to me to answer. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) For I am perfectly sure if they had been, I should have had mighty little to bestow upon myself to-night. (Laughter.) And yet it is always to be observed, and seriously remembered, that these examinations are undergone by people whose lives have been passed in a continual fight for bread, and whose whole existence has been a constant wrestle with twin goalers of the daring heart—low birth and iron fortune. (Applause.) I could not but consider with extraordinary admiration that these questions have been replied to, not by men like myself, the business of whose life is with writing and with books, but by men the business of whose life is with tools and with machinery.

INTERESTING PERSONAL SKETCHES OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

Let me name a few of the most interesting cases of prize-holders and certificate gainers who will appear before you. There are the two poor brothers from near Chorley, who work from morning to night in a coalpit, and who, in all weathers, have walked eight miles a night, three nights a week, to attend the classes in which they have gained distinction. (Hear, hear.) There are two other poor boys from Bolington, who began life as piecers at a shilling and eighteen pence a week, and the father of whom was cut to pieces, by the machinery at which he worked, but not before he had himself founded the institution in which this son has since come to be taught. These two poor boys have taken the second class prize in chemists. (Hear, hear.) There is a plasterer from Bury, sixteen years of age, who took a third-class certificate last year, at the hands of Lord Brougham, and who has exerted himself so strenuously since, that he is this year again successful in a competition three times as severe. (Hear, hear.) There is a wagon maker from the same place who knew little or

absolutely nothing until he was a grown man, and who has learned all he knows, which is a great deal, in the local institution. There is a chain maker, in very humble circumstances, and working hard all day, who walked six miles a night, three nights a week, to attend the classes in which he has won a famous place. There is a moulder in an iron foundry, who, while he was working twelve hours a day before the furnace, got up at four o'clock in the morning to learn drawing. (Hear, hear.) "The thought of my lads," he writes in his modest account of his work, "in their peaceful slumbers above me gave me fresh courage; and I used to think that if I should never receive any personal benefit, I might instruct them when they came to be of an age to understand the mighty machines and engines which have made our country, England, pre-eminent in the world's history." (Applause.) There is a piecer at mule frames, who could not read at eighteen, who is now a man of little more than thirty, who is the sole support of an aged mother, who is arithmetical teacher in the institution in which he himself was taught, who reports of himself that he made the resolution never to take up a subject without keeping to it, and who has kept to it with such an astonishing will that he is now well versed in Euclid, and in algebra, and is the best French scholar in Stockport. (Hear, hear.) The drawing classes in that same Stockport are taught by a working blacksmith, and his pupils will receive the highest honors of to-night. (Applause.) To pass from the successful candidates to the delegates from local societies, and to content myself with one instance, there is among their number a most remarkable man, whose history I have read with feelings that I could not adequately express under any circumstances, and least of all when I know he hears me—who worked when he was a mere baby at handloom weaving, until he dropped from fatigue; who began to teach himself as soon as he could earn five shillings a week, who is now a botanist, and acquainted with every production of the Lancashire valleys; who is now a naturalist; who has made and preserved a collection of the eggs of British birds, and stuffed the birds; who is now a conchologist with a very curious and, in some respects, original collection of fresh water shells; who has collected and preserved the mosses of fresh water and of the sea; who is worthy the presidency of his own literary institution, and who was at his work this time last night as foreman in a mill. (Hear, hear, and applause.) So stimulating has been the influence of these bright examples and many more, that I notice among the applications from Blackburn for preliminary test examination papers, one from an applicant who gravely describes himself as ten years of age; and, who with equal gravity, describes his occupation as "nursing a little child." (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Nor are these things confined to the men; the women employed in factories, in millinery and in domestic service, have begun to show, as it is fitting they should, a determination not to be outdone by the men. The women of Preston, in particular, have so honorably distinguished themselves, and show, in their examination papers, such an admirable knowledge of the sense of household management and economy, that if I were a working bachelor of Lancashire or Cheshire, and if I had not cast my eye, or set my heart, on any lass in particular, I should positively get up at four o'clock in the morning, with the determination of the iron-moulder himself, and should go to Preston in search of a wife. ("Hear" and laughter.) These instances, and many more, daily occurring, always accumulating, are surely better testimony to the working of this Association than any number of speakers could possibly present to you. Surely, the presence among us of those indefatigable people is the Association's best and most affecting triumph, in the present and past, and is its noblest stimulus to action in the future. As its temporary mouthpiece, I would beg to say to that portion of the company, who attend to receive the prizes, that the Institution can never hold itself apart from them, can never hold itself above them, that their distinction and success, must be its distinction and success, and there can be but one heart beating between them and it. In particular, I would most especially entreat them to observe that nothing will ever be further from the Association's mind than the impertinence of patronage. (Applause.) The prizes and certificates that it gives are mere admiring assurances of sympathy with so many striving brothers and sisters, and are only valuable for the spirit in which they are given and received. The prizes are of money simply because the Institution does not presume to doubt that people who have so well governed themselves, know well how to make a little money serviceable. (Hear, hear.)

SELF-TAUGHT MEN.

Reverting once more to the whole collective audience before me—of the advantages of knowledge, I have said and shall say, nothing. Of the certainty with which the man who grasps it under difficulties, rises in his own respect, and in usefulness to the community, I have said and shall say, nothing. In the city of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, both so remarkable for self-taught men, that were superfluous indeed. For the same reason I rigidly abstain from

putting together any of the shattered fragments of that poor clay image of a parrot which was once always saying without knowing why, or what it meant, that knowledge was a dangerous thing. (Hear, hear.) I should as soon think of piecing together the mutilated remains of any wretched Hindoo who has been blown away from an English gun. Both creatures of the past, have been, as my friend Mr. Carlyle, vigorously has it, "blasted into space," and there, as to this world, is an end to them. So I desire, in conclusion, only to sound two strings. In the first place, let me congratulate you upon the progress which real mutual improvement societies are making at this time in our neighbourhood, through the noble agency of individual employers and their families, whom you can never too much delight to honor—(hear, hear)—elsewhere through the agency of the great railway companies, some of which are bestirring themselves in this matter with a gallantry and generosity deserving of all praise. Secondly, and lastly, let me say one word out of my own personal heart, which is always very near to it in this connection. Do not let us, in the midst of the visible objects of nature, whose workings we can tell off in figures; surrounded by machines that can be made to the thousandth part of an inch; acquiring every-day knowledge that can be proved upon a slate or demonstrated by a microscope—do not let us, in the laudable pursuit of the facts that surround us, neglect the fancy and the imagination, which equally surround us, as a part of the great scheme. (Hear, hear.) Let the child have its fables—let the man or woman into which it changes always remember those fables tenderly—let numerous graces and ornaments that cannot be weighed and measured, and that seem at first sight idle enough, continue to have their places about us, be ever so wise. The hardest head may co-exist with the softest heart. (Applause.) The union and just balance of these two is always a blessing to the possessor, and always a blessing to mankind. The Divine teacher was as gentle and considerate as He was powerful and wise. You all know how He could still the raging of the seas, and could hush a little child. As the utmost results of the wisdom of man can only be at last to help to raise this earth to that condition to which His doctrines, untainted by the blindness and the passions of men, would have exalted it long ago, so let us always remember that he set us an example of blending the understanding and the imagination; and that following it ourselves, we tread in His steps, and help our race on to its better and best days. (Applause.) Knowledge, as all followers of it must know, is a very limited power indeed, when it informs the head alone. But when it informs the head and the heart too, it is a power over life and death, and the body and the soul, and dominates the universe. (Great applause, during which Mr. Dickens resumed his seat.)

3. HENRY, LORD BROUGHAM.

SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT IN ENGLAND—WOMAN'S POSITION AND INFLUENCE.

At a meeting held in York, on the 11th of November, in advocacy of the Institute of Popular Science and Literature, Lord Brougham addressed the meeting. He said:—"I never can come to York without being lost in admiration of those splendid monuments of antiquity which it contains and which surround it—monuments of antiquity of the classic age of the world, which are to be found in no other part of this island. But it is not because York is among the most ancient—I may say the most ancient city of England—it is not because it was the birth-place of Constantine, and at that time the centre of the northern portion of the Roman Empire—it is not because it contains the most magnificent monuments of architectural genius which are to be found in all England, and it is not because most full of taste—most admirably judicious—of the planting out of the gardens of which these remains of Roman times are surrounded and intertwined—it is not on these accounts, or any of them, that coming to York is now so interesting to the observer. That does not form the particular interest which I feel in coming here; but it is because of such a meeting as I now see gathered before me and around me. It is because in York there is to be found a body of your fellow citizens, of all ages and of both sexes, who are bent on carrying forward the best of plans, and for the most sacred of purposes—the elevation of the human mind—the development of the human character by the progress of sound knowledge. An objection has been taken to our proceedings in Liverpool, and it has been taken by persons, including some on the continent of the highest rank of all—I mean some upon the throne—ladies filling that high station—that we did not sufficiently attend to the wrongs and hardships of women in that great Congress on Social Science at Liverpool, and of the two branches to which our attention has been directed by those who chide us for the omission—of the two branches to which they particularly point, one is somewhat cultivated in this country, and one, I grieve to say, is not attended to at all. The one that has been cultivated is the establishment of what the French call

"Sisters of Charity" among us—persons who, in that country, being a Catholic country, are nuns, and are bound by vows which are disliked in this country; but in Protestant countries, where there are no vows at all, the same institution has taken place, and with the same most happy—I will add the most blessed result. (Applause.) They are a great consolation in the prisons as well as in the hospitals—they are the persons who make up and distribute all the medicine—they are, as I can answer from my own knowledge, practically in the matter, as well acquainted with the chemical preparations as the professional men themselves, and they devote their time, neglecting rest, and utterly regardless of reward—for reward they have none, and cannot have by the rules of the institution—all their time, by night and by day, is thus devoted to the pious performance of these most pious works. (Applause.) I will say that this has not been altogether neglected in this country, though, unhappily, our attention at the Congress at Liverpool was not specially directed to it; but it has been well discussed in a most able tract by Mrs. Jameson, which she has printed and circulated very lately. Another objection has been taken with reference to a subject which, I am sorry to say, has received no attention whatever in this country, though abroad it has produced the very happiest effects. Nothing is so lamentable as the fortune of unhappy ladies—gentlewomen even of considerable station—upon the death of a parent, they by the accidents of life not having been married; or upon the death of a husband, whence they come into widowhood without ample provision; nothing is so wretched as those high authorities say, and they say justly, as the lot of unhappy gentlewomen of that description. Well, then, they have established chapters abroad, sometimes in Catholic countries, but just as often in Protestant countries; and sometimes upon royal foundation, sometimes by the gift of charitably-disposed humbler individuals, sometimes by subscriptions judiciously levied, and sometimes by a kind of insurance during the life of the parent, or during the life of the husband, these ladies are provided for at his decease. A presentation is secured, and an entry into the establishment is provided. The happiest results have come from these admirable establishments, and we, at our Congress, have, from these high quarters, been chid for not having turned our attention thitherward. My answer has been, that no sooner was it suggested than I made it my duty to attend to it. I have acted lately in my sovereign capacity as President, but my noble friend, Lord John Russell, has been appointed my successor, or, at all events, as a kind of regent. I wished to abdicate, but I was not allowed to abdicate, and therefore I speak still as President of that institution. (Applause.) The Chapter is receiving these communications from abroad, and I deem it my duty to lose no time in bringing the subject before my brethren, and I hope very soon something like a plan will be drawn up. Knowing the great difficulty that arises in various quarters, and among others from the nature of our admirable countrywomen, who in some respects are no better natured than other women—knowing there is a kind of self-will about those who are in those establishments, as we of our sex have occasion to know—(laughter)—we don't always find when we experiment on a small scale, the managers have not found it always perfectly easy to make them live entirely well together. (Laughter.) Those difficulties we don't disguise, but we endeavour to meet them in the front, and with the blessings of Heaven on our endeavour, we seek to give this great benefit and boon to our countrymen." (Applause.)

