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LORD ELGIN'S LAST DAYS.

The current number of the *North British Review*, which is one of great ability and variety, contains a deeply interesting article on the character of the late Lord Elgin, under the title of "Lord Elgin—in Memoriam." Judging from the internal evidence, we should ascribe this article to the pen of the Duke of Argyle. We insert it in this number of the *Journal* with peculiar yet melancholy satisfaction, as a tribute to the memory of the most accomplished governor and able statesman which Canada has ever had. In her educational interests, Canada lost a gifted friend in the death of Lord Elgin. The article contains an affecting account of the closing scenes in the life of the late Governor General of India:—

It is not the intention of these few pages to give an account, even in outline, of what England lost in the death of Lord Elgin. Other pens may hereafter describe at length that singular career, which witnessed the successful accommodation of a more varied series of novel and entangled situations than has perhaps fallen to the lot of any other statesman within our own time.

There must be those who remember and who could tell of the reduction of Jamaica to order, after the convulsions of the Emancipation Act, by the youngest Governor ever sent out to command a colony. There must be those who know how he stood his ground in Canada against first one and then another turbulent faction, and converted the mass of the population from a state of chronic disaffection to permanent loyalty. There are

those who witnessed that decisive stroke by which he sent the troops back from Singapore to Calcutta, in the very crisis of the fate of our Eastern Empire, and, when he landed, found (to use his own famous and long-remembered expression) but "one face in Calcutta unblanched with fear"—the face of the intrepid Governor, his own early college friend, Lord Canning,—a meeting how romantic, and an issue how momentous! "It was he," wrote the gallant and lamented Sir William Peel, "who made the change in India. It was the Chinese expedition that relieved Lucknow, relieved Cawnpore, and fought the battle of the 6th December." There are those who remember how, when, not for the first time, he encountered the terrors of shipwreck, at the Point de Galle, the two ambassadors of England and France sat side by side, unmoved amidst the awful scene, and refused to leave the sinking ship, inspiring all around them with the cheerfulness and spirit needed for the emergency. There are those who saw him, by that rare union of tact with firmness, of fertile resource with simplicity of aim, which belonged to the character of his race, twice over bring to a prosperous end the stupid and provoking negotiations, and the no less stupid and provoking wars of the most inaccessible and intractable of earthly empires,—who watched the moderation with which he procured the treaty of Tien-tsin, the decisive energy with which he avenged the dignity of England by the destruction of the Summer Palace at Peking, and received the humiliation of the Chinese Prince in the heart of the Imperial city.

There are those, too, who know what he hoped to have done for India, had his life been spared. There are those—not a few—who looked further forward still, to the time when his long wanderings would at last be over, and he might have returned to have taken his place high in the councils of his country, and given to the solution of the great problems of the government of England, the experience and ability which had been ripened in such lofty positions, in so many a trying situation, in each extremity of the globe.

To these, and such as these, we must leave the delineation of the general policy, and the complicated course, of Lord Elgin's public life.

But it may be possible, within the short compass of the present occasion, to bring back some recollections of his last days, some image of his character as he appeared to those who knew and loved him best, which may fill up the vacant space left by his death, not merely in the memory and the hopes, but in the actual knowledge of his contemporaries. For it is one of

the sad consequences of a statesman's life spent, like his, in the constant service of his country on arduous foreign missions, that in his own land, in his own circle, almost in his own home, his place is occupied by others, his very face is forgotten; he can maintain no permanent ties with those who rule the opinion, or obtain the mastery, of the day; he has established no claims on any existing party; he has made himself felt in none of those domestic and personal struggles which attract the attention, and fix the interest, of the common world which forms the bulk of the public opinion of England. For twenty years, the few intervals of his residence in these islands were to be counted, not by years, but by months, and the majority even of those who might be reckoned amongst his friends and acquaintances, remembered him chiefly as the eager student at Oxford, in the happy time when he was devoted, in his undergraduate days at Christ Church, to the pages of Plato, or listened, not without a deep philosophic interest, in the Fellows' Quadrangle at Merton, to the roll of the now extinct theological controversy, then beat by the war drum of the Tracts for the Times.

It is tragical to think of the curtain thus suddenly dropt over the future of his career in England. It is tragical, also, though in a narrower and more partial sense, to think of the more immediate overcasting of his career in India.

He undertook the Vice-royalty of India, not, it is said, without a dark presentiment that he should never return, but with a clear conviction that the magnitude of the field before him left no choice. Yet of the actual duty imposed on him, of the actual glory to be reaped, he always expressed himself with a modesty to which his own acts corresponded. "I succeed," he used to say, "to a great man and a great war, with a humble task to be humbly discharged." This feeling is well expressed in a letter, which gives at the same time an admirable description of the empire, at the moment when he undertook the government.

"India was at peace. At peace in a sense of the term more emphatic and comprehensive than it had ever before borne in India. The occurrences which had taken place during the period of Lord Dalhousie's government, had established the prestige of the British arms as against external foes. Lord Canning's Vice-royalty had taught the same lesson to domestic enemies. No military operations of magnitude were in progress to call for prompt and vigorous action on the part of the ruling authority, or to furnish matter for narrations of thrilling interest. On the contrary, a hearty acquiescence in the belief that no such opportunities existed, and that it was incumbent upon him, by all practicable means, to prevent their recurrence, was the first duty which the situation of affairs prescribed to a new Governor-General.

"But while such was the condition of things in respect to matters which have to be settled, if at all, by the arbitrament of the sword, questions of a different class, affecting very important interests, but demanding, nevertheless, a pacific solution, presented themselves for consideration, with a view to definitive action and practical adjustment, under circumstances of very great perplexity and embarrassment. . . . What intensified the evil in many of those cases, was the fact that the points in question bore closely upon those jealousies of race which are the sources of almost all our difficulties in India."

In the spirit thus indicated, he was desirous of postponing the final adjustment of such questions, as those to which he here alluded, until he had made himself thoroughly acquainted with the country and the people. That acquaintance he was gradually acquiring. That result of his labours he was rapidly approaching.

The gallant vessel was steering with her sails full set, right into the haven where she would be. The storm swept over her, from a quarter whence it was least expected. The ship went down within the very sight of the harbour, with all the treasure of experience and wisdom accumulated for the very moment of the arrival which was never to take place.

The sense of his approaching end throws over the retrospect of Lord Elgin's progress northwards from Calcutta through the provinces a melancholy shade, which almost forbids us to dwell upon it in detail. Yet it also imparts a pathetic interest to some of the leading features of his public addresses, and of his personal impressions, which may well find a place in this brief sketch. Such is the allusion to the two distinguished men who had preceded him in his office of Governor-General, in a speech at a dinner at Benares, celebrating the progress of the East Indian Railway:—

"In looking over the published report of these proceedings a few days ago, my attention was arrested by an incident which brought forcibly home to my mind one painful circumstance in which my position here to-day contrasts sadly with that which my predecessor then occupied. At a stage in the proceedings of the evening, corresponding to that at which we have now arrived, Lord Canning departed from the routine prescribed by the programme, and invited the company to join him in drinking the health of his noble predecessor, the Marquis of Dalhousie, who had, as he justly

observed, nursed the East Indian Railway in its infancy, and guided it through its first difficulties. It is not in my power to make any similar proposal to you now. A mysterious dispensation of Providence has removed from this world's stage, where they seemed still destined to play so noble and useful a part, both the proposer of this toast and its object; the names of both are written in brilliant characters on some of the most eventful pages of the history of India, and both were removed at a time when expectation as to the services which they might still render to India was at its height. I shall not now dwell on the great national loss which we have all sustained in this dispensation; but, perhaps, I may be permitted to say that to me the loss is not only a public one, but a private and personal calamity likewise. Both of these distinguished men were my contemporaries; both, I believe I may without presumption say, my intimate friends. It is a singular coincidence that three successive Governors-General of India should have stood towards each other in this relationship of age and intimacy. One consequence is that the burden of governing India has devolved upon us respectively at different periods of our lives. Lord Dalhousie, when named to the Government of India, was, I believe, the youngest man who had ever been appointed to a situation of such high responsibility and trust. Lord Canning was in the prime of life; and I, if I am not already on the decline, am at least nearer to the verge of it than either of my contemporaries who have preceded me. Indeed, when I was leaving England for India, Lord Ellenborough, who is now, alas! the only surviving ex-Governor-General of India, said to me, "You are not a very old man, but depend upon it, you will find yourself by far the oldest man in India."

He was present at the impressive ceremony of the consecration of the church by the Well of Cawnpore, where he met the excellent Bishop of Calcutta. He thence advanced to Agra, which he thus describes:

"The six days spent at Agra, I am disposed to reckon among the most interesting of my life. Perhaps eleven months of the monotony of a Calcutta existence may render the mind more sensitive to novelty and beauty. At any rate, the impressions experienced on revisiting Agra at this time have been singularly vivid and keen. The surpassing beauty of the buildings, among which the Taj stands preeminent; the vast concourse of chiefs and retainers, containing so many of the attributes of feudal and chivalrous times; with the picturesqueness in attire and gorgeousness in colouring, which only the East can supply; produced an effect of fairyland, of which it was difficult to divest one's-self in order to come down to the sterner realities of the present. These realities consisted mainly in receiving the chiefs at private and public Durbars; the great Durbar being attended by a larger number of chiefs than ever before assembled on a similar occasion."

The public journals of India describe for the last time, on the occasion of this Durbar (or gathering of the princes), his "appearance venerable" beyond his years; "the extremely benignant" aspect of his countenance; his voice, as he addressed the assembly, "clear and distinct, every word well weighed, as if he meant what he said." We give his address, as the best exposition of his own feeling under this and similar circumstances:—

"Princes and Chiefs—In inviting you to meet me here, it was my wish in the first place to become acquainted with you personally, and also to convey to you, in obedience to the gracious command which I received from Her Majesty the Queen, upon my departure from England, the assurance of the deep interest which Her Majesty takes in the welfare of the Chiefs of India. I have now to thank you for the alacrity with which, in compliance with my request, you have, many of you from considerable distances, assembled at this place.

Having received, during the course of the last few days, many of the principal personages among you in private durbar, where I have had the opportunity of communicating my views on matters of interest and importance, I need not detain you on this occasion by many words.

"Before taking leave of you, however, I desire to address to you collectively a few general remarks upon the present state of affairs in India, and upon the duties which that state of affairs imposes upon us all.

"Peace, I need hardly remind you of the fact, now happily prevails throughout the whole extent of this vast empire; domestic treason has been crushed; and foreign enemies have been taught to respect the power of the arms of England.

"The British Government is desirous to take advantage of this favourable opportunity, not to extend the bounds of its dominions, but to develop the resources and draw forth the natural wealth of India, and thus to promote the well-being and happiness both of rulers and of the people.

"With this view many measures of improvement and progress have already been introduced, and among them, I may name as

most conspicuous, the railway and electric telegraph, those great discoveries of this age which have so largely increased the wealth and power of the mightiest nations of the West.

"By diffusing education among your vassals and dependants, establishing schools, promoting the construction of good roads, and suppressing, with the whole weight of your authority and influence barbarous usages and crimes, such as infanticide, suttee, thuggee, and dacoitee, you may, Princes and Chiefs, effectually second these endeavours of the British Government, and secure for yourselves and your people a full share of the benefits which the measures to which I have alluded are calculated to confer upon you. I have observed with satisfaction the steps which many of you have already taken in this direction, and more especially the enlightened policy which has induced some of you to remove transit and other duties which obstructed the free course of commerce through your States.

"As representing the paramount power, it is my duty to keep the peace in India. For this purpose Her Majesty the Queen has placed at my disposal a large and gallant army, which, if the necessity should arise, I shall not hesitate to employ for the repression of disorder and the punishment of any who may be rash enough to disturb the general tranquillity. But it is also my duty to extend the hand of encouragement and friendship to all who labour for the good of India, and to assure you that the chiefs who make their own dependants contented and prosperous, establish thereby the strongest claim on the favour and protection of the British Government.

"I bid you now, Princes and Chiefs, farewell for a time, with the expression of my earnest hope that, on your return to your homes, health and happiness may attend you."

From Agra he moved northwards through Delhi:—

"The place of greatest interest visited during the latter part of the tour was unquestionably Delhi. The approach to it through ten miles of a desolate-looking campagna, thickly strewn with funereal monuments reared in honour of the sovereigns and mighty men of former dynasties, reminded me of Rome. The city itself bears traces of more recent calamities. The palace has been a good deal maltreated, and the Jumna Musjid Great Mosque, a magnificent building, has only just been restored to the worshippers. Beyond the town, and over the place where the camp was pitched, lay the heights which were occupied by the British troops, and signalled by so many deeds of valour, during the eventful struggles of 1857.

"No durbar was held at Delhi, but at Umballa a large number of influential Sikh chiefs were received, at the head of whom was the young Maharaja of Puttialla, the son and heir of the Prince whom Lord Canning placed in the Council of the Governor-General.

"The Sikhs are a warlike race, and the knowledge of this fact gave a colour to the advice tendered to them. It was my wish to recognise with all due honour their martial qualities, while seeking to impart a more pacific direction to their energies. The capture of half the capitals of Europe would not have been, in the eyes of the Sikh, so great an event, or so signal a proof of British power, as the capture of Pekin. They are proud of the thought that some of their race took a part in it; and more inclined than ever—which is an important matter—to follow the British standard into foreign lands, if they should be invited to do so."

On these sentiments was founded the address which he delivered on this occasion, and which is given here at length, as the last public expression of his good-will to the Indian races:—

"Colonel Durand,—I beg that you will express to the native gentlemen who are assembled here my regret that I am unable to address them in their own language, and inform them that I am charged by Her Majesty the Queen to convey to them the assurance of Her Majesty's high appreciation of the loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty's person and Government which has been exhibited on various occasions by the Sikh rulers and people. Not many days ago it was my pleasing duty to determine that the medal granted to Her Majesty's troops who were engaged at Delhi in 1857, should be conferred on the followers of the Sikh chiefs who took part in the noble achievements of that period, and I can personally bear testimony to the good services of the officers and men of the Sikh Regiments who, in 1860, co-operated with the British troops in placing the British flag on the walls of Pekin, the capital of the vast empire of China.