IV. Extracts from American School Reports.

No. 1. STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1858.

The following summary of the condition of the schools in this state is from the recent message of the Governor.

The annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools will lay before you the present condition of the Common School System, and of its operations during the past year.—Your close and scrutinizing attention is invited to the details of that document.

Including the city of Philadelphia, it will be observed, that there were in public schools of the State, during the year which terminated on the first Monday of the last June, 628,201 pupils; these were instructed during an average term of a little over five months, in 11,281 schools, by 13,856 teachers, at a total cost of \$2,427,632 41 cents.

Here is a public interest, which,—whether we regard its ramifications into every portion of our social fabric, its large cost, the important powers over the present which it wields, or its incalculable influence upon the future,—undoubtedly transcends all others committed to the care of the secular authorities. This being the case, I have no hesitation in asserting that the time has arrived when its full importance should be recognized, and that its due administration should be made the duty of a fully organized and effective, as well as a separate department in the government.

But the mere care and promotion of our system of Common Schools—important and extensive as it obviously is—should not be the sole object of such a Department. If it is true that the power to punish crime includes also the right to prevent it, by providing for the proper intellectual and moral training of the people, it would seem to follow that the department charged with the latter momentous duty, should also be in possession of all the sources and subjects of information, calculated to shed light upon the object of its action. Hence the collection, arrangement, and practical deductions from population and industrial statistics; from natural defects, such as deafness and dumbness, blindness and lunacy; from crime in its various forms and developments; together with such control over all the literary and scientific institutions in the State, as shall bring their full condition into view, should also belong to the same Department.

Therefore, I most respectfully, but earnestly, urge upon your favorable consideration, at the present propitious moment, the organization of such a department, in the room of those for the care of mere matter whose agency has been or soon will be discontinued by the onward and upward progress of the Commonwealth.

A suitable Department of Public Instruction, will not, however, of itself, effect all that is needed in this direction. The general results of the Common School system, already cited, show the importance of its nature, and the magnitude of its operations. If we look, also, into its special statistics, the conclusion will be equally clear that certain improvements in its working machinery are equally indispensable.

It is needless to attempt to prove the truism that the properly qualified teacher is the life and success of the school. But the facts are startling, that of the 12,828 teachers of our public schools, exclusive of those in Philadelphia, only 5,087 are reported as "qualified" for their important trust; while 5,387 are returned as "medium," or such as are only tolerated till better can be obtained; and that 2,313 are stated to be "unfit." In other words; of the 569,880 children attending the schools out of Philadelphia, only about 230,000 (less than one half) are under proper instruction from inferior teachers; 100,000 are actually in charge of persons wholly unfit for the task.

This presents the subject in a light that cannot be shut out; and, though the great and commendable efforts recently made by the teachers of Pennsylvania, for their own improvement, are fully recognized, it cannot be concealed that there is work yet to be done, in this relation, which would seem to be beyond their unaided power to accomplish.

When, however, we look further into the special statistics of this branch of the system, the material for improvement is found to be of the most promising kind. Of the 12,828 teachers of our common schools, 10,889 are under thirty years of age, and 10,946 are natives of Pennsylvania; and a larger proportion than in most of other States are permanently devoted to the profession of teaching. To render these fit for the position to which they aspire—undoubtedly one of the most useful and honorable in the world—and to raise up a constant supply of well qualified successors, is the work to be done.

Various modes of effecting this object have been suggested or tried; but, after mature reflection, I am led to prefer that devised by the Act of May 20, 1858, entitled "An Act to provide for the due training of teachers for the Common Schools of the State." It places, in relation to the State, the teacher on the same footing with the members of such of the other learned professions as have been recognized by public authority; and it is to be regretted that the prostration of business and scarcity of money, that so soon followed the passage of the act, had the effect of checking many laudable efforts to put its provisions into operation. Under these circumstances, does it not become the duty of the State to afford such aid, or at least hold out such inducements as shall enable this measure to be fairly tested?

The passage of a law guaranteeing the payment of a moderate sum to one Teacher's School in each of the districts created by the act of 1857, would no doubt cause a sufficient number to establish the efficiency and practicability of the plan, to be completed in a few years; the money not to be paid till the schools were in full and approved operation. It is not probable that this grant would cause any considerable draft on the treasury; but, even if the whole twelve schools should ultimately be established, the boon would neither be out of proportion to that which has been conceded to other institutions, nor the number of graduates beyond the wants of the community. Up to the present time, Pennsylvania has appropriated about \$600,000 in aid of her colleges and academies, and this mainly in the hope of obtaining from them teachers for the common schools. Though the benefits of this munificence have been in other respects, quite equal to the amount given, it will be asserted by no one that the avowed object has been to any consider-

able extent effected. It would therefore appear to be time that the aid of the State should be brought directly to bear in favor of the great object so long contemplated.

No. 2. STATE OF NEW YORK, 1858.

The Governor of this State in his recent message to the Legislature states that the amount of capital of the school fund is \$2,551,260 52, which shows an increase during the year of \$24,868 23.

The capital of the literature fund amounts to \$269,952 12. The amount received for revenue is \$16,411 01; which is annually to be distributed to academies, and used for the purchase of text books, maps and globes, and philosophical and chemical apparatus, for academies.

The capital of the United States deposit fund being the amount received from the United States, is \$4,014,520 71. The amount received for revenue is \$248,767 52; which is also appropriated for the annual support of academies, common schools, the State Normal School, the instruction of teachers' classes in academies, and for teachers' institutes.

The expenditures for the public schools of the state for the year 1857 are

For teachers' wages	\$2,372,113 86
“ libraries and school apparatus	136,597 80
“ colored schools	10,729 93
“ school houses, sites and repairs.....	765,526 50
“ incidental expenses.....	369,027 05
Amount remaining unexpended.....	138,953 56
Total	\$3,792,948 79

The above amount expended for school purposes was raised as follows:—

Balance unexpended from the previous year...	\$140,142 40
From common school fund and state tax	1,346,902 56
From Gospel and School lands.....	17,449 02
School district tax.....	1,846,542 71
“ “ rate bills.....	390,515 50
All other sources.....	51,396 60
Total.....	\$3,792,948 79

Number of school districts in the state.....	11,617
“ “ houses	11,566
“ children between 4 and 21.....	1,240,176
“ attending the public schools.....	642,137
“ of teachers employed within the year (Males, 8,266; females, 17,887).....	27,153

Three or four hundred of these hold the diploma of the State Normal School.

The total receipts of the public schools from the State, district taxes, rate bills, &c., during the year were \$3,792,498 79, about equally divided between cities and the rural districts.

The School Libraries contain 1,402,253 volumes.

The Superintendent says that by the provisions of the law granting \$6000 to Genesee College, there were issued to his predecessor a certificate of twenty scholarships to Genesee College and the Wesleyan Seminary connected therewith, admitting the persons who might be appointed under them to all the privileges and instructions in said institutions. He brings the subject before the public and the Legislature, to the end that the benefits sought to be secured may not continue inoperative through the want of applications for the existing vacancies.

By the law of 1851, which caused the raising of \$800,000 annually by general tax, the principle was established that "the property of the State should educate the children of the State." The law of 1856 extended and enlarged the appropriation by a three-fourth mill tax, which has increased the appropriation from that made by the law of 1851, to nearly \$1,200,000.

Under the management of the present Superintendent of Public Instruction, the School system of our State is acquiring, steadily but surely, a standing and reputation that will make it a model for others.

For especial information in relation thereto, I refer you to the report of that officer, which, under the law of 1858, changing the close of "the school year" from 31st December to 30th September, will enable him to present the statistics pertaining to this important interest down to a period corresponding with the other departments of the State, and not attainable under previous statutes.

No. 3. CITY OF NEW YORK, 1858.

We make the following extracts from the City superintendent's annual report on the condition of the schools:—

The system of public instruction in the City and County of New York, as organized by the Board of Education, in accordance with the provision of the existing law comprises a Free Academy for the complete collegiate education of boys; four Normal Schools for the instruction of teachers; fifty-seven Ward Schools, including fifty-one Grammar Schools for boys, forty-nine Grammar Schools for girls, and fifty-five Primary Departments for both sexes; thirty-five Primary Schools, forty-two Evening Schools, twenty-three of which are for male and nineteen for female pupils, and ten corporate schools. The number of pupils under instruction in the Free Academy is 775; in the boys' Grammar Schools 28,309; girls, Grammar Schools, 22,991; Primary Departments, 59,276; Primary Schools 21,096; Evening Schools about 20,000; Normal Schools, 856; and corporate schools, 10,507. The whole number on register in the several Ward and Primary Schools and Departments is 131,672, and the average attendance 49,172.

The whole number of teachers employed in the several schools under the charge of the Board is 1400; 200 of whom are males and 1,200 females.—There are also 11 corporate institutions in different sections of the city, which participate in the distribution of the School fund, but are in no other respect under the jurisdiction of the Board.

No. 4. MICHIGAN.

The number of organized School districts reported is 3,945, in which there are 225,550 children between the ages of four and eighteen years. The increase during the year has been 197 districts and 9,622 children between the legal ages.

The reports of the last year showed an attendance at school, of 162,936 children out of 216,928,—or seventy-six per cent. The reports for the present year indicate an attendance of 173,559 children out of 225,550—or seventy-seven per cent. of the whole. As more than one hundred districts, maintaining Schools from three to ten months, failed to report the number of children in attendance, the above must be considerably less than the real number attending School during the year, exclusive of such as have attended Seminaries, Academies, and other Schools.

The average length of time schools have been maintained in the districts reporting, six months. The number of teachers employed has been 7,228, of whom 2,324 are males and 4,904 females. The wages paid these teachers amount, in the aggregate, to \$443,113 71, of which amount \$118,084 14 has been raised by rate bill.

The amount raised by voluntary tax upon the property of districts voting it, is \$316,558 26. Of this sum \$119,175 51 has been for building school houses.

The amount of mill tax reported is \$116,362 04, exclusive of ninety-nine townships that made no report under this head.

The whole amount of money raised by township and district taxes, for educational purposes, as indicated by the reports received, is \$551,004 44. To this sum add \$107,395 13, the same being the amount of Primary School Interest Money apportioned at this Office during the year, and we have \$659,399 57, as the total amount expended for the support of Primary Schools in the State, during the past year, as indicated by the reports received at this office.

The number of Township Libraries reported is 487, containing in all 168,977 volumes. Under this head 118 townships have failed to report. Many of the reports received are defective, and they often indicate great neglect on the part of officers having the Libraries in charge.

A compliance with the requirement of the Constitution, providing for the establishment and maintenance of Free Schools is recommended, and for this purpose that the mill tax be changed to a two mill tax. The election of only one of the three district officers annually, and that they hold for the term of three years, instead of one, is recommended; also, that provisions be made for a system of school district libraries, and for the purchase of standard library books from a responsible contractor at reduced rates; and for a more thorough system of inspection of teachers, and for a more efficient supervision of schools and the appointment of District Commissioners, or County Superintendents of Schools, is suggested.

During the past year the reports from this office, due in December last, have been published in a volume of over 600 pages.

There has likewise been published during the past year a volume of 466 pages on the School Fund and School Laws of Michigan, with explanatory Notes, and Forms for conducting all proceedings under the laws relating to Primary Schools. In this document are embraced articles on school architecture, warming and ventilation, school furniture, school apparatus, and school arrangements, and to the whole is appended, pursuant to provisions of law, lists of books suitable for use in Primary Schools, and for Township libraries.

Reports have been received for the school year ending the Saturday previous to the last Monday in September, 1858, from six hundred and fifty Townships, situated in forty-eight Counties in the State.

III. Papers on Physical Geography and Commerce.

1. COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE WITH CHINA AND JAPAN.

The year 1858 will be remarkable in history for the number of nations opened up to western investigation and intercourse. Scarcely had we conceived an idea of the vast realm of China, whose excluding barriers, after the isolation of two thousand years, are broken down, when we were astonished by romantic and delightful narratives from Japan. Another kingdom—one, indeed, known to England, for our venturous merchants went there three centuries ago, is now unveiled to us, and, lying between China and our Indian possessions, Cochin China may yet form an element in political combinations. The French, in conjunction with a Spanish force from the Philippines, have seized the harbor and the adjacent territory of Tourane, and are preparing to assail the modern capital, Hué. The ostensible cause of this invasion arose from revolting cruelties perpetrated upon certain French and Spanish missionaries. Lying across the track of commerce with China, the coasts of the Cochinese territory abound in shoals and rocks, where navigation is intricate and dangerous. A fearful swell for ever rolls over the shallows, and the Cochinese, in vessels drawing but little water, lie in wait for disabled ships, plundering them and murdering their crews. Several French and Spanish vessels have been seized by these pirates; and it is no small advantage to the extending commerce of Europe with the East that these marauding hordes should be exterminated.

It is surprising how great a degree of civilization we find existing in those countries which are out of the reach apparently of external influence. The Cochinese have formed an admirable road of 600 miles in length, from Hué to Kecho. They have extensive navigable canals leading from the capital to the larger towns. They have iron mines at Tonkin, and gold and silver mines towards the west, well worked and remunerative. Since the establishment of Singapore they carry on a considerable trade with that emporium; the exports in 1856 being of the value of £100,000. They excel in naval architecture every family of any consideration possessing a gondola, ornamented with gilded carving, in which they live during the heats of summer, moving up and down the rivers, or on their shallow seas. They have also a literature of their own. The present monarch, who ascended the throne in 1841, published about ten years ago a "History of Dynasties, composed by an Imperial hand." The work is shrewd and thoughtful, and betrays an intimate knowledge of the Eastern class of diplomacy. Among other points the writer insists that the concessions made to the barbarians in 1841 and 1846 are the causes of the depression of the Chinese monarchy. The army is considerable; the regular infantry number 40,000 men. They have 800 elephants for war service, about 200 gun-boats, 100 galleys, and 500 small vessels well adapted for their intricate navigation. The finest muslins in the world were anciently woven at Camboja.

The population is roughly estimated at 22 millions, and in manners, religion, and laws, they resemble the Siamese. Their climate resembles that of Lower Bengal, but is healthy both to Europeans and natives. Some parts of the country produce three crops of rice annually, and in general the land is said to be exceedingly fertile. Besides rice, it produces Indian corn, earth nuts, the *convolvulus Battata*, (once proposed to be introduced into England as a substitute for the potato,) cinnamon, indigo, and a coarse description of tea. Cotton is cultivated everywhere, and silk is a general object of attention with the peasantry. The principal commercial productions are cotton, silk, arca nuts, betel, spices, gamboge, sandal and sapanwood, and ivory. They import principally cotton and silk fabrics, woollen cloths, and opium.

To us, with China and Japan opened to our manufactures, Cochin China at present offers an extraordinary field. Hereafter the perseverance of the French may render Tourane at least a frequented mart for commerce. The three greatest powers of Europe are now firmly rooted in the East. Russia possesses the most fertile portion of the Delta of the Amoor, on the north of China; France now occupies a sea board on the coast of Cochin China; and England is gradually pushing up from India to Burma and Siam. Let us hope that this triad of great nations will think not merely of their own profit but of the well-being and happiness of the races they are placed amongst by a superintending providence.—*Liverpool Courier*.

2. PRESENT STATE OF INDIA.

Wednesday, June 23, was the anniversary of the battle of Plassey, when Clive, with 1000 Englishmen and 2000 Sepoys, defeated and

dispersed the army of Bengal, numbering 40,000 infantry, 15,000 cavalry, 50 pieces of the heaviest ordnance, and a number of French auxiliaries. On this day last year the mutineers were in possession of Delhi, they had beset Lucknow, and besieged Cawnpore. A wail was heard throughout the land, and people asked each other, with pale lips, what was to happen next? England, however, girded up her loins, and prepared herself for the struggle. She lost many men, but she did not lose her heart, and India is ours to-day—aye, more firmly and more enduringly than ever it was since its fetters were forged on the plains of Plassey. Delhi is ours, Lucknow is ours, Cawnpore is ours, Bareilly is ours, Jhansi is ours, Calpee is ours, Kotah is ours, and Gwalior is ours; there is, in fact, not a stronghold in the country from the summit of which the British flag is not waving. The princes of the Mogul dynasty have been shot like dogs, and their carcasses exposed in the market-place. Everywhere retribution has overtaken the murderers, and the remnants of the mutinous army are now the denizens of the jungle. The rebellious rajahs and chiefs have neither house nor home. They have been blown from guns, hanged, transported, and imprisoned; and even the foot of the miscreant of Bithoor can scarcely find a resting place among his own kith and kindred. The King of Delhi is awaiting a felon's doom, and everywhere disaster, disgrace, and death have followed all who opposed us. Timid people still entertain alarm; but there is no longer any real grounds for apprehension. The anniversary of Plassey in 1857 found us, in the midst of all our troubles and calamities, still the dominant race, and to day, amid all our triumphs and victories, finds us a thousand times more so. We have, no doubt, a great work still before us; but the grand end has been attained—our supremacy in India has been made manifest. The prestige of our arms has everywhere been maintained, and even bhag and fanaticism have recoiled before the British bayonet. It is true that we have met with a few accidents, but these have been generally the result of the rash daring of thoughtless commanders, not the consequence of either lack of courage, or deficiency of endurance. We have beaten the rebels on their own battle grounds, we have driven them from the fortresses they had most strongly fortified, and we have met and muzzled them in the jungles like tigers in their dens. Altogether we look upon to-day as one of the most auspicious anniversaries the English ever witnessed in India. Our legions are invincible, the ramparts of our power impregnable, and our position as the dominant race unassailable. Everywhere our arms are victorious, and instead of being afraid of battle we court it. Our gage is, lying on the plains of Hindostan; but as yet we have found none to have the hardihood to pick it up. The rebel leaders would evidently rather hear the mouse squeak than the lark sing—hence their love for hole and corner fighting. The end is, however, rapidly approaching, and the disappearance of "something white" will, we imagine, be the signal for their own dispersion.—*Bombay Telegraph.*

3. PARCELS BY POST IN CANADA.

Mr. Postmaster General Smith has inaugurated a new era in the Postal communications of Canada. Under the new arrangement, parcels of any weight not exceeding one pound will be carried by mail from the Red River to Gaspe, from Sarnia to Sherbrooke, from the Upper Ottawa to the Niagara, for the small charge of twenty five cents. Packages not exceeding two pounds will be conveyed, in like manner for half a dollar. Heavier weights than these will not be taken.

This will produce a complete revolution in the method of transmitting small articles from one part of our country to another. It will not, we should imagine, interfere materially with the operations of the Express Companies, and will be, perhaps, no great boon to cities and towns on the main lines of Railway, but to country towns and villages it will be of the greatest benefit. It will accommodate many people living near each of the one thousand five hundred and fifty post offices in the province, and, if nine millions of letters received the stamp of the department last year, the number of small parcels that will be sent may be inferred to be large. We should imagine, too, that the profits the Government will derive from the new system will be considerable. Very little fresh machinery will be needed; the same means that suffice for the carriage of letters will nearly suffice for that of parcels, so that the additional expense will be small; and if the deficit in the Post Office service can be reduced below the £33,000 it cost last season, the people will have an additional reason for satisfaction.—*Hamilton Spectator.*

4. OTHER POSTAL IMPROVEMENTS IN CANADA.

Negotiations are in progress for extending the money order system to England. There is every probability that the arrangement, which will be of great advantage to persons having small money transactions

with England, and especially to emigrants who desire to remit to their friends, will be concluded and speedily go into effect.

In a short time, probably at the commencement of the new year, all letters to England will have to be prepaid. In England, if prepayment is not made, the receiver of the letter has to pay double postage. It may become a question whether the same rule should not be adopted here.

Descending from general to local arrangements, a new system of postal delivery in this city will shortly be put into operation. The city will be divided into sections, into each of which there will be a drop-letter box and a letter carrier. Each section will be of such dimensions that two or three, or perhaps four deliveries will be made daily. A person writing to another, in any part of the city, will be sure to have an answer the same day; provided his correspondent is at home or at his place of business, and is attentive. The drop-boxes now in the city are not availed of to any considerable extent, on account of the incompleteness of the system. Under the new system, they will be emptied as often as the letter-carriers of the different sections go round; the letters in them will be taken to the post office, and if they be for the city, they will be delivered as soon as they have been stamped. Some such system as this prevails in Montreal; and Toronto has now a population sufficiently large to justify its extension to this city.—*Leader.*

JOURNAL OF EDUCATION,

Upper  Canada.

TORONTO: FEBRUARY, 1859.

* * Parties in correspondence with the Educational Department will please quote the number and date of any previous letters to which they may have occasion to refer, as it is extremely difficult for the Department to keep trace of isolated cases, where so many letters are received (nearly 800 per month) on various subjects.

[Circular in regard to Prison Libraries.]

TO THE WARDEN AND MEMBERS OF EACH COUNTY COUNCIL IN UPPER CANADA.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the *Journal of Education* for January, addressed to the County Clerk,* and to invite your attention, and that of the Council over which you preside, to the papers relative to Libraries in Prisons and Gaols, on the first three pages. I need not add one word to what is contained in these papers, as to the importance and usefulness of such Libraries, and their salutary influence in the several Prisons and Gaols where they have already been established.

I shall be most happy to co-operate with the Council over which you preside in establishing a Prison Library in your County, under such regulations, in connection with the Departmental regulations, as your Council may think proper to adopt, by apportioning one hundred per cent. upon any sum or sums which may be raised from local sources for that purpose, and by forwarding such books as you may think proper to select from the Official Catalogue of Books for Public Libraries.