"But, in order to be truly great, it is necessary that nations should excel in the arts of peace as well as in those of war.

"Look to the history of the British nation for an example. Most assuredly the British people are powerful in war; but their might and renown are in a great measure due to their proficiency in the works which make a time of peace fruitful and glorious.

"By their skill in agriculture, they have converted their country

into a garden; by their genius as traders they have attracted to it a large share of the wealth of other lands.

"Let us take advantage of this season of tranquillity to confer similar benefits on the Punjab.

"The waters which fall on your mountain heights and unite at their base to form mighty rivers, are a treasure which, duly distributed, will fertilize your plains and largely augment their productive powers. With electric telegraphs to facilitate communication, and railways and canals to render access to the sea-ports easy and expeditious, we shall be able to convey the surplus produce of this great country to others where it is required, and to receive from them their riches in return.

"I rejoice to learn that some of the chiefs in this part of India are taking an interest in these matters, which are of such vital importance to the welfare of this country and the prosperity of the people. It affords me, moreover, sincere gratification to find that, under the able guidance of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Sikh Sirdars in certain districts of the Punjab are giving proof of their appreciation of the value of education by making provision for the education of their sons and daughters.

"Be assured that in so doing you are adopting a judicious policy. The experience of all nations proves that where rulers are well informed and sagacious, the people are contented and willingly submissive to authority. Moreover, it is generally found that where mothers are enlightened, sons are valiant and wise.

"I earnestly exhort you, therefore, to persevere in the course on which you have entered, and I promise you while you continue in it the sympathy and support of the British Government."

He now reached Simla, the paradise of the Anglo-Indians. He was thence to explore the tea plantations amongst the mountains, and was looking eagerly forward to the great gathering of Indian chiefs and princes which was to close his progress at Lahore.

Although he had suffered often from the unhealthy and depressing climate of Calcutta during the summer and autumn of 1862, and thus, to the eyes that saw him again in 1863, he looked many years older than when he left England, yet it was not till he entered the hills that any symptom manifested itself of the fatal malady that was lurking under his apparently stout frame and strong constitution. The splendid scenery of those vast forests and snow-clad mountains inspired him with the liveliest pleasure; but the highly rarefied atmosphere, which to most residents in India is as life from the dead, seemed in him to have the exactly reverse effect.

It was on the 12th of October, that he ascended the Rotung Pass, and, on the 13th, crossed the famous Twig Bridge over the river Chandra. It is remarkable for the rude texture of birch branches of which it is composed, and which, at this late season, was so rent and shattered by the wear and tear of the past year, as to render the passage of it a matter of great exertion. Lord Elgin was completely prostrated by the effort, and it may be said that from the exhaustion consequent on this adventure he never rallied. But he returned to his camp, and continued his march on horseback, until, on the 22nd, an alarming attack obliged him to be carried, by slow stages, to Dhurmsala. There he was joined, on the 4th of November, by his friend and medical adviser, Dr. Macrae, who had been summoned from Calcutta, on the first alarming indications of his illness. By this time, the disorder had declared itself in such a form as to cause the most serious apprehensions to others, as well as to himself the most distressing sufferings. There had been a momentary rally, during which the fact of his illness had been communicated to England. But this passed away; and on the 6th of November, Dr. Macrae came to the conclusion that the illness was mortal. This intelligence, which he communicated at once to Lord Elgin, was received with a calmness and fortitude which never deserted him through all the scenes which followed. When once he had satisfied himself, by minute inquiries from Dr. Macrae, of the true state of the case, after one deep, earnest, heartfelt regret that he should thus suddenly be parted from those nearest, and dearest, to whom his life was of such inestimable importance, and that he should be removed just as he had prepared himself to benefit the people committed to his charge, he steadily set his face heavenward.

He was startled, he was awed; he felt it "hard, hard, to believe that his life was condemned," but there was no looking backward. Of the officers of the staff he took an affectionate leave that day. "It is well," he said to one of them "that I should die in harness." And thenceforth he saw no one habitually, except Dr. Macrae, who combined with his medical skill the tenderness and devotion at once of a friend and a pastor; his attached Secretary, Mr. Thurlow, who had rendered him the most faithful services, not only through the period of his Indian vice-royalty, but during his last mission to China; and her who had shared his every thought, and whose courageous spirit now rose above the weakness of the fragile frame, equal to the greatness of the calamity, and worthy of him to whom by night and day, she constantly ministered.

On the following day the clergyman whom he had ordered to be summoned, and for whose arrival he awaited with much anxiety, reached Dhurmsala, and administered the Holy Communion to himself and those with him. "We are now entering on a new Communion," he had said that morning, "the Living and the Dead," and his spirit then appeared to master pain and weakness, and to sustain him in a holy calm during the ceremony and for a few hours afterwards. "It is a comfort," he whispered, "to have laid aside all the cares of this world, and put myself in the hands of God;" and he was able to listen at intervals to favorite passages from the New Testament. That evening closed in with an aggravation of suffering. It was the evening of the seventeenth anniversary of his wedding day.

On the following morning, Lady Elgin, with his approval, rode up to the cemetery at Dhurmsala, to select a spot for his grave, and he gently expressed pleasure when told of the quiet and beautiful aspect of the spot chosen, with the glorious view of the snowy range towering above, and the wide prospect of hill and plain below.

The days and nights of the fortnight which followed were a painful alteration of severe suffering and rare intervals of comparative tranquillity. They were soothed by the never-failing devotion of those that were always at hand to read to him or to receive his remarks. He often asked to hear chosen chapters from the Book of Isaiah (as the 40th and 55th), sometimes murmuring over to himself any striking verses that they contained, and at other times repeating by heart favorite Psalms, one of which recalled to him an early feat of his youth, when he had translated into Greek the 137th Psalm—"By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept."

At times he delighted to hear his little girl, who had been the constant companion of his travels, repeat some of Keble's hymns, especially those on the festival of St. John the Evangelist, and of the Holy Innocents. Years ago he had prided himself on having been the first to introduce into Scotland "The Christian Year," which as a student he brought from Oxford where the first edition—first of its seventy-seven editions—had just appeared. How touching a reward to him—how touching a tribute to the enduring piety and genius of its venerable author, that after the lapse of so long a tract of time to both—of quiet pastoral life and eager controversies for the one; of diplomacy and government, war and shipwreck, and travels from hemisphere to hemisphere, for the other—that fountain of early devotion should still remain fresh and pure to soothe his dying hours!

Until his strength failed him, he was carried at times into the verandah, and showed by words and looks his constant admiration at the grand evidences of God's power and goodness in the magnificence of the scenery before him; and on one such occasion was delighted with the sublime description of the wonders of nature in the 38th and 39th chapters of the Book of Job. At times, he was able to enter into conversation and argument on serious subjects. When under the pressure of his sufferings, he was one night entreating to be released—"Oh, that God would in mercy come and take me!"—Dr. Macrae reminded him of the dread of pain and death which seems to be expressed in the account of the Agony of Gethsemane, and he appeared to find much comfort in the thought, repeating once or twice that he had not seen it in this light before, and several times saying with fervour, "Not my will but Thine be done."

At other times he could even be led, by way of steadying his wandering thoughts amidst the distraction of restlessness, to fix them on his school and college days, to tell anecdotes of his hard reading, or to describe the visit to Oxford of his venerable friend Dr. Chalmers. He dwelt in this way on a sermon of Dr. Chalmers at Glasgow, which he remembered even in detail, from which he quoted some eloquent passages, bringing out the general scope of his sermon, to the effect that, rather than teach men to hate this bad world, we should teach them to love and look up to a better one. It will naturally be understood that long converse was really impossible. As occasion rose, a few words were breathed, an appropriate verse quoted, and a few minutes were all that could be given at any one time to discourse upon it.

It is characteristic of his strong, cheerful faith, even during those last trying moments that he on one occasion asked to have the more supplicatory, penitential Psalms, exchanged for those of praise and thanksgiving in which he joined, knowing them already by heart, and in the strain of calm yet triumphant hope, he whispered to himself on the night when his alarming state was first made known to him, "Hallelujah! the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. We all shall meet again."

That thought was raised to its highest pitch by the sight of a portrait of a beloved son, who had died in England during his absence. It arrived in the close of those sad days. He recognised it at once, with a burst of tenderness and delight which at once lifted his mind above the suffering of his mortal illness. Again and again he de-

sired to see it, and to speak of it, with the fixed conviction that he and his "angel boy," as he called him, would soon meet in a better world. "Oh! when shall I be with you?" "You know where he is; we shall all go to him; he is happy."

Every care had been taken for the public interests, and for the interests of those still nearer and dearer to him. He had laid the most solemn charge on his faithful Secretary to conduct Lady Elgin home on her mournful and solitary voyage. He had given to Dr. Macrae, with the tenderest marks of affection, a turquoise ring: "We have had a long struggle together; keep this in memory of it." He had dictated a telegram to the Queen resigning his office, with a request that his successor might be immediately appointed.

With this exception, public affairs seem to have faded from his mind. "I must resign myself to doing no work. I have not sufficient control over my thoughts. I have washed my hands of it all." But it was remarkable that as the end drew nearer, the keen sense of the public duty once more flashed up within him. It was on the 19th that he could not help expressing his wonder what was meant by his long lingering; and once, half wondering, he whispered, "If I did not die, I might get to Lahore and carry out the original programme."

Later on in the day he sent for Mr. Thurlow, and desired that a message should be sent, through Sir Charles Wood, expressive of his love and devotion to the Queen, and of his determination to do his work to the last possible moment. His voice, faint and inaudible at first, gained strength with the earnestness of the words which came forth as if direct from his heart, and which, as soon as pronounced, left him prostrate with the exertion. He begged, at the same time, that his "best blessing" might be sent to the Secretaries of the Indian Government, and also a private message to Sir Charles Wood in England.

These were his last public acts. A few words and looks of affection for his wife and child, were all that escaped him afterwards. One more night of agonized restlessness, followed by an almost sudden close of the long struggle, and a few moments of perfect calm, and his spirit was released. His death was on the 20th of November, and on the 21st he was privately buried at his own request, on the spot selected beforehand.

We have said that on his public policy we do not enter. That must be fought out, defended, censured, approved by others. Neither do we enlarge on the details of his private life. These are too sacred, too near, to be handled in these pages. Enough has been said to show to those who knew him not what manner of man he was in those more intimate relations to God and man with which a stranger dares not intermeddle.

But there are traits which start to life, now that he is removed, for which perhaps the English world, which, as we have said, hardly knew him, gave him but little credit.

He was thought of as a man of excellent sense and tact. By this, it is said, his objects were gained. Through this, it was held, he maintained that equable tenor of success that so marked the successive stages of his career. So doubtless it was to a great extent. Yet assuredly to those who knew him intimately there was much more than this.

Look even at the outward forms of his mode of speech. They are all that now remain to us to tell of that singularly poetic and philosophic turn of mind, that union of grace and power in all his turns of expression, which, if they do not actually amount to genius, give to the character which thus displays itself the charm which no commonplace mediocrity, however sound and safe, can ever attain. It is enough to quote from the few letters in which he had time to disburden those thoughts freely, to show what we mean.

#### THE RIVER SCENERY OF CHINA.—May, 1858.

"When the sun had passed the meridian, the masts and sails were a protection from his rays; and as he continued to drop towards the water, right a-head of us, he strewed our path, first with glittering silver spangles, then with roses, then with violets, through all of which we sped recklessly. The banks on either side continued as flat as ever until the last part of our trip, when we approached some hills on our left, not very lofty, but clearly defined, and with a kind of dreamy softness about them which reminded one of Egypt. The sun has just set among a crowd of mountains which bound the horizon in front of us, and in such a blaze of fiery light that earth and sky in his neighbourhood have hues all too glorious to look upon. Standing out in advance, on the edge of this sea of molten gold, is a solitary rock, which goes by the name of Golden Island, and serves as the pedestal of a tall pagoda.

"The night was lovely—a moon nearly full—the banks, flat and treeless at first, became fringed as we proceeded, with mud villages, silent as the grave, and trees standing like spectres over the stream. There we went on through this silvery silence, panting and breathing flame. Through the night watches, when no Chinaman moves,

when the junks cast anchor, we laboured on, cutting ruthlessly and recklessly through the waters of that glancing and startled river, which, until the last few weeks, no stranger keel had ever furrowed."

VISIT TO THE PYRAMIDS.—*May 9th, 1860.*

"Our row across the river to the chant of the boatman invoking the aid of a sainted Dervish, and our ride through the fertile border of the Nile, covered with crops and palm trees, were very lovely, and after about an hour and a half from Cairo, we emerged into the Desert. The Pyramids seemed there almost within reach of our arms; but, lo! they were in fact some miles distant.