I have, heretofore, furnished each Municipal Council with a copy of the Official Catalogue, and a copy of the Catalogue of Maps and other Apparatus, provided by this Department for Public Schools, together with the printed blank forms of application; and I shall be happy to furnish them again, and to afford every aid and facility in my power, as well as make the apportionment above intimated, towards accom-

* A copy is also sent each month addressed to the County Clerk and Treasurer.

plishing the desirable object named, and also in promoting the efficiency of the Public Schools in the same manner. (*See Departmental Notices, page 32.*)

I will thank you to have the goodness to lay this circular before your Municipal Council, and to let me know, as early as convenient, the decision of your Council on the subject which I have taken the liberty to bring under your notice.

I have the honor to be,

Mr. Warden and Gentlemen,

Your fellow-laborer, and faithful servant,

E. RYERSON.

EDUCATION OFFICE,

Toronto, 17th Jan., 1859.

ORDER AND CLASSIFICATION OF STUDIES PRESCRIBED FOR THE COMMON SCHOOLS IN UPPER CANADA.

As observed in the Upper Canada Model School, Toronto.

Adopted by the Council of Public Instruction on the 31st day of December, 1858.

(1) Table defining the course to be completed in the First or Lowest Division.

Enunciation.—To be able to enunciate clearly and distinctly the elementary sounds of the English language.

Spelling and Definition.—To be able to spell any word in the First and Second Book of Lessons, and to give the meaning in familiar terms.

Reading.—To be able to read fluently and well any passage contained in the First and Second Books of Lessons, and to know the substance of such lessons.

Writing.—To be able to form correctly and legibly all the letters of the alphabet, and combine them into simple words.

Arithmetic.—To be able to read and write any combination of not more than FIVE Arabic numerals, and the Roman numerals to the sign for 500; to know the Multiplication Table and Tables of Money, Weights, Length and Time; to be familiarly acquainted with Simple Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division by factors.

Grammar.—To be able to point out the Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives, Verbs, and Adverbs in any common reading lesson; to know the number, gender, and person of the nouns and pronouns.

Geography.—To know the map of the World, map of America, map of Canada, and other parts of British America.

Natural History, Object Lessons.—To have a familiar acquaintance with the habits, uses, instincts, &c., of the most important animals of each class. Other Object Lessons may be used.

Needle-work (for girls)—Under the direction of the female teacher.

(2) Table defining the course of study to be completed in the Second Division.

Reading.—To be able to read fluently and well any passage contained in the Sequel to the Second Book, or in the Third Book of Lessons, and to know the substance of such Reading Lessons.

Spelling and Definition.—To be able to spell and define any word contained in the Sequel and Third Books of Lessons.

Writing.—To be able to write legibly and correctly.

Arithmetic.—To be able to read and write legibly any combination of not more than TEN Arabic numerals to the left and

six to the right, of the decimal point, and the Roman numerals to the sign for 1,000; to be acquainted with the principles of Arabic and Roman Notation; to be thoroughly acquainted with the Arithmetical Tables, and to be familiarly and practically acquainted with the Simple and Compound Rules, Reduction, Greatest Common Measure, Least Common Multiple, Vulgar Fractions, and Simple Proportion, including Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division of Decimals and Decimal Currency.

Grammar.—To be thoroughly acquainted with the grammatical forms, and be able to analyse and parse any easy sentences; and, as an exercise in slate composition, to be able to write short descriptions of any natural objects.

Geography.—In addition to former limit Table, to know the Political and Physical Geography of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, and Oceanica, the different countries in each, with their capitals; and to know the position and chief cities in the states of the American Union bordering on British America, from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean.

History.—To have a general knowledge of the History of the World, as given in the Fifth Book.

Human Physiology.—As contained in the Fifth Book.

Needle-work (for girls)—Under the direction of the female teacher.

(3) Course of Study (Third Division).

Reading.—Fourth and Fifth Books, in same manner as other books are used in lower divisions.

Spelling and Definition.—Reading Books and Spelling Book Superseded.

Derivation.—Reading Books and Spelling Book Superseded.

Writing.—Text, and a bold running hand.

Arithmetic.—Second Book of Arithmetic (National Series).

Grammar.—Analysis and parsing of compound sentences in prose and verse; changes in construction, &c.; composition.

Geography.—Mathematical, Physical, and Political, with Map sketching on the blackboard.

Algebra.—(Colenso's) Part I.

Euclid.—First six books.

Mensuration.—Of Surfaces and Solids.

Drawing.—Linear and Map.

English Literature.—Spalding.

Book-keeping.—Elements.

Human Physiology—To possess a familiar acquaintance with the anatomy of the bones and skin, a general knowledge of the structure and uses of the muscles and organs of digestion, and to be familiar with the general principles upon which the healthy action and development of these various organs depend; circulation, respiration, nervous system, senses, &c.

History.—General, English, and Canadian.

Singing.—Hullah's Vocal Music.

Natural Philosophy.—In the Fifth Book of Lessons

Needle-work (for girls)—Under the direction of the female teacher.

BOYS :

- *Trigonometry.
- *Elements of Geology.
- * ditto Zoology.
- * ditto Botany.
- * ditto Nat. Philosophy.

GIRLS :

- *Science of things familiar.
- *Elements of Geology.
- * ditto Zoology.
- * ditto Botany.
- *Domestic Economy.

* Extra subjects, to be taken up at the discretion of the school authorities; no two, however, during the same school term.

V. Papers on Natural History.

3. THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY'S FUR ROOMS AT VICTORIA, V. I.

One of the most interesting and really instructive features of Victoria are the "fur rooms" of the Hudson Bay Company, within the Fort. Here may be seen great bales of the most valuable, rare, and beautiful furs and skins of the monsters of the deep and lords of the forest. Here we may stroke the back of the bear without fear and fondle the polecat without contamination. It is like visiting a grand menagerie comprising all the wild animals of Oregon and Washington territories, Vancouver's Island, and British Columbia. Some of the skins have come hundreds of miles—from the wildest and most inaccessible places known to man. What a volume of daring ventures, feats requiring coolness and courage, might be told of the capture and slaying of the wild beasts who once filled the glossy furs before you, and the flash of whose eyes once made the stoutest hearts tremble! Hundreds of white hunters and trappers are constantly employed by the company to hunt and trap the beaver, otter, black, gray and silver fox, lynx, marten, wolverine or glutton, mink, musk rat, &c., besides at all the trading posts these skins are eagerly sought after and purchased from the Indians; and a steamer, the *Beaver*, is entirely engaged in going from one Indian port to another of the Islands to the north of Victoria, trading blankets, biscuit, and other articles of necessity and prime value to the savages for these skins and furs. Here in Victoria is the grand depot where all the skins find their way, are cured, packed, and forwarded to London once a year, in a steamer belonging to the company, which arrives here in the month of March of each year, direct from the old country. These vessels are fitted up expressly for the trade, and the "fur room" is lined with zinc in order to keep out rats, and at the same time so arranged as to permit a free ventilation. These skins are regularly packed into large wine casks by means of a screw, and it is wonderful the number that are pressed into a single cask. The skins are freely sprinkled with a decoction of tobacco leaves and gin as disinfecting agents, before being shipped. The value of some of the furs in Europe is very great, and the profits of the trade are large. The beaver, besides being valuable for its fur, furnishes a substance that is considerably used in medicine; its commercial name is *castor*, a liquid contained in two small bladders. These pouches or bladders are tied, and in this condition sold to druggists.—*Leader*.

4. THE CHASE, ITS IMPORTANCE AS A BRANCH OF INDUSTRY IN CANADA.

We learn from the *Quebec Courier du Canada* that, last year, in the small Indian village of Lorette, no less than 2500 deer skins, besides a large number of those of other animals, were manufactured, as follows:—About 20,000 pairs of winter shoes and mocassins, selling wholesale, at an average of from 1 to 2 dollars a pair; 1,000 pairs of *raquettes*, or snow shoes, selling at from \$3 to \$6 per piece; 300 Indian sleds, or *tobogans*, selling at from \$1 to \$2 a pair; besides a quantity of ornamental articles of considerable value—thus yielding a return of upwards of \$34,000 to the hunters and makers of that village for their years' industry.

5. THE FISHERIES OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.

From a published announcement we observe that these important fisheries will shortly be to let. The Hudson Bay Company's lease of what are known as the "King's Posts," situated on the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, expires in May next, and the whole of the salmon fisheries on a coast of more than five hundred miles in extent, will then be open to public competition. The northern shore is wild and mountainous, with innumerable rivers teeming with salmon and sea trout. These fisheries have as yet been turned to very little account. The coasts fisheries, more particularly for seals and porpoises, are also of great value, but, in like manner, still remain in a great measure undeveloped. The attempt to establish fisheries has in some instances failed, but this has been from deficiency of capital, not from want of fish. A gentleman of Quebec, Mr. Teto, who owns a seignory below the Saguenay, has carried on a fishery of the latter description with great success, but this has been because he has invested ample means in the undertaking. The nets alone that are used for capturing porpoises cost a large sum of money, as they are of great size, and made of the strongest material. The nonproductiveness of the salmon fisheries has arisen chiefly from want of conveyance and from an improper method of curing the fish. Both these obstacles may be overcome with sufficient capital and knowledge of the business. Properly cured or preserved, salmon would bring a high price in New York and other markets, but the smoked salmon at present offered for sale is so poisoned with salt as to be quite

unpalatable. The mere distance from market should be no obstacle to the successful prosecution of these fisheries. Some of the salmon rivers in the north of Scotland are practically as remote from London as the St. Lawrence fisheries are from New York, Boston and Philadelphia, but by proper management, and by the employment of smacks and steamers, they have been made of great value. For one river alone an Aberdeen firm recently paid a rent of six or seven thousand a-year, and the same house, we believe, had a capital of half a million sterling invested in the trade, which is a very profitable one. To induce capitalists to enter into the business, and to prevent the fisheries from being destroyed by illegal practices, we believe the Canadian Government intend to grant leases on very moderate terms.

(To the Editor of the Journal of Education.)

PORT COLBORNE, 29th Jan., 1859.

SIR,—In the table of contents in the *Journal of Education* for the present month, I observe "Papers on Natural History, No. 1." As a zealous student, I trust it is the first of a long series.

I have often contemplated a communication to the conductors of our provincial press, urging that a column should be devoted to this subject. The article above alluded to led to the suggestion now submitted, that the *Journal of Education* is for many reasons the best channel for disseminating such information.

I would hint that with your ready access to Audubon's and other works in the Library of the House of Assembly, you could readily supply information and answer queries that I think would be put from all parts of the Province, and a page could thus be rendered both amusing and instructive to many readers of the "Journal," and become the means of making the other matters treated of more widely circulated.

I have penned these few lines hastily, with the No. for January before me, and I trust the matter will receive from you a measure of consideration, conceiving that it would foster among the young of Canada a taste for that study so healthful both to mind and body.

I am, Sir,

Yours most truly,

J. W. VERNER.

[We shall be happy to comply with the request of our correspondent as far as possible. The series will be continued.—ED. J. OF ED.]

VI. Biographical Sketches.

No. 2.—COMMANDER VIGER.

Scarcely has the earth closed over the mortal remains of the Hon. Robert Baldwin, ere news reaches us that another distinguished notability of this Province has gone the way of all flesh. We learn, from, Max. Bibaud's *Dict. des Hommes Illustres*, that the latter deceased was born in this city, May 7th, 1787. He was a man of elegant tastes, a keen antiquary, and indefatigable collector of historical, public and private. Without being much of an author himself, his liberal contribution of materials *pour servir* did much to enrich the works of others. In the year 1812, he edited and published the "Relation de la Mort de Louis XVI., par l'Abbe Edgeworth de Firmont, sou-dernier Confesseur." The titles of few other literary performances of M. Viger have reached us; but we understand he has left behind him large collections, the result of long researches, especially among extant records, early and late, regarding the annals of Canada, and the history of its chief families of the olden stock. We hope yet to learn that these may be turned to account by native *litterateurs*. An illustrated Repertory of things remarkable and rare, which he called his "Album," is one of the greatest curiosities this city contains. It is said to be a real museum, in little, of historic, artistic, mechanical and antiquarian objects. The library of M. Viger is also known to be very rich for its peculiar contents. Having the command of an ample fortune, he befriended rising men of letters and struggling artists; and in his private relations was greatly esteemed for kindness of heart and blandness of manners. His love of country was ardent, and his regard for its institutions, religious and civil, especially vivid.

During the Administration of the Provincial Government, he was presented to a seat in the Executive Council, and became, by the regardful suffrages of his fellow-citizens, the first Mayor of Montreal. His title of Commander he derived from Rome, through being a distinguished lay defender of the rights of his Church. He held, for a time, the office of road-inspector, &c. While filling these offices, he did much to advance all measures of public improvement, material and moral: a proof that what is called a *bookish man* may be alert in the performance of practical duties. But "the ruling passion strong in death" became conspicuous in his latest hours; for the fatal stroke fell upon him on Sunday last, about one in the after-

noon, amidst his volumes and MSS. ; and thus fitly closed a peaceful, blameless, and not unuseful life. The malady with which he had been some time afflicted, was disease of the heart. *Requiescat in pace!*—*Montreal Pilot.*

No. 3.—THE HONORABLE SAMUEL CRANE.

(Written for the "Renfrew Journal.")

"Like leaves on trees the race of man is found,
Now green in youth, now withering on the ground,
Another race the following spring supplies,
They fall successive and successive rise:
So generations in their course decay,
They flourish these, when those are past away."

Within a short time three men, great in their way, who occupied the most prominent positions in trade, social life, and public affairs in Central Canada, have been swept away from us for ever. John Egan of Aylmer, Thomas McKay of New Edinburgh, and Samuel Crane of Prescott, were these three men. Each in his sphere was most useful ; but as different in characteristics as the countries which gave them birth. Egan, an Irishman, full of suavity and instinctive chivalry, the chivalry of the middle ages—engaged in trade—a trade, it is true, more exciting and less plodding than any other in Canada and therefore more congenial to a courageous, adventurous disposition. Genial, generous, magnanimous, princely, in fact, Egan, true to the instincts of his race, was impulsive, and therefore, at times uncertain,—the exact counterpart of the Saxon, Crane who was cold, almost to repulsion, but at all times certain and reliable. McKay, a Scot, cannie as his race—in money matters—but unlike them, neither cool nor certain—he was in temper very unequal, owing, doubtless, to the contradictions involved in a democratic training in early life conflicting with aristocratic aspirings in after life ; for of these three men doubtless he rose from the most humble beginnings ; but for this the greater eclat is due him. He nevertheless managed his fortune well, he managed it for the greatest benefit to his adopted country ; and though not dashing, like Egan, or industrious like Crane, he had the good fortune to die richer than either. Such are the uncertainties of fortune. "The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong."

The subject of our present notice, the Honorable Samuel Crane of Prescott, on the St Lawrence, was in every respect a man of a different stamp from either of these two Ottawa magnates ; better informed, yet less fortunate than either of them, though more painstaking and industrious. In fact, we never knew a man possessed of more untiring industry—night and day, holiday and week day, he was incessantly at work—yet through the calamities, and the changes, and convulsions of times, which he could not control, dying, unrequited for all this toil. Never showing an elation or depression of spirits for any fortune or misfortune that might happen him, he excited no enthusiasm—most kind and considerate, yet ungracious in the manner of exhibiting his passion, he was not considered so, and yet he was full of benevolence, affection and humanity, as those who know him the best well know.

Mr Crane was a native of the United States of America, yet American, as he was in origin, no man could be more unlike the fillibustering Yankee of the present day. All tricks, all vapourings, all excitement, all hollow pretensions, he instinctively abhorred. To find an American atmosphere fit for such a man, one would have to go back to the solid American days of 1776. American as he was, no man could be more devotedly attached to British supremacy. This was fully exemplified in his spirited conduct in '37 and '38, when Prescott became a theatre for American fillibusterism. On that trying occasion he organized the people in his employ at Prescott, some 70 or 80 in number, and then put himself at their head to repel the invaders ; and this he did without pay or reward, or the expectation of it. For men of his origin in those days there was no hope left in Canada ; but Mr. Crane was not the man to care anything for this. He acted from principle and principle alone,—for whether under the guise of patriotism, or the still more specious guise of loyalty, he had an innate abhorrence of vagabondism, no matter what garb it wore.

Twenty years ago, before the St. Lawrence Canals were built, or Railroads thought of, in the days of Durham boats and barges, Mr. Crane was one of the Commercial Magnates of the land. In every bay, at every wharf, along every river and canal of the St Lawrence and Ottawa, his boats were to be found. The house of McPherson & Crane was at the head of all other forwarding Houses in Canada—their business was large. To found such a business at once would require an enormous capital ; but the business grew up gradually with time and the wants and the necessities of the country. To keep such a complicated business going successfully for a long period of time required constant care and active industry ; and Mr Crane was one of the most industrious and careful of men. Besides his

chief business of Forwarder, he was engaged in various other enterprises of an utilitarian character, in all of which he was distinguished, for probity, liberality and honor.

In the summer of 1836, during the great carnival of the Sir Francis Bond Head election, when great first principles were truly at stake, Mr. Crane was on the side of "Responsible Government"—that was the watchword of the time. He earnestly supported Norton and Wells, the representative men of that principle, on that occasion, not on revolutionary grounds, but on Conservative constitutional grounds. In the year 1841, the Sydenham era, Mr. Crane ran himself for Grenville, and was returned triumphantly. In Parliament, Mr. Crane rarely, if ever, spoke. He voted with his party steadily and honorably in Parliament ; and that was all. Looking on all noisy talk as for the most part a lever for fraud, he was a silent man ; he never troubled the Government for patronage of any kind, but was nevertheless one of its staunchest supporters.

In 1844, during the Metcalfe disruption, Mr. Crane retired from Parliament, his immense business requiring his undivided attention. After the return of his party to power in 1848, he was called to the Legislative Council, and became the Hon. Samuel Crane. Never was honor more deservedly bestowed. But whatever his friends or his family may have cared, he cared nothing for pomp. He took no active part as a Senator ; his business still more urgently requiring his undivided attention, until at length, in his old age, after a life-long struggle of unrequited toil, it overpowered him. Than a continuous, honorable, life-long struggle on the part of a resolute intelligent and proud man against adverse fate, nothing in life can be more heroic, and no martyrdom more painful.

Such a man, great in the infancy of a new country, should not be allowed to depart from amongst us without regrets for his memory ; and to our shame be it spoken, we sympathized too little with them, while living. In other countries they have an enthusiastic way of cheering on their useful men we know nothing of in Canada. Of public men we know of none more deserving of the public regard than men largely engaged in industrial enterprises that give employment to their fellowmen. And of such men the late Mr. Crane was in his day, one of the most prominent as connected with the St. Lawrence and Ottawa. "Respect for his memory ! Peace to his ashes ! !"

No. 4. PROPOSED STATUE OF THE LATE HON. ROBERT BALDWIN, C.B.

A correspondent writes thus to the editor of the *Barrie Northern Advance* :—

"May I be permitted, as an humble man in the woods, to suggest through your paper, to the Municipalities of Canada, to erect a full statue, in his official robes, and in his hand a scroll, inscribed thereon the Municipalities of Canada, and the date thereof, to the memory of the late Hon. R. Baldwin ? And may I be permitted to suggest an appropriate site for such a Christian chief and statesman's monument ? Then I would say, place it at right angles with the Episcopal Cathedral, facing King and Church streets, in the city of Toronto, of which Church he was a most consistent member. Let the Reeves and Deputy Reeves, at their first meetings of the new year, move a resolution in each Municipality, instructing their Wardens in their respective counties to meet in one united municipal body, in the city of Toronto—to assess each Municipality according to population, for the purpose of raising a fund for the erection of such a monument as shall do honor to his memory, as well as to the Municipalities of Canada. And in the pathetic sentiments of our Canadian poet, let Canada exclaim :

Drop silent tears upon the statesman's grave ;
Mourn that a noble heart has lost its might—
That one more voice is hushed whose utterings brave
Were ever raised to plead the cause of right "

VII. Miscellaneous.

1. BEAUTIFUL SNOW.

OH ! the snow, the beautiful snow,
Filling the sky and the earth below ;
Over the house-tops, over the street,
Over the heads of the people you meet ;
Dancing,
Flirting,

Skimming along,
Beautiful snow ! it can do nothing wrong.
Flying to kiss a fair lady's cheek ;
Clinging to lips in a frolicsome freak,
Beautiful snow, from the heavens above,
Pure as angels and fickle as love !

Oh! the snow, the beautiful snow!
 How the flakes gather and laugh as they go!
 Whirling about in its maddening fun,
 It plays in its glee, with every one,
 Chasing,
 Laughing,
 Hurrying by,
 It lights up the face and it sparkles the eye;
 And even the dogs, with a bark and a bound,
 Snap at the crystals that eddy around.
 The town is alive and its heart in a glow
 To welcome the coming of beautiful snow.

How the wild crowd goes swaying along,
 Hailing each other with humor and song!
 How the gay sledges like meteors flash by—
 Bright for a moment, then lost to the eye.

Ringling,
 Swinging,
 Dashing they go,
 Over the crest of the beautiful snow;
 Snow so pure when it falls from the sky,
 To be trampled in mud by the crowd rushing by;
 To be trampled and tracked by the thousands of feet
 Till it blends with the filth in the horrible street.

Once I was pure as the snow—but I fell:
 Fell, like the snow flakes, from—heaven to hell:
 Fell, to be tramped as the filth of the street;
 Fell, to be scoffed, to be spit on, and beat.

Pleading,
 Cursing,
 Dreading to die,
 Selling my soul to whoever would buy,
 Dealing in shame for a morsel of bread,
 Hating the living and fearing the dead.
 Merciful God! have I fallen so low?
 And yet I was once like this beautiful snow!

Once I was fair as the beautiful snow,
 With an eye like its crystals, a heart like its glow;
 Once I was loved for my innocent grace—
 Flattered and sought for the charm of my face.

Father,
 Mother,
 Sisters all,
 God and myself I have lost by my fall.
 The veriest wretch that goes shivering by
 Will take a wide sweep, lest I wander too nigh:
 For of all that is on or about me, I know
 There is nothing that's pure but the beautiful snow.

How strange it would be that this beautiful snow
 Should fall on a sinner with nowhere to go!
 How strange it would be, when the night comes again,
 If the snow and the ice struck my desperate brain,

Fainting,
 Freezing,
 Dying alone!
 Too wicked for prayer, too weak for my moan
 To be heard in the crash of the crazy town,
 Gone mad in their joy at the snow's coming down;
 To lie and to die in my terrible woe,
 With a bed and a shroud in the beautiful snow!