"We kept moving on at a sort of ambling walk, and the first sign of our near approach was the appearance of a crowd of Arabs. We pushed on over the heap of sand and debris, or probably covered-up tombs, which surround the base of the Pyramids, when we suddenly came on the most remarkable object on which my eye ever lighted. Somehow or other I had not thought of the Sphinx till I saw her before me. There she was in all her imposing magnitude, crouched on the margin of the Desert, looking on the fertile valley of the Nile, and her gaze fixed on the East, as if in earnest expectation of the sun rising—but such a gaze! The mystical light and deep shadows cast by the moon gave to it an intensity which I cannot describe. To me it seemed a look earnest, searching, but unsatisfied. For a long time I remained transfixed, endeavouring to read the meaning conveyed by that wonderful eye. I was struck after a while by what seemed a contradiction in the expression of the eye and mouth. There was a singular gentleness and hopefulness in the lines of the mouth which appeared to be in contrast with the anxious eye. Mr. Bowly\* agreed with me in thinking that the upper part of the face spoke of the intellect striving vainly to solve the mystery (what mystery? the mystery shall we say of God's universe, or of man's destiny?) while the lower indicated a moral conviction that all must be well, and that this truth would in good time be made manifest. We could hardly tear ourselves away from this fascinating spectacle, to draw near to the great Pyramid which stood beside us, its outline sharply traced in the clear atmosphere. We walked round and round it, thinking of the strange men whose ambition to secure immortality for themselves had expressed itself in this giant creation. The enormous blocks of granite brought from, one knows not where, built up, one knows not how—the form selected, solely for the purpose of defying the assaults of time—the contrast between the conception embodied in their construction, and the talk of the frivolous race by whom we were surrounded, all this seen and felt under the influence of the dim moonlight, was very striking and impressive. We spent some time in moving from place to place along the shadow cast by the Pyramid on the sand; and observing the effect produced by bringing the moon sometimes to its apex, and sometimes to other points on its outline. I felt no disposition to exchange for sleep the state of dreamy half-consciousness in which I was wandering about, but at length I lay down on the shingly sand with a block of granite for a pillow, and passed an hour or two sometimes dozing, sometimes wakeful.

When we reached the summit at sunrise we had a horizon all around tinted very much like Turner's early pictures, and becoming brighter and brighter till it melted into day. Behind and on two sides of us was the barren and treeless desert stretching out as far as the eye could reach. Before us the fertile valley of the Nile, and the river meandering through it, and in the distance Cairo, with its mosques and minarets, the highest, the Citadel mosque, standing out boldly on the horizon. It was a fine view, and had a character of its own, but still it does not stand out among my recollections as a spectacle unique and never to be forgotten, as that of the night before does.

I confess that it was with something of fear and trembling that I returned to the Sphinx that morning. I feared that the impressions received the night before might be effaced by the light of day—but it was not so. The lines were fainter and less deeply marked, but I found, or thought I found, the same meaning in them still."

But this elevation of sentiment was not merely one of outward form or expression. Varied, eventful, as was his course,—wrapt up in the intricacies of diplomacy,—entangled in disputes with Canadian factions and Oriental follies, he still kept steadily before him, as steadily as any great philanthropist, or missionary, or reformer that ever lived, those principles of truth and justice and benevolence, to maintain which was his sufficient reward for months and years of long and patient waiting, for storms of obloquy and misunderstanding. Philosophical or religious truth, in the highest sense, he had not the leisure to follow. Yet even here his memoranda, his speeches, we believe his conversation, constantly showed how

open his mind was to receive profound impressions from the most opposite quarters; how firm a hold was laid upon it by any truth or fact which it had touched in his passage through the many strange vicissitudes of life. "If public writers think that they cannot argue with eloquence without showing feeling" (so he spoke at a meeting in Calcutta on the mode in which the Lancashire distress was to be discussed, but how far beyond any such immediate occasion does the wisdom of his words extend!) "then, for God's sake, let them give utterance to their opinions. It would be much better than to deprive us of the spark which concussion with flint may kindle. I would rather myself swallow a whole bushel of chaff than lose the precious grains of truth which may somewhere or other be scattered in it." How exactly the opposite of the vulgar, unreasoning timidity and fastidiousness of the mass of statesmen and teachers and preachers, whose first thought is to suppress all eloquence and enthusiasm from apprehension of its possible accompaniments,—who would willingly throw away whole bushels of truth lest they should accidentally swallow a few grains of chaff. How entirely is the sentiment worthy of those noble treatises which, we have been assured, were his constant companions wherever he travelled, and from which he delighted to read the soul-stirring calls to freedom of inquiry, and resolute faith in truth—the Prose Works of Milton.

But it was in practical life that those qualities came forth in their full energy. Politics, statesmanship, government, were to him a profession, a science, of which he discussed the problems as a philosopher or a scholar would discuss the difficulties of astronomy or of philology. It was thus that he would take upon himself the responsibility of great acts, not merely from motives of passing expediency, but as parts of a system, which appeared to him to impose such a general duty upon him. On two memorable occasions his "political courage" (to use the French expression) reached a point of almost heroic magnitude. One was the determination adopted, with hardly any hesitation, to send back the troops to India, although it was the greatest personal sacrifice which he could have made, for, by depriving himself of his military force, he ran the risk of rendering his mission in China almost powerless. The other was the resolve, executed against all his natural tastes and feelings, and with the full anticipation of the obloquy which it would bring down upon him in Europe, of burning the Summer Palace at Peking, as the only means, under the extraordinary difficulties which surrounded him, of impressing the Chinese nation with a sense of the atrocity of the outrages perpetrated against their European prisoners.

"Having, to the best of my judgment, examined the question in all its bearings, I come to the conclusion, that the destruction of Yaen-ming-yaen (the Summer Palace) was the least objectionable of the several courses open to me, unless I could have reconciled it to my sense of duty to suffer the crime which had been committed to pass practically unavenged. I had reason, moreover, to believe that it was an act which was calculated to produce a greater effect in China, and on the Emperor, than persons who look on from a distance may suppose. It was the Emperor's favourite residence, and its destruction could not fail to be a blow to his pride as well as to his feelings. To this place he brought our hapless countrymen, in order that they might undergo their severest tortures within its precincts. There had been found the horses and accoutrements of the troopers seized, the decorations torn from the breast of a gallant French officer, and other effects belonging to the prisoners. As almost all the valuables had been already taken from the palace, the army would go thus, not to pillage, but to mark by a solemn act of retribution, the horror and indignation with which we were inspired by the perpetration of a great crime. The punishment was one which would fall not on the people, who may be comparatively innocent, but on the Emperor, whose direct personal responsibility for the crime committed is established beyond all question."

This statement, which forms the close of an able and elaborate argument, which must be read in the original document\* to be fully appreciated, is perhaps still more forcibly and concisely put in the following private letter:—

"We had only a fortnight to make peace in after the armies obtained the gate of Peking. It was absolutely necessary, before peace was concluded, to mark our sense of the barbarous treatment to which the prisoners had been subjected. The burning of the palace was an expeditious mode of marking our sense of this crime, and therefore consistent with the speedy conclusion of peace. It was appropriate, because the palace was the place at which the first cruelties to the prisoners were perpetrated, under the immediate direction of the Emperor and his advisors. It was humane, because it involved no sacrifice of human life; no great destruction of pro-

\* The lamented *Times*' correspondent, who perished in China, amongst the prisoners captured in 1860.—See Lord Elgin's despatch to Lord John Russell, dated October 26, 1860. *Correspondence on the affairs of China, 1859-60*, p. 22.

\* Lord Elgin's despatch to Lord J. Russell, Dated October 25, 1860.—*Correspondence respecting the Affairs in China, 1859-1860*, p. 203.

perty, because the buildings (though styled *Palace*) were low wooden structures of small value, which had been plundered by the French army before the order for the burning was given."

These examples also indicate that though he was cautious to excess when he had time to deliberate (for his logical powers and his command over language tempted him to refine), yet his decision could be as prompt as a soldier's when the occasion demanded it; and if he was satisfied of the correctness of his cause, he would accept the full responsibility of it, in spite of all opposition. His clearness of view, under these circumstances, admitted of no confusion, and his power of expressing what he saw was equal to the clearness with which he saw it. There are men, deeply versed in public affairs, in whom caution almost takes the place of genius, and admits of no other rival quality. Such might to some appear to have been the character of Lord Elgin. But had he been so ruled by this predominant faculty, he would assuredly never have ventured on the organization of Canton by the hazardous but successful appointment of a temporary Chinese governor, nor would he have faced the complicated difficulties that presented themselves in his adventurous voyage of discovery up the Yang-tse-kiang river, nor would he have marched on Peking with that military ardour, which made the French soldiers exclaim, that he ought to have been an "officier de dragons."

These statesman like gifts, however, are not those which fill the largest space in his character to those who knew him best. He possessed in an eminent degree the rare quality—rare in the political world, rarer still perhaps in the religious world—of the strong overruling sense of the justice due from man to man, and from nation to nation.

Wherever he went (and it was his fate that in the four different spheres in which his lot was cast, the same relations were constantly reappearing) it was his fixed determination that the interests of the subject races should be protected from the impatience or violence of his own countrymen,—the emancipated slaves of Jamaica, the French Canadians, the Chinese in their dealings with the European residents, the Indian population in its dealings with the Anglo-Indian conquerors.

That he had no bloodshed on his hands was his pride in Canada. "No human power shall induce me to accept the office of oppressor of the people," was his sincere resolve in China. The order to burn the Imperial Palace at Peking was wrung from him by the severest sense of the necessity of the crisis. When in India, the protection of the Indians was the constant source of solicitude to him. The stern determination with which he carried out the execution of an English soldier for causing the death of a native, was of itself enough to mark his strong sense of what was due from the Viceroy of India to the interests of the conquered race. "His combination of speculative and practical ability," so wrote one with deep experience of his mind, "fitted him more than any man I have ever known, to solve the problem how these subject races are to be governed." It may be that in these acts he merely served to represent the growing humanity and justice of the age. But it is a great boon to mankind when the best tendencies of the age find a congenial soul in which to take root and bear fruit; and such a soul, in every sense, was that of Lord Elgin.

It might almost be said that the sense of responsibility for the classes confided to his charge, especially of those who were comparatively friendless, was to him a kind of religion,—an expression of his sense of the justice and love of God for all His creatures. And it may be remarked how, from this religious sense of the duty devolved upon him, it came to pass that, if there was any subject which more strongly moved his indignation than another, it was the sight, whether in foreign lands or in our own, of Christianity invoked, or of the influence of the teachers of religion brought to bear, against the general claims of justice and humanity on behalf of those who might be regarded, in race, or religion, or opinion, aliens from ourselves.

There is one final tribute which, at least in these pages, may be offered without affectation to his memory. Wherever else he was honoured, and however few were his visits to his native land, yet Scotland at least always delighted to claim him as her own. Always his countrymen were proud to feel that he worthily bore the name most dear to Scottish hearts. Always his unvarying integrity shone to them with the steady light of an unchanging beacon above the stormy discords of the Scottish church and nation. Whenever he returned to his home in Fifeshire, he was welcomed by all, high and low, as their friend and chief. Here at any rate were fully known the industry with which he devoted himself to the small details of local, often trying and troublesome business; the affectionate confidence with which he took counsel of the fidelity and experience of the aged friends and servants of his house; the cheerful contentment with which he was willing to work for their interests and for those of his family, with the same fairness and patience as he would have given to the most exciting events or the

most critical moments of his public career. There his children, young as they were, were made familiar with the union of wisdom and playfulness with which he guided them, and with the simple and self-denying habits of which he gave them so striking an example. By that ancestral home, in the vaults of the Abbey Church of Dunfermline, would have been his natural resting-place. Those vaults had but two years ago been opened to receive the remains of another of the same house, his brother, General Bruce, whose lamented death—also in the service of his Queen and country—followed immediately on his return from the journey in which he had accompanied the Prince of Wales to the East, and in which he had caught the fatal malady that brought him to his untimely end. "You have lost a kind and good uncle, and a kind and good godfather,"—so Lord Elgin wrote to his little boy, who bore the same name as the General,—“and you are now the only Robert Bruce in the family. It is a good name, and you must try and bear it nobly and bravely as those who have borne it before you have done. If you look at their lives you will see that they always considered in the first place what they ought to do, and only in the second what it might be most pleasant and agreeable to do. This is the way to steer a straight course through life, and to meet the close of it, as your dear uncle did, with a smile on his lips.” By few could General Bruce's loss have been felt more than by Lord Elgin himself. "No two brothers," he used to say, "were ever more helpful to each other." The telegram that brought the tidings to him at Calcutta was but one word. "And yet," he said, "how much in that one word! It tells me that I have lost a wise counsellor in difficulties, a staunch friend in prosperity and adversity, one on whom, if anything had befallen myself, I could always have relied to care for those left behind me. It tells, too, of the dropping of a link of that family chain which has always been so strong and unbroken." How little was it foreseen then, that of that strong unbroken chain, his own life would be the next link to be taken away. How little was it thought by those who stood round the vault at Dunfermline Abbey, on the 2nd of July 1862, that to those familiar scenes, and to that hallowed spot, the chief of the race would never return. How mournfully did the tidings from India reach a third brother in the yet further East, who felt that to him was due in great part whatever success he had experienced in life, even from the time when, during the elder brother's Eton holidays, he had enjoyed the benefit of his tuition, and who was indulging in dreams how, in their joint return from exile, with their varied experience of the East, they might have worked together for some great and useful end.

He sleeps far away from his native land, on the heights of Dhurmsala; a fitting grave, let us rejoice to think, for the Viceroy of India, overlooking from its lofty height the vast expanse of the hill and plain of these mighty provinces,—a fitting burial, may we not say, beneath the snow-clad Himalaya range, for one who dwelt with such serene satisfaction on all that was grand and beautiful in man and nature—

"Pondering God's mysteries untold,  
And tranquil as the glacier snows,  
He by those Indian mountains old,  
Might well repose."

A last home, may we not say, of which the very name, with its double signification, was worthy of the spirit which there passed away—"the Hall of Justice, the Place of Rest." Rest, indeed, to him after his long "laborious days," in that presence which to him was the only complete Rest—the presence of Eternal Justice.