2. WHAT IS TO BE DONE WITH OUR CHARLEY.*

Yes—that is the question! The fact is, there seems to be no place in heaven above, or earth beneath, exactly safe and suitable, except the bed. While he is asleep there, our souls have rest—we know where he is, and what he is about, and sleep is a gracious state; but then he wakes up bright and early, and begins tooting, pounding, hammering, singing, meddling, and asking questions, in short, overturning the peace of society generally, for about thirteen hours out of every twenty-four.

Everybody wants to know what to do with him.—The cook can't have him in the kitchen, where he infests the pantry to get flour to make paste for his kites, or melt lard in the new saucepan. If he goes into the wood-shed, he is sure to pull the wood-pile down upon his head. If he be sent up into the garret, you think for a while that you have settled the problem, till you find what a boundless

field for activity is at once opened, amid all the packages, boxes, bags, barrels, and cast-off rubbish there. Old letters, newspapers, trunks of miscellaneous contents, are all rummaged, and the very reign of chaos and old Night is instituted. He sees endless capacities in all, and he is always hammering something, or knocking something apart, or sawing, or planing, or drawing boxes and barrels in all directions to build cities or lay railroad tracks, till everybody's head aches quite down to the lower floor, and every body declares that Charley must be kept out of the garret.

Then you send Charley to school, and hope you are fairly rid of him for a few hours at least. But he comes home noisier and more breezy than ever, having learned of some 20 other Charleys every separate resource for keeping up a commotion that the super-abundant vitality of each can originate. He can dance like Jim Smith—he has learned to smack his lips like Joe Brown—and Will Briggs has shown him how to mew like a cat, and he enters the premises with a new war-whoop, learned from Tom Evans. He feels large and valorous; he has learned that he is a boy, and has a general impression that he is growing immensely strong and knowing, and despises more than ever the conventionalities of parlor life; in fact, he is more than ever an interruption in the way of decent folks who want to be quiet.

It is true, that, if entertaining persons will devote themselves exclusively to him, reading and telling stories, he may be kept quiet; but then this is discouraging work, for he swallows a story as Rover does a piece of meat, and looks at you for another and another, without the slightest consideration, so that this resource is of short duration, and then the old question comes back: What is to be done with him?

But, after all, Charley cannot be wholly shirked, for he is an institution—a solemn and awful fact; and, on the answer to the question, "What is to be done with him?" depends a future.

Many a hard, morose, bitter man has come from a Charley turned off and neglected; many a parental heartache has come from a Charley left to run the streets, that mamma and sisters might play on the piano and write letters in peace. It is easy to get rid of him; there are fifty ways of doing that. He is a spirit that can be promptly laid, but, if not laid aright, will come back, by-and-by a strong man armed, when you cannot send him off at pleasure.

Mamma and sisters had better pay a little tax to Charley now, then a terrible one by-and-by. There is something significant in the old English phrase, with which our scriptures render us familiar—a man child—a man child. There you have the word that should make you think more than twice before you answer the question. "What shall we do with Charley?"

For to-day he is at your feet; to-day you can make him laugh, you can make him cry, you can persuade, coax, and turn him to your pleasure; you can make his eyes fill and his bosom swell with recitals of good and noble deeds; in short, you can mould him, if you will take the trouble.

But look ahead some years, when that little voice shall ring in deep bass tones; when that small foot shall have a man's weight and tramp; when a rough beard shall cover that little, round chin, and the wilful strength of manhood fill out that little form. Then you would give worlds for the key to his heart, to be able to turn and guide him to your will; but if you will lose that key now he is little, you may search for it carefully, with tears, some other day, and never find it.

Old housekeepers have a proverb, that one hour lost in the morning is never found all day. It has a significance in this case.

One thing is to be noticed about Charley, that, rude, and busy, and noisy as he is, and irksome as carpet rules, and parlor ways are to him, he is still a social little creature, and wants to be where the rest of the household are. A room ever so well adapted for play cannot charm him at the hour when the family is in reunion; he hears the voices in the parlor, and his play-room seems desolate. It may be warmed by a furnace, and lighted with gas, but it is human warmth and light he shivers for; he yearns for the talk of the family, which he so imperfectly comprehends, and he longs to take his playthings down and play by you, and is incessantly promising that of the fifty improper things which he is liable to do in the parlor, he will not commit one if you will let him stay there.

The instinct of the little one is nature's warning plea—God's admonition. O, how many a mother who has neglected it, because it was irksome to have the child about, has longed at twenty-five to keep her son by her side, and he would not! Shut out as a little Arab; constantly told that he is noisy, that he is awkward and meddlesome, and a plague in general, the boy has found at last his own company in the streets, in the highways and hedges, where he runs till the day comes when the parents want their son, and the sisters their brother, and then they are scared at the face he brings back to them, as he comes all foul and smutty from the companionship to which they have doomed him. Depend upon it, if it is too much trouble to keep your boy in your society, there will be places

* Mrs. H. B. Stowe, authoress of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," has just published a little work with this title.

found for him—warmed and lighted with no friendly fires—where he who “finds some mischief still for idle hands to do,” will care for him if you do not. You may put out a tree, and it will grow while you sleep, but a son you cannot—you must take trouble for him, either a little now or a great deal by-and-by.

Let him stay with you at least some portion of every day; bear his noise and his ignorant ways. Put aside your book or work to tell him a story, or show him a picture; devise still parlor plays for him; for he gains nothing by being allowed to spoil the comfort of the whole circle. A pencil, a sheet of paper, and a few patterns, will sometimes keep him quiet by you for an hour, while you are talking, or in a corner he may build a block-house, annoying nobody. If he does now and then disturb you, and it costs you more thought and more care to regulate him there, balance which is the greatest evil—to be disturbed by him now, or when he is a man.

Of all you can give your Charley, if you are a good man or woman your presence is the best and safest thing. God never meant him to do without you any more than chickens were meant to grow without being brooded.

Then let him have some place in your house where he may hammer and pound, and make all the litter his heart desires and his various schemes require. Even if you can ill afford the room, weigh well between that safe asylum and one which, if denied, he may make for himself in the street.

Of all devices for Charley which we have, a few shelves which he may dignify with the name of a cabinet, is one of the best. He picks up shells and pebbles and stones, all odds and ends, nothing comes amiss; and if you give him a pair of scissors and a little gum, there is no end to the labels he will paste on, and the hours he may innocently spend in sorting and arranging.

A bottle of liquid gum is an invaluable resource for various purposes, nor must you mind though he varnish his nose and fingers and clothes (which he will do, of course) if he does nothing worse. A cheap paint-box, and some engravings to color, is another; and if you will give him some real paint and putty, to paint and putty his boats and cars, he is a made man.

All these things make trouble—to be sure they do, but Charley is to make trouble, that is the nature of the institution; you are only to choose between safe and wholesome trouble, and the trouble that comes at last like a whirlwind. God bless the little fellow, and send us all grace to know what to do with him.—*N. Y. Independent.*

3. TWELVE GOLDEN MAXIMS FOR FAMILIES.

I. *Health must be regarded.*—This demands the first attention, and unceasing regard. The laws of health must be observed, and those wise and efficient means must be uniformly employed, by which, in connection with the divine blessing, the health of the various members of the family may be secured. It is deeply to be regretted that so many families disregard the laws of health; we cannot wonder that illness so often prevails—that death so prematurely ensues.

II. *Education must be earnestly attended to.*—The mind must be early cultivated: acquisitions, varied and important, must be continually gained. The faculties must be wisely and vigorously disciplined, not only from the consideration of the happiness which will be secured, and the true respectability which will be attained, but from the conviction that, at the present period, a good sound education will be essential to the members of our households in future life—that they will be worth comparatively nothing without it.

III. *Amiable tempers must be cherished.*—The kindly dispositions in our families are not only desirable, but indispensable; there is no domestic happiness without them. One must be bland, courteous, and amiable to another. The law of kindness must be the rule—governing, moulding, harmonizing the family. There must be nothing, hard, stern, or unyielding: but mutual concessions, mutual tenderness, mutual love.

IV. *Industrious habits must be formed.*—Nothing is more essential. Unless active habits are cultivated, and cultivated from principle, no progress can be made in anything that is valuable; no respectability, intellectual, social, or moral, can be gained; no confidence on the part of others can be realized; no blessing from heaven can be vouchsafed. Indolent, apathetic families, habitually sluggish, and indisposed to labour, are ignorant, unhappy, immoral. This may be regarded as an indisputable fact.

V. *Mutual confidence must be reposed.*—There must be no shyness of each other. There must be no jealousy, no undue caution, no distrust. If these feelings may be manifested in the family circle, there will be no comfort, there will be a canker-worm at the root of domestic love and happiness; and this want of confidence will increase, until everything that is petulant and malicious will be discovered.

VI. *A continual desire for domestic tranquillity must be cherished.*—What can be more desirable than peace in our dwellings?—that

peace which is the result of love—which springs from mutual respect and forbearance—which is associated with principle,—which is the consequence of the fear of God—which is identified with filial and unwavering trust in Him. A tranquil, happy home is the very emblem of heaven.

VII. *The parental character must be highly respected.*—There will be no domestic blessing without this. There will be no true dignity in the family without this. There will be no real prosperity at home without this. Parents must occupy their appropriate place: they are the heads of families, and they must be regarded as such. There must be no neglect; no disrespect must be shown them. There must be no contempt of their authority, no indisposition to render obedience. Children must value and honour their parents, else, instead of having a blessing throughout life, they will be sure to have a curse.

VIII. *Domestic order must be maintained.*—Where there is disorder, there is no tranquility, no excellence, no advancement, no happiness. Order in families is essential to their peace, elevation, and progress. In our households, everything should be done at the best time, as well as in the best manner. There should be rules to direct and govern, from which there should be no deviation, unless necessity compels. Disorderly habits, a constant want of arrangement, will entail nothing but loss and misery; and, as the children grow up, these habits will be rendered fixed and permanent, so that they will become men and women, fathers and mothers, without any love of love or order.

IX. *The love of home must be fostered.*—There is no affection, when it is cherished from an early period, and from principle, which is stronger: and sure we are, that there is no feeling which is more valuable and important. It is connected with a thousand endearments; it preserves from a thousand temptations; it is identified with the cultivation of the noblest principles and purest emotions; and it is inseparable from peace and happiness. In such a world as ours, home should be the refuge from every danger; the spot where freedom is found from every care; the haven where tranquil waters are met with after the fiercest storm.

X. *Sympathy under domestic trials must be expressed.*—There must be no cold, no unfeeling heart displayed. Family difficulties will occur, family changes will be experienced; family sorrows will be endured; family bereavements will be undergone; and in these situations there must be sympathetic and tender emotions cherished. The parents must feel for the children, and the children for the parents; brothers must be kind and compassionate towards their sisters in affliction; and sisters must endeavour to alleviate the sorrows and burdens of their brothers. Thus will support be administered under the heaviest pressure; consolation be afforded during painful illnesses and protracted calamities, and the benediction of heaven be graciously imparted.

XI. *Sincere prayer must be presented for each other.*—Parents, in this way especially, must remember their children, and children their parents. It is the best kind of remembrance—the most beautiful expression of love. There should be in the family circle the elevation of the heart to God, for his continual guidance, preservation, and blessing. Mutual prayer will cement mutual love—will alleviate mutual sorrows—will sweeten mutual mercies—will heighten and purify mutual joys. Where these elevated feelings are not cultivated, there is no happiness, no security.

XII. *The family must look forward to a purer, brighter, nobler world than this:*—a world where there shall be no ignorance to darken, no error to mislead, no infirmities to lament, no enemies to assail, no cares to harass, no sickness to endure, no changes to experience; but where all will be perfect bliss, unclouded light, unspotted purity, immortal tranquillity and joy.

Members of families, in passing through life, should make it apparent by their principles, by their habits, by their conversation, by their spirit, by their aims, that they rise above the present transitory scene; and that they are intensely anxious to unite again in that world of peace, harmony and love, where there will be nothing to defile or annoy, and where the thought of separation will be unknown.

Families! make the above maxims your governing principles, and we promise you domestic bliss. Wherever you may find discomfort abroad, you will be sure to realize happiness at home.—*British Mother's Journal.*

4. RARITY OF SUCCESS IN MERCANTILE LIFE.

A communication in the *Country Gentleman* has a word in season for those young men who hanker after tickets in the great lottery of mercantile life:

The writer says: I am a city merchant, having commenced my career as an adventurer from the farm, on a salary of \$80 per year, and having passed through half a year of incessant toil to reach the point where dependence ceases, and ‘dinner ahead’ begins, I filled

a clerkship in several first-class mercantile houses, and was associated with a very considerable number of salesmen, accountants, and clerks generally. Nearly thirty years have passed since my city clerkship began, and the retrospect has developed the following results:

All mercantile houses by whom I was employed have since failed—one, after an eminently creditable career of fifteen years, was carried into hopeless bankruptcy by outside speculation, and another, after thirty-five years of unbounded success and credit, was a few months since in inextricable difficulties—the result of a single dash of the pen—and has forever closed its mercantile existence. Of all the clerks with whom I have been associated, not one has achieved permanent success equal to the value of a well-stocked one hundred acre farm, while from the most brilliant of their number the penitentiary, the hospital, the drunkard's grave, have claimed their victims. Some embarked in business with lofty anticipations of success, but soon passed away in disaster, and the career of not a few would fill thrillingly illustrated chapters in the unwritten history of city merchants' clerks, and prove beyond a question that

"Vice is a monster of such frightful mien,
That to be hated needs but to be seen;
But seen too oft, familiar with its face;
We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

Some sanguine youth may ask where the successful men originate? I answer, they are one in one hundred of those who embark in business, and in several hundred of those who seek clerkships, with anticipations of fortune in prospect.

Personally, by a rare combination of favorable circumstances, those "wonder flowers," that bloom but once in a lifetime, I am meeting what is called success. The way to it was paved by years of incessant labor, of sixteen to eighteen hours per day, and such days and nights of toil as no farmer's boy that I have met with ever dream of in rural labors, and which, if applied to the cultivation of a hundred acre farm, would have developed hidden treasures not dreamed of by the reluctant plowman.

But as years pass and develop, along with the vanities of life, the gray hairs which are stealing upon me, my thoughts often revert to the home scenes of my childhood in the country, and I feel tempted to shake off this artificial life, and seek for my declining years that repose and quiet which I imagine might be found in rural life, among an intelligent and open hearted population devoted to agriculture, and secure my family those health-giving influences, both mental and physical, which cheerful country-life must apply to genial minds.

VIII. Educational Intelligence.

CANADA.

—UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.—Secretary's Office, Toronto, 8th January, 1859.—His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to make the following appointments, viz: George Herrick, Esq., M.D., Ira Lewis, Esq., M.A., Larratt W. Smith, Esq., D.C.L., Samuel Smith Macdonell, Esq., LL.D., The Rev. Henry Bate Jessop, M.A., John Helliwell, Esq., M.A., William George Draper, Esq., M.A., Thomas A. McLean, Esq., M.A., John Boyd, Esq., M.A., Adam Crooks, Esq., M.A., Daniel McMichael, Esq., D.C.L., John Edgworth Thompson, Esq., B.A., Edward C. Jones, Esq., B.A., John D. Armour, Esq., B.A., John J. Kingmill, Esq., B.A., and on Feb. 5th the Hon. Wm. Cayley, to be additional Members of the Senate of the University of Toronto.

—CHIEF JUSTICE SIR J. B. ROBINSON ON CAUSES OF JUVENILE CRIME.—In his recent charge to the Grand Jury, the Chief Justice thus refers to the Common Schools*: "Some of my brother judges in this place have, I perceive, felt themselves called on to remark the increase of crime in the younger part of the population, and also the great extent to which the crime of drunkenness had increased. With regard to the young, and their being led astray without any proper means to reclaim them being taken—there is, I think, no country in the world in which one would expect to find less room for such remarks. For here unusual attention has been paid by the Legislature to the diffusion of knowledge by Common Schools. No parents can have a proper excuse for the non-education of their children. I am satisfied that no proper excuse can be given for children of the poor not being sent to the schools ready to receive them in towns and cities. But it is really of little purpose; for such schools only give them the means of education to a certain period of life. After having attained 12 or 14 years of age, no doubt, the greater number of children were taken from school to assist their parents. From that moment they become exposed to the temptations awaiting them in a city like this. A great many

of them might have sense enough not to listen to any attempts made to draw them to places where idleness and all kinds of vice are going on; but I fear that a great number of them, not having sufficient strength of mind, would be led away by habits of drunkenness. In every little village in the country grog-shops are to be found, under various names. And from their number it is evident they are not at all necessary for the refreshment of travellers. And should you enter one of them, especially after dark, it would be quite evident that their frequenters were not travellers, but parties living in the neighborhood."

—THE GRAND JURY, RECORDER'S COURT, PRESENTMENT ON EDUCATION.—The Grand Jury cannot but notice the large amount of assessment annually for education in this city, being nearly one-sixth of the revenue. They consider that the benefits derived are not commensurate with the cost. The Grand Jury do not complain of the sum raised, but they believe that the persons who now avail themselves of the free schools would have educated their children if no such taxes had been levied, and that the Legislature contemplated levying this compulsory tax to benefit the children of worthless parents and others unable to pay for the education of their children, and thereby remove from our streets those children who are at present running at large, and only educated in crime. The Grand Jury would suggest that the inhabitants or the Council would memorialize the Legislature to pass a law that, while a compulsory tax is levied for education, there be a compulsory system of education for cities.

—BARRIE COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRIZE SCHOLARSHIP FOR 1858.—As intimated in the *Journal of Education* for September, the enterprising Head Master of this Grammar School held the first annual examination of candidates for the Prize Scholarship last December. The subjects of examination were Arithmetic, Geography, and Grammar. The papers on these subjects, which have been kindly sent us, appear to have been drawn up with great fairness and skill. The following are the names of the successful candidates:—

CANDIDATES.	MARKS.	SCHOOL.	TEACHER.
John Magee (successful)	779	Bradford....	S. D. Mishaw.
J. W. Barry	504	do	do
G. Campbell	462	do	do
James Thompson	436	Barrie	D. Bell.
W. H. Oxenham	347	do	do
P. E. Bishop	339	do	do
W. McKay	298	Gwillimbury	— Forsythe.
G. R. Atkinson	220	Oro	Thos Atkinson.

The total number of marks allotted to the questions was 1,200.

The plan adopted by the Rev. Mr. Checkley, Head Master, is an admirable one, and well worthy of imitation of those who would wish to excite a deeper interest in the success of our County Grammar Schools.

At the close of the yearly examination, the pupils and ex-pupils presented Mr. Checkley with a silver tea service, consisting of two salvers, coffee pot, tea pot, sugar bowl, and cream ewer. It was selected for the pupils by F. H. Heward, Esq., of Toronto, at the cost of one hundred dollars, and certainly does credit to that gentleman's taste.

—PUBLIC SCHOOL EXAMINATION, BRADFORD.—At the winter examination of the scholars of Bradford Common School, held at the Free Church, Rev. Mr. McKee, Messrs. James Drury, and D. J. George, awarded prizes in the following branches: Reading, Writing, Arithmetic (mental and practical), English Grammar, Geography, History, Geometry, and Recitations. The answering in every department was highly satisfactory. At the conclusion, Mr. George moved the following resolution:

"That this meeting views with much satisfaction and pleasure that the successful competitor for the scholarship, generously offered by Mr. Checkley of Barrie to the most proficient pupil in the Common Schools of this county, is a pupil of the Bradford School, and it cannot but express its high admiration of the zeal and attainments of S. D. Mishaw, the teacher thereof, through whose praiseworthy efforts this pleasing result has been obtained."

The proceedings were brought to a close by the presentation of a beautiful copy of the Holy Scriptures and an elegant Prayer-book to Mr. Mishaw, by several of the pupils, with a suitable address.

—DUTIES OF LOCAL SUPERINTENDENTS OF UNION GRAMMAR AND COMMON SCHOOLS.—The Guelph Board of School Trustees having given a good deal of attention to this subject, we insert the following schedule of duties

* See Sir George Grey's speech, on page 17.

which have been drawn up by them. The Board make the following preliminary statement:

The duties of Local Superintendents as laid down in the 31st section of the Common School Act of 1850, are to be performed only by Superintendents appointed under the 27th section of the Act, that is to say by the Superintendents appointed by the County Councils. A local Superintendent appointed by a Board of School Trustees of a Town, has no powers under the Common School Act,—his duties are determined by the Board of Trustees. Before determining the duties to be performed by the Local Superintendent, it will be necessary to settle the question, as to how far the Board can give the Superintendent any authority in the Grammar School.

By the union of the two Boards, the Joint Board has the power of the Trustees of both Boards, that is the Joint Board has the power to conduct and manage the Grammar School under the Acts relating to Grammar Schools and the Town Schools under the Common School Act. The Grammar School being recognized as the high school of the Town, but still conducted by the Joint Board under and in accordance with the Statutory provisions and the Rules and Regulations relating to Grammar Schools. Such being the case, the Joint Board cannot provide for duties to be performed by the Superintendent in the Grammar School, where such duties and powers could not be imposed or granted by the Grammar School Board. The duties and powers of the Superintendent must therefore be confined to the Town Common Schools.

Schedule of Duties of Local Superintendent.

1. To visit each of the Town Schools at least once in each quarter, and at the time of each such visit to examine into the state and condition of the Schools, as respects the progress of the pupils in learning, the order and discipline observed, the system of instruction pursued, the mode of keeping school registers, the average attendance of pupils; and to give such advice as he shall judge proper.

2. At the first meeting of the Board after each quarter, to report the state of each school, as the same shall appear to him at his visit required by first section.

3. It is to be distinctly understood that the Public Examination is to be held and conducted by the Teacher of the School, without any interference or control of the Superintendent, the visit and examination of the Superintendent required by section one above, to be at another time.

4. To see that the Schools are managed and conducted according to law, to prevent the use of unauthorised, and to recommend the use of authorised books in each school, to acquire and give information as to the manner in which such authorised books can be obtained, and the advantages and economy of using them; and to report to the Board any matter he may deem to the interest of the schools, to be made known to the Board.

5. It is to be distinctly understood that the duties of the Superintendent are not intended to apply, or have any reference, to the Grammar School.

6. At the examinations to be held by the Superintendent under the first section, the Superintendent shall determine which of the pupils shall at the commencement of the following quarter be advanced from the Junior Primary Schools to the Senior Boys' or Girls' School, in accordance with the regulation of the Board. And at the examinations of Senior Boys' School, the Superintendent shall determine which of the pupils may be, in his opinion, sufficiently advanced to present themselves for admission into the Grammar School at the commencement of the following term; it being understood that such examination is not intended to supersede the examination for admission by the Head Master of the Grammar School.