## II. Papers on Practical Teaching.

### 1. MY FIRST SCHOOL EXPERIENCE.

I can never forget the history of my first winter school. I was too young for such a task,—a rude college boy, with no experience, and scarcely a qualification for my place. It is now nearly thirty years since that woful winter; but the sleepless nights, the home-sick days, the constant pressure of a man's duties on the shoulders of a boy, will never leave my memory. They told me I was doing finely, but I knew better. My heart was at home, and not in my school. I am almost ashamed to confess how closely I watched the mails, hoping—alas, too often in vain—for a letter from my mother or some of the dear ones at home. Had they known my doleful condition, they surely would have written; but I had too much pride to tell them all. Oh, what great saucy boys those school boys were! They could have pitched me out of the window at any time, and I really feared they would do it, and wondered why they didn't.

I feel, to this day, a tender fraternal pity for young school-masters and school-ma'ams. They appear to me a sad and careworn race. Too much is expected of them. Solid trustees look for great sobriety, discretion, prudence, and wisdom, in a boy of seventeen

years, because, forsooth, he is a school-master ; and come down upon the poor fellow without mercy, if, in some unconscious moment, he happens to act like a boy of seventeen years, that is, like himself.

I shall never forget the first visit of one of the school trustees. He raps at the door. Hark ! That is no boy's nor girl's rap—too bold—too loud—too deliberate for that. Hush, boys ! Hush, girls ! Something is coming to pass ! I open the door ! Oh, length, and breadth, and quantity ! It is verily he ; the august being enters.—What happened the next five minutes I could never recall. I presume I offered to my visitor the chair. I only know that, when I recovered my self-possession, I was startled and horrified at the fearful disorder that reigned in my school-room. Every pupil seemed to be breaking every rule. What could it mean ? Pencils dropped, slates rattled, boots grated harshly over the floor,—which, by the way, seemed, just then, to be sadly in need of sweeping—and everything seemed to conspire to ruin me, as a teacher, completely. I was utterly confounded. I felt it a duty which I owed to myself to declare to my visitor that things had never been in such a state before.

At this point, what seemed a happy thought occurred to my mind. I would call out my first class in arithmetic, a splendid class, and with it make such a diversion in my favour as to retrieve every disaster and rescue my waning reputation. The class came promptly down the aisle. But how provokingly noisy ! My cheeks began to burn ; but I started off with considerable confidence. The first answer, alas, was a sad blunder. I began to feel confused. My questions, I know, were wretchedly put, but they were more wretchedly answered. Hoping to find relief in change, I invited my visitor to put questions himself. He consented, and asked the class to tell him the difference between a half-inch and a half-mile. In due time the answers were called for, but, oh, horrors ! what answers ! They ranged all the way from ten rods to ten miles ! My disaster was now complete. My best pupils had conspired to ruin me !

Mr. W., my august visitor, rose to leave me. He took me by the hand, spoke a few kind words of encouragement and advice, and left the school-room ; about half my pupils, mindful of the custom of those days, rising to their feet, but in such an irregular, noisy way, that I heartily wished they had all kept their seats.

And here I will confess an act of meanness, on my part, which I shall repent of as long as I live. When my visitor had left me, I was not only confused but angry. I felt that I had given my pupils no occasion to wound my feelings so wantonly as they had done, in the presence of Mr. W. I assured them that I would now bear with them no longer. Such a disgraceful scene should not recur, while I was master of that school.

Just then a little fellow, a beautiful boy, sitting directly before me, let drop a slate, which rattled along the floor with that stunning noise which nothing but a slate can make. I lost my self-control. I seized my ferule. The poor little fellow shuddered before me ; tears trickled down his fair, tender cheek, and his fine lips quivered as he faintly stammered, "I didn't mean to do it, Sir." "Didn't mean to do it," said I, tauntingly, and inflicted on his tender hand several cruel blows. Yet I do not think the boy was badly whipped—for conscience seemed to hold back my arm.

The little fellow, however, sobbed and sobbed, as if his heart would break. Even when school was done, still concealing his tears with his sleeve, he walked hastily past my desk. How I longed to put my arm about him and tell him that I was sorry. But I could not do it ; I was a school-master, and my dignity must not be compromised. I returned gloomily to my boarding-place, overwhelmed with a sense of meanness and self-reproach. My mortification and chagrin at the unfortunate visit of the trustee had all passed away. I thought only of my own meanness. That evening I received two letters couched in terms of affection and respect, one from home, and one from college. "Darling boy," "noble fellow," I was disgusted with such fulsome flattery. What could my mother and my class-mate mean in applying such terms of fondness to one so heartless as I ? Still, they were sincere, but they did not know me. I half resolved never to see again either college or home. I paced my room till late at night, and went to bed with a distracting headache. Towards morning I snatched a little sleep, only to be startled out of it by a fearful dream. I saw a man of rough, repulsive look, rudely holding a beautiful child, as if about to inflict upon him some cruel torture. The fearful scene produced in my heart the most painful excitement and indignation, when, in a piercing, tender voice, the child shrieked out, "Oh, spare me, Hubert." I was startled from my sleep by the cry. I was that Hubert. I could sleep no more. The consciousness of having inflicted pain upon an innocent child would not let me close my eyes. I frankly confess that for a moment I forgot that I was a school-master, and became a boy ; and, as a boy, I brushed away a few childish tears.

Pardon my weakness, gentle reader, I was among strangers in a strange land, and bearing a burden too heavy for my years.

This affair, however, was not without its good results. I know I have been a better man ever since ; that is, better towards little boys. I feel a kind of tenderness for them allied to pity. I do not think they are used quite fairly in this rude world. When they are about five years old, we cut off their beautiful ringlets, lay aside their graceful frocks, and bright morocco shoes, and pretty, jaunty hats, and array them in a grey woollen jacket, and pants, and clumsy boots, and turn them adrift among the rude, big boys. Of course they do not look as fair as they did before, but the fault is not theirs, and they have in them the same tender heart of childhood. Now, why should we be so rough with them ? Why give all the kisses and candy to the girls, and all the kicks and cuffs to the little boys ? Only yesterday I met one of these fine little fellows, his head all begrimed with dust, crying bitterly. He had just been pitched, head foremost, over a big boy's head, into the gutter. Of course it was all right ; for it was only a little sunburnt boy. But what would have been said, and done, too, had the victim been somebody's fair little girl, of the same age, and decked out with silks and ribbons ? The House of Correction would be almost too good for the rude, big boy to live in.

Now, fellow teachers, both ladies and gentlemen, let me plead with you for little boys.

Don't whip them any harder because they look rough and sunburnt. Don't whip them because you are angry and fretful yourself. Don't whip them when the large boys deserve a whipping more. If you have any "goodies," don't be partial to the girls, but let the little boys have their share. Don't, by your stern and crusty treatment of them, make them bad boys, but by kindness keep their hearts open, and tender, and gentle.

But notwithstanding the unfortunate affair which I have just noticed, the visit of Mr. W. was, in one respect, at least, of great benefit to me, as a teacher. The astounding failure of my first class in arithmetic so surprised me that I deemed it worthy of a full investigation. On the next day the members of this class were subjected to a searching ordeal. I was determined to learn why they could solve the most complicated problem of their text-book, but could not answer the simplest extemporaneous question. The explanation of the difficulty was soon found. The pupils honestly believed that they had solved their problems, but they had not. One had been aided by his father at home, another by a brother, sister, or friend. One had gone through the book in some previous winter, and recollected how the master had solved these problems, while still another had a manuscript key ; and, in general, if, by any of these means, any member of the class had had the good fortune to fall upon a solution, it was kindly sent by telegraph through the whole class. There had been almost no self-reliance. The rote system had prevailed, and the pupils comprehended scarcely a single principle. I began the arithmetic anew. The members of the class felt somewhat humbled and chagrined at this, but they saw that I was in earnest, and submitted. I extemporised, to a great extent, my examples, and demanded the rationale. I laid the foundations firmly in reason. Soon an unwonted interest sprang up in the class. New light was breaking in. There is always a peculiar pleasure, to the young mind, in really understanding a thing. The class made rapid progress. What they had before learned by rote, I confess, was not useless to them. They had by it acquired a facility in manipulation ; but this was almost all.

On examination day I was not ashamed of my first class in arithmetic. They knew what they could do and did it.

But, before referring further to my examination, I must mention an unfortunate affair, in course of which I was arraigned before a justice of peace, for expelling a boy from school.

Many of my pupils, both boys and girls, were wont to "stay at noon." They doubtless had some jolly times together, but, I think, gave no just occasion for some very bitter remarks of Miss B., a maiden lady, who lived and circulated, as a seamstress, in the families of my district. I would hardly notice such gossip now, but then it wounded me most painfully. Every spiteful censure of my pupils seemed aimed directly at me, and went like a barbed arrow to my heart. Still, while I hated Miss B., I determined to show to the good people that I kept a vigilant eye upon the conduct of my pupils. One day I discovered a note lying upon the desk of a boy of the name of Fox, and addressed to "Miss Crow." I opened it, and read as follows :

"MY DEAR MISS CROW,—I cannot express how much I admire and love you. Beautiful creature, how happy should I be to meet you and speak to you face to face. Say, dear Miss C., will you meet me this evening at the great oak tree at the edge of the woods.

Your's truly,

Fox."

This note, I confess, perplexed me. I showed it to a friend, who most injudiciously allowed Miss B. to read it. She saw its meaning in a moment. "Miss Crow" was a Miss Crowell, one of the most worthy and most beautiful girls in my school. "Miss Crowell," said Miss B., "is a brunette, with jet black hair, and I think



I have sometimes heard her called Miss Crow. What an outrage to address such a note to such a girl!" No words of denunciation of the school and its teacher seemed too severe. I feared Miss B. had found the true interpretation of the note. The neighbourhood was aroused. My best friends advised me to expel the Fox boy from the school. At length I yielded to the pressure. Mr. Fox, the father of the boy, believed, of course, in the innocence of his son. He was very indignant at my treatment of him, and determined to seek redress. I was brought before a justice of the peace.

Of my trial, suffice it to say that my case proved a bad one. Mr. Fox brought forward, as a witness a boy who presented a book of fables, belonging to his father, in which was found the very note signed "Fox." It was a mere fable about "The fox and the crow." It was designed to show the danger of flattery and the character of the flatterer, and had no reference to the Fox boy or the Crowell girl. It had been, for no special purpose, copied out by a little brother of the witness, who threw it, for a joke, upon the desk of the Fox boy, and was too cowardly to tell the truth when he saw the mischief he had done.

The magistrate evidently sympathized with me. He required me to pay but little more than the costs of court, and gave me some sound advice about punishing without sufficient evidence.

And here judge of my surprise, when Mr. W., my trustee, and late august visitor, arose and claimed the privilege of paying, in my stead, all the costs of my trial. He remarked that he had observed my course and had visited my school, and was persuaded that, while I exhibited too much sensitiveness and self-distrust, I possessed ability, scholarship, fidelity, and aptness to teach, and should, therefore, be sustained. He took me by the hand, assured me that matters would yet all turn out well, and invited me to take tea at his house on my way home. At tea, Mr. W. incidentally made the (to me) astounding remark, that on his visit to my school he was gratified, and saw no occasion for my apology for the unusual noise and confusion.

That night I returned to my boarding place with a light heart. Before going to bed, I wrote in my diary, (for I kept a diary in those sentimental days), the following reflections concerning teachers:—

"Don't treat school trustees as your natural enemies."

"Don't believe you are judged, as a teacher, by the accidents of your school-room, but by what you are and what you do."

"Don't make apologies; sensible men use their own eyes."

"Don't be influenced by external pressure to act unjustly."

"Don't punish a boy till you know his motives are bad."

My "lawsuit," to my surprise, seemed to inure to my benefit. The generous course of Mr. W., or my own spirit and bearing at the trial, or some unexplained cause, gained for me the sympathy of the people of the district. In truth, I suspect that the mortification they felt at the result of the affair of the Fox boy, in which they had almost compelled me to take the course I had taken, served to make them more inclined to favour me during the rest of the term.

They were much like the people of some other places, greatly inclined to be severe upon the conduct of the school in general, but very feeble in support of a teacher who might undertake to correct the evil complained of by punishing any particular offender. The unfortunate experience of my immediate predecessor afforded a fine illustration of this characteristic of the people about my school.

His pupils, like mine, were wont to stay at noon; and precisely the same reports were circulated of their disorderly and improper conduct. My predecessor was a somewhat rash as well as sensitive man, and was excessively anxious to show to the community that he was sufficiently prompt and vigilant in correcting an evil which all so much deplored. Detecting a marked example of improper behaviour in one of the girls, he expelled her from the school. He expected to be complimented for his prompt and efficient action; but he counted without his host. The whole community was aroused against him. His mistake was, that he had taken as an example an actual, live, concrete child of somebody in particular. He should have expelled the abstract daughter of somebody in general; and this was all that the good people ever really expected or desired. But this actual severity of punishment they could not endure. "Why," said they all, "seize upon this one poor girl? Why degrade her for life? Why disgrace her family? Why outrage the feelings of the community? Children must be children, and a childish gambol should not be punished as a crime."

So talked the good people. In vain did my unfortunate predecessor retort that the very persons who condemned him, had, by their censoriousness, compelled him to take the very course he had taken. His error was fatal. He had taken an actual case. He had unfeelingly and brutally wounded and ruined the daughter of an actual living voter. He quitted the school in the middle of the term, and never since has been seen or heard of in the town.

And here I find recorded in my diary the following sage and laconic remark: "Gossips are poor backers."

But let me return to my examination at the close of the school. I really believed that my school appeared well. The class in arithmetic, in particular, gained me great credit, and was pronounced the best class in town. I was, I confess, exceedingly gratified at the speeches made by the visiting committee, but experience has taught me that the speakers on such occasions hardly mean all they say. But I was young then, and I felt prodigiously flattered.

That evening I turned the key of the door of the school-house Number 3, with an inexpressible feeling of relief and pride. I took tea at Mr. W.'s, walked back to my boarding-place with an air somewhat more pompous than I should dare to assume now, and made in my diary an entry which shows so much self-conceit, that, though it contains a germ of truth, I am half ashamed of it. It refers to my success in teaching arithmetic, and reads as follows: "Many teachers, I suspect, never find out that their pupils don't really know anything."

And thus ended the most anxious and perplexing experience of my life.

The next morning, leaving behind as a present to the fine little fellow whose unjust punishment I shall always be sorry for, a pretty story book, in red and gold, I turned my steps towards college and home.

And now, let me say, in closing, that, though the lapse of years has doubtless corrected much of my sensitiveness in feeling as well as imprudence in action, yet I have never been ashamed of my career in the school; nor shall time nor change ever efface from my heart a tender sympathy for the griefs of little boys.—JERRY GOOD-FELLOW, in *Massachusetts Teacher*.

## 2. INCIDENTS OF SCHOOL MANAGEMENT.

Not long since some teachers returning from a State Teachers' Association were detained a part of the night at a village tavern, waiting for a train. Two were from the city, of mature age and experience; others from rural districts. The conversation naturally turned upon practical school-teaching. The elders chatted on, more to keep themselves awake than because they considered their remarks of any real consequence. "I have attended several associations of teachers," at length replied one of the younger, "for which I have spent some time and money, but have learned here to-night more of what I *really wished to know* than from them all." "The philosophy of education has been written threadbare, and the minute details of the school appear too puerile for an educational journal," said one teacher to another. "You are mistaken, sir," was the reply; "the more minute the better."

These incidents suggest the inquiry whether, in our anxiety to inculcate the correct theory of education, we are valuing too slightly those outward appliances which, after all, must exist in a school which aims at perfection.

A peculiar charm in the writings of Kepler, the great German astronomer, is that, instead of giving conclusions only, as men of science usually do, with the most captivating simplicity he relates all the steps by which he arrived at the discovery of his sublime laws, with all his failures, fears, hopes and successes. A union school may be a small affair compared with the universe; yet, as order reigns in one, so ought it in the other; and to discover the laws by which the forces in the former are controlled may require patience, and labor, as it did to determine the laws of time and motion which govern the planets.

A teacher found himself principal of a union school—four hundred pupils—six grades—six assistants. The house substantial brick, two stories, surmounted by a bell; a hall above and below—one door of egress. He entered upon his duties an entire stranger to assistants and pupils. On the first day, precisely at half-past four, the janitor stood at the rope, and the usual bell was struck for dismissal. As when Æolus struck his crooked spear upon the hollow mountain, the doors of each room flew open, and out rushed a crowd of girls and boys, as did the winds upon the mighty deep. The halls were immediately filled; disorder of course followed. "This will not do," said the teacher; and his reflections, as he remained half an hour after school, were as follows: To empty this house twice a day, with system, order, silence, and beauty, will be no small task, and deserves careful consideration. It is not reckoned among the branches taught, but my reputation as a teacher may depend very much upon the manner in which I do it: it will test my administrative ability, and develop character. It must be a great mistake also to suppose that all useful lessons in school should necessarily be intensely intellectual. Anything that gives the habit of self-control, be it of limb, tongue, or impulse, is disciplining, tends to obedience and good citizenship. This, certainly, is one object of education, and of my teaching. Here shall be my first effort.

The next day he went to each room and gave a sensible lecture on order. He talked well; his face was new; all listened with profound attention. I have made a good impression, thought he: shall see a change to-morrow. The next day he was disappointed. The confusion was about the same. After being confined an hour and a half, how could Peter help kicking John as he went down stairs; or Jane help screaming and jumping up and down as soon as she entered the hall! He was not wrong, however, in supposing that he had gained *personal* influence. Whenever an unruly spirit caught his presence, as he stood in the hall, he *thought* of what the principal had said, but not before. The teacher had not yet learned that *actions, not words, make upon children permanent impressions.* He had talked too much.

A meeting of teachers was immediately called. He pointed out the evil; all admitted it. "I must hold you each responsible for the good order of your rooms at dismissal," he continued. "In case of disobedience, refer to me." The next day there was not so much tumult, but the order did not meet his expectations. The machine worked as though the screws were loose. The wheels wobbled. He found that different teachers had very different ideas of what order was. From some rooms the pupils came out talking, from others silent; from some running, from others on tiptoe. After school he thought "I have committed an error. There must be unity of action. If I am placed at the head of this school, I must assume that position to its full extent. While my assistants should work out their own individuality, by making certain regulations for their own rooms, a few general rules must emanate from me alone. There must be a strong central power. The pernicious doctrine of state rights will prove as disastrous to my school as it has to the Union.

The next day there came from the principal this distinct and ringing order: "Teachers in the several departments will observe the following regulations at dismissal strictly:—1. Pupils will leave the rooms and the hall without talking; 2. without touching heels to the floor; 3. at least six feet apart. Make your own arrangement in regard to what sections in your rooms shall go first, but have *uniformity daily.*" A great advance was made this time. There was a *positiveness* here, wanting in all former action; but still new difficulties presented themselves. As the files poured from the different doors, current met current, as waves dash around broken rocks, and, as one jostled another, ejaculations of petulance or of fun burst forth, till the hum as of many waters again filled the hall. The principal again set his brain at work. Massing of forces may do well for Grant or Lee, thought he, but not for me. School-strategy evidently consists in dispersion.

The janitor was again placed at the bell, and ordered to strike as follows: At six strokes the 6th grade was to file out; at five, the 5th, and so on. Interval between bells three minutes. This worked admirably. The little ones were in the middle of the town before the larger ones left the house, and but one single file was in the hall at the same time. Still the thing was not perfect. Children are as gregarious as sheep and ducks. Knots would cluster in the halls, and squads gather around the doors. Each girl had to tell the other something; boys would form platoons, and see who could get the door first. One thing was wanting in the whole plan thus far. *There was no penalty for violated law.* Laws without penalties are useless. On the subject of penalties he reasoned thus: with children a slight one, *invariably* enforced, will produce about the same effect as a severe one. Here, however, was a difficulty. He could not be omnipresent; how could he detect the guilty? To depend upon inquiries was impracticable; upon self-reporting, dangerous; upon watching, impossible. I will resort to delegated power, thought he; it will not destroy the unity of action which I seek, if I keep the reins in my own hands.

The next day he called to his room three reliable boys from each grade. Positions were designated them in the hall, and at the outside door. Each boy of his respective grade was required to send back to their own rooms all violators of the three rules above mentioned. Penalty, detention at the discretion of teacher, not exceeding fifteen minutes. If any refused to return, they were sent next day to the principal's room. Only one more improvement was made. As boys always wish to run faster, and sometimes run over girls on returning from school, they were dismissed first in each grade. The machine was now complete. The school appeared to dismiss itself. A department glided out so silently that the others knew not when it was gone. The six clothed with delegated authority were called Marshalls of the Hall; were selected weekly for meritorious conduct: they had some special privileges, always went out first. The position was considered one of honor, and a paper star indicated their rank. The dismissal of that school soon became the admiration of the town. People visited it expecting to see some grand exhibition of power; but, to their surprise, they generally found the principal at that hour quietly seated at his desk, making out records, or seemingly doing nothing at all. Little did they know

the brain-work and solicitude that this very thing had cost him. The good influence of this discipline seemed to extend beyond the school-precincts, and to reform street-manners. The causes attributed for these results were various. The children were naturally good; the principal was a natural teacher; the pupils greatly loved and feared him: while the truth was, the moral status of the young there was about the same as in other towns; the teacher had no peculiar aptitude to govern; and the feeling extended towards him seldom exceeded that of sincere respect.

Three lessons can perhaps be derived from this plain article. 1. That successful school management is not generally the result of intuition, but of careful thought, out of the school-room as well as in it. 2. That there is a deep philosophy in studying the minutiae of the school-room, if rightly pursued, not unworthy the attention of all. 3. A good practical method presented for dismissing a large school.—*J. G. M., in Illinois Teacher.*

### III Papers on Botany.

#### 1. THE STUDY OF PLANTS AND FLOWERS.

Plants and flowers are wonderful quickeners of some of the most healthy emotions and genial traits of the human character. They are educators in no unimportant degree. Certain elements of character are developed by a familiarity with them, as naturally as the flowers themselves unfold and develop under the influence of sunshine, dew, and rain. What a pity, then, that so few children, comparatively speaking, should be real sharers in the delight and improvement which they furnish. Not only do these sources of happiness and of culture come unasked for, but Nature, in her kindness, seems even to come more than half way to tender us an infinite variety of her objects of beauty, and her emblems of innocence and virtue. No object gives such a sparkle of animation and delight to the eyes of children as flowers. Not even the pet kitten can call forth such exclamations of joy as are heard when children are let out into the blossom-covered fields in spring time. Is it not, then, passing strange that this natural fondness for flowers among children, instead of being encouraged and cultivated, is so often neglected and abused. We often wish it were in our power, or in the power of any human pen, to make parents and friends of children realize, in some degree, the stupendous scale on which the means of culture and development of character are daily wasted in neglecting the study of the works of nature.

Much time and money have been expended in the study of botany to little or no purpose. The study has been too much theoretical. The science of plants is certainly very interesting and attractive to minds of sufficient maturity and culture to comprehend and appreciate it. But young children need facts before reasoning and theory. They do not relish abstractions. The principles of classification and the technical examination of plants and flowers are more suitable for older minds.

We were once present at the public examination of a popular Female Seminary, when a class, just ready for graduation, had an exercise in Botany. The readiness with which the young ladies recited the barren technicalities of the science, would excite the envy of a parrot. They talked fluently of "systematic botany," and of "structural botany," of "morphology," and other "ologies," of "andrias" with prefixes innumerable, and "gynias" set off in like manner. They gave the analysis and botanical names of several plants, and yet there was not a plant nor a flower in the room! Now those young ladies recited just as they had been taught. They had no useful knowledge of the vegetable world and its myriad beauties, which are best understood when approached with the simplicity of a child, and by methods which common sense itself is sufficient to suggest. They were utterly unable to bear questioning outside of the technical routine of the text-book,—and could not point out, in plain language and with precision, the obvious characteristics of the most common plants which daily meet the eye. But, we humbly submit, it was not wholly their fault. We could not help anticipating a few years, when those fair aspirants for the laurels of the Institution would find out how barren and unsatisfactory would appear their knowledge of botany. When young ladies, who have studied the science in such a manner, become mothers and nurses, they can never be satisfied with such misnamed accomplishments. The simple power, exercised with tact, to call the attention of children to flowers and plants, to make them admire them, and to foster in them habits of observation and enquiry, is not a showy accomplishment, but it is a power of infinitely more value than all the attainments in botany with which so many of our young ladies "graduate" at some of the so-called "first institutions of the country," where books and not flowers are studied.

The question is often asked, if botany cannot be studied in schools of the primary grade. Most certainly it can, if text-books are en-

tirely discarded. A few minutes of conversation every day with the children about flowers, a walk with them into the fields at recess or after school, or a visit to a flower garden, will awaken in them a wonderful interest, and serve to lead them gradually to a very fair knowledge of the vegetable kingdom. The child of eight or ten years, who learns the name of a new flower every week, and who can talk about it as he would talk about a pair of skates or a new bonnet, is making very good proficiency. In a few years a knowledge of the subject will thus be obtained, that will qualify the pupil to learn from text-books those higher principles of the science which cannot be comprehended nor appreciated at an earlier age.

Now, fellow teacher, we beg of you to omit no opportunity to interest children in flowers. It will not interfere with other studies. It will give the little enquirers great delight, and will animate them in all their work. Let it be an object lesson indeed, and you will soon see most pleasing fruits of your labours. Perhaps you do not understand botany; do not feel qualified to teach it. Then begin with your children. The probabilities are that you can keep up with them in a familiar and practical study of plants and flowers.—S., in *Massachusetts Teacher*.

## 2. PLANT TREES NEAR SCHOOL HOUSES.

It has been well said that "the man who plants a tree near a school house little knows what he is conferring on the coming youth."

## IV. Papers on Scientific Subjects.

### 1. IMPORTANT TO PARENTS AND TEACHERS.

We respectfully but very earnestly call the attention of our readers to the statements below. It will be seen that it is proved by a very extensive collection of facts, that children learn more when they study three hours a day than they do when they study six. We have long been convinced of this from our own experience and observation, and we believe that no more momentous truth can be disseminated among the community.

When a child comes in fresh from his play, with the blood bounding through his veins, his brain is full of life and vigour, his ideas are all clear, and he can learn more in fifteen minutes than he can in two hours after his brain is fatigued, and his whole system has become languid by confinement at his desk.

From pretty extensive enquiry we are satisfied that the present murderous system of long confinement in school is continued by a want of frankness between parents and teachers. Nearly all the parents are opposed to the practice, but it is kept up by the teachers under the mistaken idea that they will give dissatisfaction by reducing the hours of their own labour.

Not only should the gross amount of study be greatly diminished, but recesses should be more frequent. Thirty minutes is quite long enough for any young child to study, and one hour for a child of any age. The human brain is not like a steam engine that the longer you run it the more work you get out of it. What the brain can do depends wholly upon its condition. Any person can accomplish more mental labour in one hour, when the brain is in a healthy and active state, than he can perform in a month when the brain is tired and exhausted.