7. That the Superintendent shall, before the end of such quarter, obtain an account of the amount of school fees collected for the quarter by each Teacher, and, having ascertained the correctness of the same by comparison with the Registers of the Schools, he shall report the same to the Chairman of the Board.

8. And that he shall, at the end of each year, make a general report to the Board on the state and condition of the Schools of the Town, their progress, and such recommendations for their improvement as to him may seem proper.

— SUCCESS OF NORTH MONAGHAN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY.—There are three branches in the Township Library in North Monaghan, that, under the superintendence of Mr. Wm. Wood has issued no less than three hundred volumes during the past year, all of which, there is good ground for believing, have been carefully perused.—*Peterboro' Review.*

— EDUCATION IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.—

The following report was presented to the Central Board from the Education Committee, in February last: "The Committee to whom was referred the letter of the Principal of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, on the subject of aid towards the education of the sons of the clergy, from which it appears that the Council of the College, in establishing their Grammar School and Junior Department, have resolved (to enable the clergy of the Diocese of Quebec and Montreal to send their sons to it) to reduce the fees for tuition from £9 to £6, and their charge for board from £40 to £25 per annum; now respectfully report, that as soon as the funds of the Church Society will permit, a sum of not less than £50 be annually appropriated for the purpose of affording aid to Clergymen within the Diocese desirous of sending their sons to the Junior Department and Grammar School at Lennoxville, at the rate of £10 per annum for each of the children; not more than one out of the same family receiving aid at the same time." The Central Board desires particularly to call attention to this subject, and gratefully acknowledges the kind liberality of two parties, who have enabled the Board to grant aid towards the sons of clergy of this Diocese at the Grammar School at Lennoxville. The Rev. Mr. Doolittle, at the commencement of the year, presented to the Society the sum of £10 towards the education of two scholars, and has again placed a like sum at the disposal of the Central Board, which, at the meeting in January, was appropriated to the education of one of the sons of our clergy. The Secretary was also authorized by another party to place at the disposal of the Board a sum of £10, with a request that the donor be permitted to make the first presentation. The Board have thus the satisfaction of reporting that, through the kind liberality of these friends of the Church, two sons of clergymen are now receiving assistance to aid them in pursuing their studies at Lennoxville Grammar School.—*Recent Diocesan Church Society Report.*

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND.

The annual ceremony of conferring degrees upon the awarding the honorary distinctions to the students of the Queen's Colleges, took place recently in St. Patrick's-hall, Dublin Castle, in the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant, the Duke and Duchess of Montrose, Lady Agnes Graham, Lord Chancellor Napier, and other notables. The Vice-Chancellor (the Right Hon. Maziere Brady) delivered a clear and elaborate address, which was chiefly devoted to the subject of intermediate education, a better provision for which is considered essential to the complete success of the colleges. Meanwhile they are making steady progress, the number of candidates for degrees being in excess of any former year. Thus it seems the number of matriculated students in the three colleges is now 361, and of non-matriculated, 84, making a total of 445. From the opening of the colleges upwards of 12,000 have matriculated, of which number 377 belonged to the Established Church, 402 were Roman Catholics, and 439 Presbyterians and other Protestant Dissenters. On the present occasion 76 successful candidates appeared for diplomas, of whom 20 won medals and other honours, which were distributed by the Lord-Lieutenant. The ceremony having been completed, Lord Eglintoun spoke briefly as follows:—"After the full, clear, and comprehensive address which the Vice-Chancellor has just read, there remains little of anything for me to say beyond expressing to you the pleasure I feel at being present on this occasion. I conceive it is the duty of the Government, and the duty especially of the representative of the Government, which I am, by every means in our power to promote the success of education. (Loud applause.) I conceived it to be one of the first, if not the first duty which the governor of Ireland has before him (applause); and I trust I shall always be found acting up to that opinion ('Hear, hear,' and renewed applause.) The Vice-Chancellor has alluded to the report which has been presented during the last year upon these colleges. I am happy to say that one of the principal subjects of dissatisfaction to which that report alluded has now been put an end to, and I trust that all others, with like efficiency and like ease, will be removed. (Hear, hear.) I trust, with the able co-operation of the Senate, and particularly of the Vice-Chancellor, that this University will continue to prosper even more than it has hitherto done. But I think, on taking into consideration all the difficulties it has had to encounter, that we have every reason to congratulate ourselves upon the success which has hitherto attended it. ('Hear, hear,' and applause.) We have all heard from the Vice-Chancellor that it has been steadily progressing, and that this year there is a greater increase, with the

single exception of last, than it has ever acquired before; and I believe I am warranted in saying that there are double the number of candidates on this occasion that there were two years ago, (Applause.) To those who have just attained the distinctions which have been conferred upon them I have only to say that I am exceedingly rejoiced at their success, and to express my earnest hope that their future lives will correspond with the conduct which they have exhibited in their respective colleges. They are now entering on life, and I trust that the education which they have received at their colleges will enable them to make a successful appearance in their future career, as they have during their earlier training. I beg to assure them they have my best wishes for their future success. (Loud applause.) I have only still further to assure you that there are very few institutions in which I individually take a greater interest, or in which the Government that I represent are more deeply concerned than this university." (Applause.) The Vice-Chancellor next said,—“It now only remains for me, on the part of the Senate of the University and myself to thank your Excellency for permitting us to assemble in St Patrick's Hall, and for the part you have been kind enough to take in the programme of our proceedings. (Applause.) I will take leave to remind his Excellency that the first convocation for a similar purpose took place in the year 1852, when, as the representative of Her Majesty, he was pleased to confer a like honor on us (applause), and to express himself to the Senate and students in terms of great favor and high encouragement. Six years have since elapsed we are still in the infancy of the institution. His Excellency was pleased on this occasion to say that we had advanced, as compared with institutions of a similar character, to a very great extent. Comparing our progress with the University of London, I may pursue the observation with great effect. The University of London first conferred degrees in 1839; in the period of seven academical years, from 1839 to 1845, they conferred the degree of A.B. on 169 persons; and that university draws students from various sources. We commenced in the year 1852, and in the seven academical years which end to day we conferred the degree of B.A., singularly enough upon the same identical number of persons—169.” (Hear, hear, and applause).

IX. Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

—A PROPOSED NEW MATERIAL FOR PAPER.—Mr. Nettle, Superintendent of Fisheries for Lower Canada, during his visit of Inspection to the rivers and stations in the Gulf, was struck with the appearance of large quantities of a very fine silky cotton-like substance, growing most profusely on the occupied lands below. The specimens gathered by Mr. Nettle were much admired in Quebec, and he forwarded a small portion to the Board of Works at Toronto. In due course a reply was received from Mr. W. Hutton, Secretary to the Bureau of Agriculture, stating that the sample had been submitted for examination to Professor W. Hincks, of University College. The Professor pronounced it to be *Eplibium Augustifolium*, the fine showy willow plant of our Canadian forests; and proceeds as follows: The plant is as I stated; it is often called “French Willow Herb,” and is exceedingly common in Canada, perhaps especially Eastward. The substance is obviously far more valuable, as a textile material, than the silk-weed or any other native with which I am acquainted; and a sufficient specimen ought to be submitted to experiment, in order to test its quality. After all, it may not be so cheap, nor yield so well as cotton; but if found less valuable for other purposes, its fitness for paper would well deserve trial.—*From the Quebec Chronicle*. [Specimens were forwarded to England, but the opinion expressed there as to the economic value of the material for paper has been unfavorable.—*Ed. J. of Ed.*]

—MR. LOVELL'S MONTREAL ESTABLISHMENT.—HOME MANUFACTURES.—It is pleasant to note the growth of home manufactures, two of which we are about to refer to. The first is Mr. Lovell's printing and binding establishment. Mr. Lovell has gone to great expense to secure efficient workmen in the various departments of his business, and to introduce the most modern and complete machinery, to enable him to turn out work with a rapidity and in a style to compete with the best publishers on this continent. Mr. Lovell has commenced to publish school books in a style which does credit to his establishment, which bids fair to become in Canada what Harper & Bro's, house is in the United States. In going over his establishment we were much pleased with the good order and cleanliness of the place. Some printing offices had given us the impression that printers were not remarkable for cleanliness, but we are convinced that it is possible to have a clean, pleasant looking office.

The other manufacture which we lately visited is that of lead pipes, at the Canada Leadpipe Works in Griffintown. We saw a few weeks ago, molten lead run into a reservoir, and in a room below the lead drawn from the reservoir in the form of pipe ready for use. The demand for leadpipe of all sizes in Canada is so limited that this single establishment could easily supply all that is required, and at a lower price than pipe can be imported.—*Montreal Witness*.

X. Departmental Notices.

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

“Township and County Libraries are becoming the crown and glory of the Institutions of the Province.”—*Lord Elgin at the Upper Canada Provincial Exhibition, September, 1854.*

The Chief Superintendent of Education is prepared to apportion *one hundred per cent.* upon all sums which shall be raised from local sources by Municipal Councils and School Corporations, for the establishment or increase of Public Libraries in Upper Canada, under the regulations provided according to law. Prison Libraries, and Teachers' County Association Libraries, may, under these regulations, be established by County Councils, as branch libraries.

SCHOOL MAPS AND APPARATUS.

The Chief Superintendent will add one hundred per cent. to any sum or sums, not less than five dollars, transmitted to the Department by Municipal and School Corporations on behalf of Grammar and Common Schools; and forward Maps, Apparatus, Charts, and Diagrams to the value of the amount thus augmented, upon receiving a list of the articles required. In all cases it will be necessary for any person, acting on behalf of the Municipality or Trustees, to enclose or present a written authority to do so, verified by the corporate seal of the Corporation. A selection of articles to be sent can always be made by the Department, when so desired.

PRIZES IN SCHOOLS.

The Chief Superintendent will grant one hundred per cent. upon all sums not less than five dollars transmitted to him by Municipalities or Boards of School Trustees for the purchase of books or reward cards for prizes in Grammar and Common Schools. Catalogues and Forms forwarded upon application.

TRUSTEES' SCHOOL MANUALS.

In reply to numerous applications for copies of the Trustees' Manuals of the School Act, we have to state that, as the old edition has been exhausted, a new edition is now in press. Copies of them will be sent for distribution as soon as they are printed, without further application.

SCHOOL REGISTERS.

School Registers are supplied gratuitously, from the Department, to Grammar and Common Schools Trustees in Cities, Towns, Villages, and Townships by the County Clerks—through the local Superintendents. Application should therefore be made direct to the local Superintendents for them, and not to the Department. Those for Grammar Schools will be sent direct to the head Masters.

SCHOOL SECTION SEALS, as required by the Education Office, Engraved and transmitted by Post (free) on receipt of \$2. Address A. M. BARR, Engraver, Yonge Street.

ADVERTISEMENTS inserted in the *Journal of Education* for three cents per word, which may be remitted in postage stamps, or otherwise.

TERMS: For a single copy of the *Journal of Education*, \$1 per annum; back vols., neatly stitched, supplied on the same terms. All subscriptions to commence with the January number, and payment in advance must in all cases accompany the order. Single numbers, 12½ cents each.

All communications to be addressed to Mr. J. GEORGE HODGINS, Education Office, Toronto.