Among the parliamentary papers recently issued in England, are two small volumes containing some information collected by Mr. Edwin Chadwick during the recent education enquiry. Mr. Chadwick shows, in these papers, that the present practice of long hours of teaching is a wide cause of enervation and predisposition to disease, and induces also habits of listlessness and dawdling. The half time system is found to give nearly, if not quite, as good education as the whole time; and common sense tells us that a boy who has acquired the same amount of knowledge in half the time of another boy, must have obtained a proportionately superior habit of mental activity. It is this alertness, combined with the bodily aptitudes created by drill, that gives the comparatively stunted boys of the town a preference over the strong, robust lads from the coast. Good school masters say that about three hours a day are as long as a bright, voluntary attention on the part of children can be secured, and that in that period they may really be taught as much as they can receive; all beyond the profitable limit is waste. Hence it is urged that part of the present long school hours be devoted to gymnastic exercises or drill, as part of the system of education, or that the half time system be more adopted. It is a frequent complaint by runaway apprentices and vagrant children that the work to which they were first put was really very painful to them; but children, while at school, might be gradually introduced and accustomed to labor and exertion. Early physical training would remove or di-

minish congenital defects or bodily weakness. It is estimated that an addition of at least a fifth might be made to the efficiency and value of a boy as a laborer in after life—an addition equivalent, in the mass, to the produce of the labour of one fifth more of the population, without the expense of additional food, clothes, or shelter to maintain them. Drill is very strongly recommended by many eminent men, who give their testimony in these papers. It improves the health, the carriage, the manners, even the character; sharpens the attention, gives habits of obedience, promptness, regularity, and self-restraint.

Sir F. B. Head writes:—

"No animal, whether on four legs or two, can be of any use in the workshop of a man until he has been sufficiently divested of that portion of his natural inheritance called a 'will of his own.' What's the use of a cow if she won't allow either man or maid to milk her? What's the use of a horse if he won't put his head into a collar, or suffer a saddle on his back? A system of military drill in our schools would prove so beneficial that, if once adopted, an undrilled young man, like a raw, unbroken horse, would be considered unserviceable."

"I should consider a youth of double value," says Mr. Whitworth, "who has had the training of the nature of a drill; he attends to commands, he keeps everything he has to do with in a high state of cleanliness, defects are corrected, and special qualifications brought out."

"We find the drilled men very superior," says Mr. Fairburn. "They are constantly in readiness for the protection of the country," writes Lieutenant-General Shaw Kennedy. "I would not," said an eminent manufacturer, "take less than £7,000 for my whole set of workmen, in exchange for the uneducated, ill-trained, and ill-conditioned workmen of the manufacturer opposite. The steadiness of the educated men induces steadiness of work, and comparative certainty in the quality and quantity of the produce." "Why do you bespeak children from the infant school, in preference to others?" an operative was asked. "Because they require less beating, and they are sooner taught," was the expressive answer. It is maintained in the papers, that much more might be made of the existing means of education by a system of union and consolidation and graduation of schools, and a division of educational labour; and with improvements of this nature, and contemplating the striking results of education in the district half time industrial schools for paupers—schools which are emancipating children from hereditary pauperism and crime by methods of training which might be much more widely adopted—"men like us, past the middle period of life," writes Mr. Chadwick, "might expect to see in a few years a change in the whole moral and intellectual condition of the population, as great as any change produced by improvements in physical science and art in our time."—*Scientific American*.

## V. Papers on Literary Subjects.

### 1. PUBLIC PENSIONS IN ENGLAND.

Two royal messages, one recommending a grant of £20,000 to Sir Rowland Hill in consideration of his services in working out the Penny Postage system, and the other recommending a pension of £1,000 a year to Lady Elgin, the widow of the amiable and useful nobleman who died while labouring for the benefit of India, were received with cheers in both Houses on Monday. That the widow of a man who sacrificed his life for the public good, should receive a testimony of public gratitude, is a proposition which commends itself to the mind of every good citizen; and the justice of making a similar gift to a man who has sacrificed the best years of his life in effecting a great social reform is equally obvious.

On Thursday the formal cession of the Ionian Islands to Greece was completed.—The Greek flag was hoisted at Corfu. The British Commissioner issued a proclamation announcing the fact; and thus ends a guardianship which has been a continued source of annoyance and expense to this country. The King of Greece arrived at Corfu on Monday, and was heartily welcomed.—We are glad to learn that Lady Inglis, widow of the late General Sir John Inglis, the gallant defender of Lucknow, who lost his life from fever caught at Corfu, is to receive a pension of £500 from the Civil List.

Her Majesty, on the recommendation of Lord Palmerston, has been graciously pleased to confer upon Mr. Henry Meadows, the artist, a pension of £80 a year, in consideration of the merit displayed in his "Illustrated Shakespeare" and other well-known works.—Death has just taken from us in the course of nature one whom we could ill spare. Mr. Nassau William Senior, late Master in Chancery, Professor of Political Economy at Oxford, the writer of several entertaining and instructive books of travel, died on Monday, in the seventy-third year of his age.—Admiral Fitzroy's weather prophecies have been tabulated. He issued his warnings

on 36 different days, and 1,561 reports were received as to the actual state and direction of the wind. As regards the force of the wind he was right in 882 instances, and wrong in 679—the wind, in these latter cases not exceeding a pressure of 8. In 456 instances he was wrong, and in 171, only, right with regard to the direction of the wind. We do not hear, however, that he was entirely at fault—that he ever prophesied a gale and there was no gale at any places on the coast. He appears always to have been correct within a certain area.—*London Correspondent of the Hamilton Spectator, 11th June.*

## 2. SIR ROWLAND HILL AND THE PENNY POSTAGE.

In proposing to the House of Commons that a grant of £20,000 be made to Sir Rowland Hill on his retirement, Lord Palmerston stated that in 1863, the period before which his plan came into operation, the number of letters transmitted through the post in the course of the year was 76,000,000, while in 1863 the number transmitted was 642,000,000. In 1838, the amount of money orders at the Post Office was £313,000. In 1863 it was £16,494,400. The gross receipts in 1838 were £2,346,000, while in 1863 they were £38,700,000. The net revenue of the Post Office, as stated by his lordship, was, for the year 1863, £1,793,000 after paying expenses.

## 3. LITERARY PEERS.

Macaulay was the first man elevated to the peerage in England, mainly in honor of his literary eminence; and he had been a member of Parliament, and had occupied administrative office. Besides his having no child had an influence in securing to him the honor. Recently Richard Monckton Milnes, M.P. for Pontefract, and principally known for his poems and his life of Keats, has been created Baron Houghton. The same rank was tendered to him twenty years ago by Lord Melbourne, and declined.—*Illinois Teacher.*

## 4. THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

The annual accounts of the British Museum have been laid before Parliament. The entire expenditure of last year was £95,000 (\$447,500). The total number of articles added to the library in the course of the year, including newspapers, broadsides, engravings, maps, and miscellaneous pieces, was 107,784. Of complete works, 45,020 were purchased, 10,072 acquired by copyright, and 1,129 presented. In the natural history departments above 100,000 specimens have been added in the course of the year, and Prof. Owen reports that the progress of the additions is such as fully to verify the outlay on which the requirements of space have been estimated. The additions include specimens from the African expeditions and the North American boundary expedition, and contributions of great scientific value from the Linnæan and Entomological Societies. The department of zoology has been enriched by a donation from Mr. J. Bowring of above 80,000 specimens of coleopterous insects, the largest and most instructive accession to the entomological department ever presented by one individual. Very large additions have been made to the collection of fishes; among them may be mentioned a collection from the Lake of Galilee. The total number of visitors to the reading-room during the year was 107,821—of visitors to the other parts of the Museum, 440,801—in both cases a diminution from the numbers of previous years.

## 5. SPREAD OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

An English monthly, called the *Nevsky Magazine*, is now published at St. Petersburg; and the English language is much studied and used by the educated classes in Russia. The Czar is quite familiar both with the language and with its current literature, and also with British and American newspapers. A translation of Shakespeare into Bohemian will ere long appear. Probably few are aware that the English is the simplest of all European languages and the easiest to learn to read understandingly. Our spelling is most abominable, though hardly worse than the French; but our etymology and syntax are simple: hence it is easy to learn to read understandingly, but difficult to connect the pronunciation with the words.

## 6. RULES FOR READING.

Read much, but not many works. For what purpose, with what intent do we read? We read not for the sake of reading, but we read to the end that we may think. Reading is valuable only as it may supply the materials which the mind elaborates. As it is not the largest quantity of any kind of food taken into the stomach that conduces to health, but such a quantity of such a kind as can

be best digested; so it is not the greatest complement of any kind of information that improves the mind, but of such a quantity of such a kind as determines the intellect to most vigorous energy.

The only profitable kind of reading is that in which we are compelled to think, and think intensely; whereas that reading which serves only to dissipate and divert our thoughts is either positively hurtful, or useful only as an occasional relaxation from severe exertions. But the amount of vigorous thinking is usually in the inverse ratio of multifarious reading. Multifarious reading is agreeable, but as a habit it is, in its way, as destructive to the mental as dram-drinking to the bodily health.

## VI. Papers on Colonial Subjects.

### 1. JACQUES CARTIER.

BY THE HON. T. D. M'GEE.\*

In the sea-port of St. Malo, 'twas a smiling morn in May,  
When the Commodore Jacques Cartier to the westward sailed away;  
In the crowded old cathedral all the town were on their knees  
For the safe return of kinsmen from undiscovered seas;  
And every autumn blast that swept o'er pinnacle and pier  
Filled manly hearts with sorrow, and gentle hearts with fear.

A year passed o'er St. Malo—again came round the day  
When the Commodore Jacques Cartier to the westward sailed away;  
But no tidings from the absent had come the way they went,  
And tearful were the vigils that many a maiden spent;  
And manly hearts were filled with gloom, and gentle hearts with fear,  
When no tidings came from Cartier at the closing of the year.

But the earth is as the Future, it hath its hidden side,  
And the Captain of St. Malo was rejoicing in his pride  
In the forests of the North—while his townsmen mourned his loss,  
He was rearing on Mount-Royal the *fleur-de-lis* and cross;  
And when two months were over, and added to the year,  
St. Malo hailed him home again, cheer answering to cheer.

He told them of a region, hard, iron-bound, and cold,  
Nor seas of pearls abounded, nor mines of shining gold;  
Where the wind from Thule freezes the word upon the lip,  
And the ice in spring comes sailing athwart the early ship.  
He told them of the frozen scene until they thrill'd with fear,  
And piled fresh fuel on the hearth to make them better cheer.

But when he chang'd the strain—he told how soon is cast  
In early spring the fetters that hold the waters fast;  
How the winter causeway broken is drifted out to sea,  
And the rills and rivers sing with pride the anthem of the free;  
How the magic wand of summer clad the landscape to the eyes,  
Like the dry bones of the just, when they wake in Paradise.

He told them of the Algonquin braves—the hunters of the wild,  
Of how the Indian mother in the forest rocks her infant child;  
Of how, poor souls, they fancy in every living thing  
A spirit good or evil that claims their worshipping;  
Of how they brought their sick and maimed for him to breathe upon,  
And of the wonders wrought for them through the Gospel of St. John.

He told them of the river, whose mighty current gave  
Its freshness for a hundred leagues to ocean's briny wave.  
He told them of the glorious scene presented to his sight,  
What time he reared the cross and crown on Hochelaga's height,  
And of the fortress cliff that keeps of Canada the key,  
And they welcomed back Jacques Cartier from perils over sea.

### 2. CONFEDERATION OF THE PROVINCES.

The Toronto *Leader* is publishing a series of very excellent articles on the subject of the confederation of British North America. Our space forbids our reproducing them, which we would gladly do were it possible, but our readers will feel interested in the general tables which are given by our contemporary, and upon which his

\* LITERARY HONOURS TO THE HON. MR. M'GEE.—At a meeting of the Royal Irish Academy, held on the 11th of April last, the Hon. Mr. McGee was unanimously elected a M.R.I.A. Next to the Royal Society, the Academy is one of the oldest and most distinguished literary and scientific bodies in the United Kingdom. The proposers of Mr. McGee were the Governor General of Canada, the Very Rev. the President of the Academy, the poets Ferguson and McCarthy, the Rev. Wm. Reeves, D.D., the distinguished hagiologist, and Messrs. Gilbert and Hardinge.

arguments are based. First, as to the population of the Provinces, and the aggregate population of the confederacy, we have the following figures :

Newfoundland .....	125,000
Prince Edward Island .....	80,747
New Brunswick.....	252,047
Nova Scotia .....	330,857
Lower Canada .....	1,110,654
Upper Canada .....	1,395,091
Red River (about).....	10,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>3,304,396</b>

Assuming that the representation in the Lower House of the general Legislature to be based upon population, and an average of one representative to each 25,000 of the population, we should have the following as the representation :

	MEMBERS.
1 Newfoundland .....	5
2 Prince Edward's Island.....	3
3 New Brunswick.....	10
4 Nova Scotia.....	13
5 Lower Canada.....	44
6 Upper Canada.....	55
7 Red River .....	1
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>131</b>

Then as to the extent of the confederation, the figures given show that British America has a larger area than the neighbouring States north and south combined, and only a very little less than Europe. The figures stand thus :

	SQUARE MILES.
Newfoundland .....	40,200
Prince Edward Island .....	2,174
New Brunswick.....	27,105
Nova Scotia.....	18,600
Canada.....	330,000
Hudson's Bay Territory, N. W.....	2,300,000
British Columbia .....	200,000
Vancouver's Island.....	15,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2,933,078</b>

Of course in this estimate considerable allowance has to be made for the Hudson's Bay Territory, a very large portion of the north part of which is unfit for settlement. But even excepting this, we have still a territory capable of sustaining a hardy population, quite equal in extent to the Federal States, and large enough to be at all capable of being satisfactorily governed under a united Legislature and executive.

The elements of a great naval power which British America, as a united confederation, would possess are very great indeed. The amount of tonnage owned in the Provinces is set down at 562,498, and the following table shows how rapidly has been the increase in this species of property :

	TONS.
1806.....	71,943
1830.....	176,040
1836.....	274,738
1846.....	399,204
1850.....	446,935
1861.....	552,498

The tonnage owned by the different Provinces respectively is thus set down, although it is quite evident that as to Canada the figures are quite reliable. It is a pity that more attention has not been paid to the important subject of commercial statistics ; and now that Mr. Simpson has taken the Secretaryship of the Bureau of Statistics, it is to be hoped that this reproach will be removed :

	TONS.
Nova Scotia, (1862).....	248,061
New Brunswick, (1861).....	227,718
Newfoundland, (1862).....	87,030
Prince Edward Island.....	45,000
Canada, (1861) .....	44,365
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>652,174</b>

The commercial marine of British North America, exclusive of British Columbia, is thus found to be second only to that of England, the United States and Russia. The number of vessels, and the tonnage of them, built in 1862, in the Provinces, is set down as follows :

	NO. OF VES.	TONS.
Canada.....	109	29,803
New Brunswick .....	90	48,719

	NO. OF VES.	TONS.
Nova Scotia.....	201	39,383
Newfoundland.....	—	2,786
Prince Edward Island.....	69	9,006
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>129,697</b>

These figures are exceedingly interesting, and indicate that British America is destined yet to become a very important naval power. Its extensive fisheries afford good training for seamen, and its enormous coast and admirable harbours give it great naval advantages. The *Leader* very sensibly remarks that, "The commercial marine of British America being, in point of magnitude, the fourth in the world, it is obvious that she possesses one of the principal elements of a great naval power. She has besides an extent of sea coast, unrivalled fisheries, opportunities for commerce, which will cause the marine rapidly to increase. A country so circumstanced is destined to become, sooner or later, a great naval power. England would never have obtained the proud title of mistress of the seas, if she had not possessed in an uncommon degree the elements of a naval power, an enormous commercial marine."

Next we have an article on the commerce of British America, from which we cull the following figures. The imports and exports of all the Provinces, excepting British Columbia, are as follows :

	IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.
Nova Scotia, (1861) .....	\$7,613,227	\$5,774,334
P. E. Island (1860) .....	1,150,270	1,007,170
Newfoundland (1861).....	5,764,285	5,662,755
New Brunswick (1861) .....	6,190,665	4,735,455
Canada (1863).....	45,964,493	41,831,532
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$66,682,940</b>	<b>\$58,811,246</b>

This is a larger import than had the United States in 1821, whose imports that year amounted to a little over \$62,000,000 ; while the exports of the states during that year were under \$65,000,000 ; a fact which indicates that even thus early the United States were reaping the advantage of the national policy of protection to home industry under which they have so enormously increased and flourished. The intercolonial trade of the provinces has not been great, but a union which would give them a uniform tariff and free interchange of commodities between themselves, would largely increase this. The trade is thus given :—

	IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.
Canada (1863) .....	\$501,713	\$935,096
P. E. Island (1858) .....	398,828	273,848
New Brunswick (1859).....	734,648	281,720
Newfoundland (estimate).....	50,000	50,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,485,189</b>	<b>\$1,541,264</b>

The Commerce of the Provinces requires a large tonnage for its accommodation, nearly double the tonnage engaged in the commercial marine of France which is only 3,288,000, and over twice as great as that engaged in the foreign commerce of the United States twenty years ago. It is as follows :

	Vessels entered.	Tons.	Vessels cleared.	Tons.
New Brunswick, (1861).....	3,518	727,318	3,342	744,093
Newfoundland, (1861) .....	1,337	181,917	1,159	171,080
Nova Scotia, (1861).....	6,322	696,763	6,089	695,582
P. E. Island, (1861).....	1,137	79,580	1,166	87,518
Canada (1863) from sea .....	2,463	1,041,679	2,514	1,071,108
Canada Internal Navigation.....	16,235	3,638,701	15,724	3,368,433
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>30,013</b>	<b>6,265,963</b>	<b>29,994</b>	<b>6,137,311</b>

The revenues of the Provinces, which of course form an important element in considering the question of union, are set down as follows :—

	REVENUE.	PER HEAD.
Nova Scotia .....	(1861) \$848,200	\$2 56
Prince E. Island .....	(1861) 140,030	1 73
Newfoundland .....	(1861) 450,215	3 60
New Brunswick .....	(1861) 727,960	2 88
Canada.....	(1863) 9,760,316	3 89
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$11,926,731</b>	<b>\$3 60</b>

And the public debt of the Provinces are stated thus :—

	PUBLIC DEBT.	PER HEAD OF POPULATION.
Nova Scotia.....	(1861) \$5,062,680	\$15 30
Prince E. Island.....	(1861) 286,580	3 55
Newfoundland.....	(1862) 868,212	6 95
New Brunswick.....	(1862) 5,643,045	22 39
Canada .....	60,000,000	23 93
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$71,860,517</b>	<b>\$21 74</b>

The debts of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have principally been incurred in the construction of railways, about \$4,500,000 having been expended in each Province for that object. With the improvements that are now contemplated in railway extension in those Provinces, there is little doubt that the disparity between them and Canada will soon disappear. Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland have small debts; but they have no railway facilities like the other Provinces.

In the prominence which is being given to the commerce and resources of British America, and to the question of the intercolonial union, we have the most valued and important fruits of the coalition formed last June for the settlement of our constitutional difficulties. That discussion must tend to show how really valuable are the resources of British North America, and how strong a bond of common interest they possess. We believe it will tend so greatly to accelerate the question of the union of British America as to remove altogether the necessity of the lesser scheme of a federal union of the Canadas. For clearly if the greater question seems ripe for immediate action, as we have every hope that it will, then would it be the very poorest of statesmanship to disturb our present constitution until the entire Provinces can become united under one central Government, having local legislators for the management of local affairs. Everything augurs well for the prospect of immediate union; and we hope the auguries will not turn out to have been deceptive.—*Peterborough Review*.

### 3. CENTENARY NUMBER OF THE QUEBEC "GAZETTE."

The *Quebec Gazette*, on the 21st inst., attained its hundredth year, being the oldest living paper or publication in Canada, if not on this continent. To commemorate this event in a manner suitable to the occasion, the centenary edition comes out with many new and appropriate additions. An exact copy of the first number of the *Gazette* with the prospectus accompanies the number issued precisely one hundred years afterwards, and a fair opinion can be obtained of the *status* of the press at this early period of Canadian history, by the old copy now before us. A look at it would carry one in imagination one hundred years back—to the times when the American colonies were still loyal to the mother country, and when Canada just merged from French to British rule. A perusal of it conveys the same sensations. The quaint old type and singular advertisements bring to mind all the improvements and changes made in the conduct of a newspaper since then. The British Parliament were just then debating the advisability of imposing the famous Stamp Act on her North American dependencies. An extract from a letter written in Virginia tells of the alarming depredations of Indians; while among the advertisements we see rewards offered for runaway slaves, reminding us that the curse of slavery once polluted the now free air of Canada. In addition to this the *Gazette* is profusely illustrated with correct views of different prominent places in the city as it now stands, and the views reflect great credit on the publishers. The publishers being desirous of affording the newspapers of Canada an opportunity to put on record some account of their history, several papers were requested to send the publishers of the *Gazette* a short sketch of their history, offering to publish the same in the centenary number. Of those sent, the *Gazette* publishes several, the names of which we give: the *Montreal Gazette*, started 1778; *Quebec Mercury*, 1805; *Montreal Herald*, 1811; *Brockville Recorder*, 1820; *Daily British Whig*, 1834; *Perth Courier*, 1834; *Guelph Advertiser*, 1845; *Montreal Witness*, 1845-6; *Hamilton Spectator*, 1846; the *Inquirer*, 1854; *Ottawa Citizen*, 1855. The *Quebec Gazette*, itself, of course, was started June 21st, 1764—we wish it another hundred years' existence.—*Perth Courier*.

## VII. Biographical Sketches.

### No. 39.—W. S. CONGER, Esq., M. P. P.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of W. S. Conger, Esq., representative of the County of Peterborough in the Provincial Parliament. Mr. Conger first commenced the active duties of life in business in Cobourg, some thirty-five years ago. Of an active and energetic temperament, and an earnest reformer, he was selected, thus early in life, as the standard bearer of his party in the contest of 1834 and 1836, contesting the Newcastle District, but without success. When the more violent spirits of the reform party succeeded in rousing the people to rebellion, Mr. Conger took up arms in defence of the Crown. With a company which he organized and equipped mainly at his own expense, he proceeded under orders to the frontier, where hostilities were anticipated.—After the close of the rebellion, he continued in business in Cobourg until 1842, when he accepted at the hands of his political leader,

the venerated Robert Baldwin, the Office of Sheriff of the United Counties of Peterboro' and Victoria. This office he filled with the greatest satisfaction to the public until 1856, when, a vacancy occurring in the representation of the County, by the acceptance of office by Mr. Langton, the then representative, he was solicited to enter Parliament, and gave up the Shrievalty for that purpose. He then contested the county with Frederick Ferguson, Esq., and after one of the hardest fought political battles that has ever occurred in Upper Canada since the Union, he was returned by a majority of 298. He sat in Parliament for the two remaining sessions of that Parliament, and in 1857-8 was defeated by Thomas Short, Esquire. In 1861 he again contested the County with Col. Haultain, but again without success, being defeated by a very narrow majority. In the election of 1863 he was chosen by acclamation, his old political opponents joining in the work of placing him again in the Legislature. He succeeded, however, in procuring the appointment of a Committee on his favourite scheme of a Trent Canal. His last official act was the presentation of the report of his Committee, to his earnest desire to complete which he sacrificed in a great degree his chances of recovery. Years ago he conceived the idea of promoting the settlement of the country lying in rear of this county, and while the Hon. Mr. Price was Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, elaborated a scheme for the purchase by the Counties of the Crown Lands in rear of them at a nominal price—a scheme which, had it been accepted and properly worked out, would have tended greatly to the advantage of the County. Failing in this, he never ceased to urge upon the Government the opening up for settlement of the Townships north of Peterborough and Victoria, and when the vacancy occurred in the representation of the County in 1856, the hope of being able more successfully to effect this object was the ruling motive in inducing him to give up a lucrative office for the trouble and uncertainty of public life. He had the gratification of seeing that object accomplished, and before his death found no less than half a dozen representatives in the Counties Council from the section which, on his entrance into public life eight years ago, was a wilderness unsurveyed and unsettled.

This is the monument Mr. Conger has left behind him to attest to his friends how well he has done his duty in life, and as an evidence to others of what may be accomplished by earnest and persevering effort. The settlement of the Country was the day dream of his existence, and few men have realized more the object of their wishes. This was at once the aim and the extent of the "ambition" which many attribute to him. It was an ambition to have his name in some way connected with the progress of his native Country—nothing more, nothing less. An ambition without one single grain of the alloy of sordid self seeking.—*Peterboro' Review*.

### No. 40.—WILLIAM B. JARVIS, Esq.

The second generation of the old U. E. loyalist families is rapidly passing away from amongst us. There are some still remaining, but the list is not a long one. Yesterday morning one of the best known of the survivors, Mr. ex-Sheriff Jarvis, passed away to his rest. His death was not unexpected. For the past twelve months it has been well known to the very many who missed the familiar form of the "old Sheriff" that he was in declining health. Hopes were plentifully indulged in that he might recover, but it had been decreed to the contrary. About five weeks ago alarming symptoms appeared, since which time he gradually declined, and yesterday morning at half-past six o'clock, expired after severe suffering. The immediate cause of his death was a tumour in the lungs.

The parents of the deceased were U. E. loyalists, who, at the termination of the revolutionary war, left the United States, and settled in Fredericton, the capital of New Brunswick. There Mr. Jarvis was born, on the 4th of May, 1799. He was consequently a little over 65 years of age at the time of his death. His family removed to Toronto in 1809, where they settled, and became possessors of considerable landed property. The deceased was the youngest of three brothers. He was educated by the present Bishop of Toronto, and had for his school-mates many men whose names subsequently became famous in the history of the constitutional struggles waged, until responsible government was gained. When about 16 or 17 years of age he received an appointment as clerk in the office of the then Provincial Secretary, Mr. Duncan Cameron, which situation he retained until he was appointed Sheriff in 1827 for the Home Division. He was several times elected member for Toronto, and was always identified with the Tory party. After the rebellion he resigned his seat in the House in favor of the present Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, the Hon. Mr. Draper. In 1856 he also resigned the office of Sheriff, and was succeeded therein by his nephew, Mr. F. W. Jarvis. Having lived for many years in comparative political inactivity, he was in 1863 induced to contest North York with the present member, Mr. Wells, but was unsuccess-

cessful. The step was not a wise one, but he took it rather to oblige others than himself.

While in the vigour of his life, Mr. Jarvis was a very active man. He was one of the originators of the agricultural societies, whose operations are so widely extended, and which have done so much good. To his exertions, also, it may be noted, we are mainly indebted for the commencement of the macadamized roads in York and Peel.—*Globe of July 27th.*

## VIII. Miscellaneous.

### 1. OUR COUNTRY AND OUR QUEEN.

In other lands the bright sunbeam  
With richer glow is known ;  
But none however fair they seem,  
Are fairer than our own ;  
And none a monarch can possess,  
As on our throne is seen,  
So then we'll pray to God to bless,  
Our Country and our Queen.

In song let children hail her name,  
For she our love hath won,  
By deeds of more enduring fame  
Than manhood's might hath done.  
And long as language can express,  
What in the heart's unseen,  
We'll pray to God above to bless,  
Our Country and our Queen.

From lordly tower, and princely hall,  
And peasant's lowly home,  
Where'er her gentle sway doth fall  
Her heartfelt praises come.  
Our mountains their delight express,  
Our cliffs and valleys green ;  
And still we pray to God to bless  
Our Country and our Queen.

Though great her glory and renown,  
Theme of her people's prayers,  
May she yet win a nobler crown  
Than that on earth she wears,  
And long may future times confess  
The virtues we have seen ;  
But Lord ! in Thy great love still bless  
Our Country and our Queen.

### 2. THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AT CAMBRIDGE.

Here is a pleasant account of the Princess of Wales' recent visit to the University town of Cambridge :

"The conduct of the Princess of Wales at Cambridge won the hearts of all who came in contact with her, or ever looked upon her. 'The true secret,' says an observer, 'lies in the Princess's simplicity of manner, in the openness and unrestrainedness of her enjoyment, in the freedom with which she shows her delight in the enjoyment and festivity of which she is the centre. It is impossible to imagine a more marked contrast than between the Princess and the great ladies of her suite. She seems an impersonation of simplicity, freedom, and capacity for enjoyment, beside their more artificial manners and *grande bearing*. I suppose she would be even open to censure by admirers of what is called aristocratic breeding, for want of restrainedness and repose, and of the power of concealing her pleasure. But there is something inexpressibly delightful in this spontaneity. It seems to tell of her earlier years, of narrow fortunes, simple habits, small state, and scanty pleasures, and one cannot but wish that it may long survive the influence of English Court etiquette, and the freezing, fettering, soul-subduing influences of English Court life.

"An account is given of an under-graduate who, in the imitation of Raleigh's gallantry to Queen Elizabeth, spread his gown on the pathway for the Princess to walk on. The Princess paused for a moment, as if puzzled and startled by the sudden act of superfluous devotion ; but when one of the suite had whispered a word of explanation, it was charming to see how sedulously she lifted her dress to show the dazzled and rather abashed proprietor of the purple toga of Trinity that she was actually setting her foot on the gown, bowing her acknowledgements to him at the same time.

### 3. A TRIPLE EPISCOPAL CONSECRATION.

The consecration of the new Bishops of Peterborough, Tasmania, and Niger, which took place on Wednesday, in Canterbury Cathedral, differed externally in no material respect from other ceremonies of the like kind. It was, however, accompanied by circumstances which were deeply suggestive, and by one in particular which marked it as an era in the history of the Anglican Church. One could not but think of the vast distances which were from that day to separate, in three different continents, the three men who knelt before the primate to receive their sacred functions. But the great event—the peculiar feature—which invested the proceedings with the most stirring interest was the presence, in lawn sleeves, of Dr. Crowther, once a poor African slave-boy, but now the brightest ornament of the African Missionary Church, and one of its Bishops. His story is briefly told. When a boy he was sold as a slave, and, packed in the usual herring-like fashion, carried in a ship to America. The ship was afterwards captured by British cruisers, and young Crowther was taken back, and left in charge of the missionaries at Sierra Leone. It was soon seen that he had great abilities. He was carefully educated by his new friends, and eventually became one of their missionary agents. In 1840, he was ordained in England ; since which time he has labored with great success in an extensive sphere of duty in his own country. Being the right man for the right place, the government have justly selected him for the diocese of the Niger, which, no doubt, he will fill with ability commensurate with his former success. If Wilberforce were alive now, how would not his heart rejoice to see the child of slavery thus entrusted by the Church with the highest office she can bestow on one of her members !—*London Review 2 July.*

### 4. I'LL DO IT TO-MORROW.

There were two boys in a school I used to go to when I was young which was about forty years ago. One was remarkable for doing with promptness and perseverance whatever he undertook. The other had the habit of putting off everything he could. "I'll do it to-morrow," was his motto. "I'll do it now," was the motto of the other boy. The boy who loved to put things off had by far the best natural talent, but he was outstripped in the race of life by his neighbour, whose motto was, "I'll do it now." Let that be your motto. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.

### 5. A CURE FOR SCANDAL.

We commend the following to persons in our community addicted to the improper use of the tongue. If the ingredients can be found in town, it would be well for some of those in our town whose tongues are loose at both ends and work on a pivot, to keep a bottle full on hand :—Take of good nature one ounce ; of an herb called by the Indians "mind-your-own-business," one ounce ; mix with "a-little-charity-for-others" and two or three sprigs of "keep-your-tongue-between-your-teeth ;" simmer them together in a vessel called circumsppection, for a short time, and it will be fit for use. Application—The symptom is a violent itching in the tongue and roof of the mouth, which invariably takes place when you are in company with a species of animals called gossips. When you feel a fit of the disorder coming on, take a teaspoonful of the mixture, hold it in your mouth, which you will keep closely shut till you get home, and you will find a complete cure. Should you apprehend a relapse, keep a small bottle about you, and repeat the dose on the slightest symptom.

## IX. Educational Intelligence.

### CANADA.

—*NORFOLK SCHOOL PIC-NIC.*—Friday last was a grand day for the children. The county school pic-nic was held in this town on that day, and was a complete success. Although the heat was oppressive, and the dust anything but agreeable, a large number of schools were represented, some schools coming nearly twenty miles to partake of the day's fun, and there must have been upwards of a thousand children of an older growth who had come to join with their sons and daughters in enjoying themselves. We had intended giving a complete list of the schools present but we found it impossible to obtain the desired information, and we are therefore compelled to mention but a few. Among those in attendance we noticed the following :—Union School, Simeon ; Oak Grove Union School, Charlotteville ; Townsend Centre ; Union School No. 3, Windham ; No. 11, Charlotteville ; No. 8, Woodhouse ; No. 12, Windham ; Port

Dover, accompanied by the Port Dover brass band; No. 13, Windham; and No. —, Hartford. The children having found their way to the grove luncheon was served and disposed of in a hearty manner, and at the close of this part of the exercise, Col. Wm. M. Wilson, the chairman of the Simcoe Board of Union School Trustees, introduced in a few remarks the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, D.D., the Chief Superintendent of Education. He delivered a clear, practical address to the children, impressing upon their minds the fact that if they would succeed in any undertaking they must be industrious. Idleness was almost certain to bring ruin upon those who indulged it. He also gave them excellent advice as to their moral course, cautioning them against the practice of profanity, and against intoxicating liquors and tobacco. Would that the advice given by the Chief Superintendent might be followed to the very letter. At the conclusion of his remarks, a vote of thanks, on motion of Rev. W. Craigie, seconded by Rev. W. Stephenson, was presented to him, and the children dispersed in various directions through the grove, some to swings, some to racing, and others to find amusement in some other way. In the evening the Chief Superintendent delivered an address to teachers, trustees and parents, in the Union School House. Col. Wilson occupied the chair, and called upon Rev. W. Craigie to lead in prayer. He then introduced the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, whose remarks were well-chosen, to the point, and showed plainly the duty of all in connection with our excellent school system. The reverend gentleman was followed by the Rev. W. Stephenson, who delivered a short address in his usual happy style. A vote of thanks having been tendered to both gentlemen, on motion of Daniel Matthews Esq., the meeting terminated by Rev. J. Messmore pronouncing the benediction.—We cannot close this article without alluding to the arrangements for the procession from the Market Square. Owing to misunderstanding or mismanagement—we have not been able to fix the blame upon any one—the procession was a complete failure. The other arrangements of the committee were very good, although had anything like so large a number been anticipated we have no doubt that more accommodation would have been provided. We make these remarks, not with any desire to find fault, but in the hope that the mistake committed on this occasion will be avoided at any similar demonstration, and we trust that this will not, by any means, be the last opportunity the different schools in the county will have of meeting together for the purpose of spending a day of pleasure.—*Reformer*.

— The Rev. W. E. Cooper, M.A., who has recently resigned the Head Mastership of the St. Catharines County Grammar School, to assume the incumbency of Port Colborne and Marshville on Lake Erie, has been presented with a beautiful case of silver fish-servers, by the pupils of the Grammar School, accompanied by a very affectionate address.

— A RAGGED SCHOOL FOR KINGSTON.—The preliminary steps have been taken for the establishment of a Ragged School in Kingston, which is intended to furnish the means of education to the class of city Arabs and ragged street boys, who are excluded from the Common Schools under the present regulations of the Board of Trustees. The movement is in the nature of a voluntary charitable effort, and although it may fall short of the authority to compel vagrant youths to attend, it is nevertheless calculated to effect much good. It is to be hoped that the establishment of such a school will in great measure restrain neglected boys from their evil propensities, and by furnishing them with instruction calculated to make them useful members of society, so rescue them from the abyss of a criminal career. It is something that the city may congratulate itself upon, that there are benevolent individuals residing within its limits, who, when a social want is distinctly proclaimed, as this one was by the jury of the Recorder's Court, are ready with their funds towards aiding in supplying it.—*Daily News*.

— BISHOP'S COLLEGE, LENNOXVILLE.—The annual meetings of Convocation commenced on the 29th ult. His Excellency the Governor General, with family, arrived there on the 30th, and was presented with an address on the part of the University. The usual procession was formed by the members of Convocation, who proceeded to the hall and took seats, together with the guests of the University. His Excellency took a seat at the right of the Chancellor. The Lord Bishop of Montreal and Metropolitan, and the Lord Bishop of Quebec, occupied seats to the right of the Governor General, while seats were occupied at the left of the Chancellor by the Hon. Mr. Galt and the Hon. Mr. McGee. The business of Convocation was then commenced by conferring the following Degrees:—His Excellency Viscount Monck, Honorary Degree of D.C.L.; Professor Small-

wood, M.D., L.L.D., Honorary Degree of D.C.L.; Rev. Edmond Sewell, Quebec, Honorary Degree of M.A.; Rev. Geo. C. Irving, M.A., St. John's College, *ad eundem* degree of M.A.; Mr. R. A. Leach, M.A., McGill College, *ad eundem* degree of M.A.; Mr. Elisha Fessenden, B.A., McGill College, *ad eundem* degree of B.A.; Mr. David R. McCord, B.A., McGill College, *ad eundem* degree of B.A. Mr. Robert Caspar Tamba, who is a Norwegian by birth, was then called forth, and the oath of allegiance administered by the Chancellor, previous to conferring upon him the degree of M.A. The National Anthem was sung on this occasion. The following regular degrees were then conferred:—George B. Baker, M.A.; John Foster, M.A.; James B. Davidson, M.A.; and Thomas L. Ball, M.A. The degree of B.A. was voted to Horace Townsend Lonsdale, but he being absent, it could not be conferred upon him. The matriculating class was then presented, and its members admitted as students of the University, on which occasion they were addressed by the Chancellor. Mr. Tamba then delivered the valedictory address. The Chancellor requested His Excellency to give the prizes in this department. The Dean and Rector, Rev. George C. Irving, was then called upon to make a statement of the progress and prospects of Bishop's College. To strangers, the history of the Junior Department might prove interesting. It was the intention of the founders of the University to have established a school which should act as a feeder to the College. For a long time the school had not more than attained the position of a private school with a few pupils. On the appointment to the position of Rector of the Junior Department of the present Lord Bishop of Quebec, the school progressed until from a school of eight or nine pupils it now numbers over 150—the private school had become an institution of the country. The presence of the late Rector in the person of his Lordship of Quebec, prevented him from dwelling upon the reasons for this rapid progress. As to the present condition of the school, he could say that he had not spoiled the work of the Bishop of Quebec. He then entered upon an elaborate argument in favour of classical education. After speeches from Honorables Messrs. McGee and Galt, the Chancellor turned to the Governor General and said he did not know whether he should ask His Excellency to address the students; but he could say that it would give them extreme pleasure to listen to a few remarks from him. His Excellency then arose amid deafening applause, in which all present joined. He said: My Lords, Mr. Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I know of few things calculated to give more satisfaction than the contemplation of scenes that carry us back to school-boy days and college times; to days when academic struggles for distinction gave the first impulse to ambition, and laid the foundation for ultimate success in the severest efforts of the human mind. For the higher in pale honour conferred on me by the heads of the University to-day, I beg to return my best thanks. But there is a consideration connected with the proceedings of this day, and to contemplate this it will be necessary to carry our minds beyond the limit of mere personal experience. The interesting and important ceremonies which have given us so much pleasure to witness to-day, have a part in the object of the foundation of the University, which is modelled after the educational institutions of the old country—institutions which, founded by private benevolence, as yours is, have outlived the changes in the political, ecclesiastical, and religious systems of the country; whose influence upon the eternal polity of the country, together with the commercial prosperity which has made us so rich and powerful, has made England the envy and admiration of the civilized world. The wisdom which has led to the development of this sympathetic bond of union is a happy omen of a prosperous future for your favoured land. The existence of identical systems of education with those of England tend to beget similar habits of thought which will in time strengthen the respect and affection with which the old country is regarded. It is the highest interest of both parties to foster this growing bond of union. Your University is founded on the model of the great English Colleges, and like them by the generosity of private benevolence, for the education of members of a particular creed; but the elasticity of your forms and the freedom of your rules enable you to take in persons of all denominations. With regard to the system you have adopted, I should feel great diffidence in making a suggestion—especially in such a presence—on a subject which has engaged the attention of men of the first ability; but strengthened by the opinions of eminent men of the present and the past, and by the opinions of a commission appointed in England to report on the subject of the classics as the basis of education in the public schools, and who have been during the past three years investigating the subject, I join with your worthy Rector in congratulating you on having adopted the classical



languages as the basis of your system. I would not maintain that in England undue prominence has not been given to the study of the classics; but the abuse of a principle is no argument in favour of its unsoundness. In the intellectual and moral atmosphere there are cross currents which must be allowed for by those who conduct the mental bark, as navigators make allowance for the cross currents in the natural atmosphere. I am not about to enter upon an elaborate review of the principles which should guide education in the abstract; in this presence it would be impertinence to do so; but I may be allowed to offer one or two observations on points which have been overlooked in the discussions on the value of classical education. We constantly hear it said, what is the use of devoting so many years to the study of Latin and Greek, which exercise so little practical influence on the course of our lives? No man who has received a public school and University education can forget what he has learned there, or the part which the classical languages take in modelling what my hon. friend Mr. McGee has very happily termed the conquering English language. Now, I contend that it is impossible thoroughly to understand our own language without a knowledge of the classics; and as to the many quotations and allusions which have crept into our language they are unintelligible without a reference to the authors from which they are taken. It appears to me that this is not the end of all classical education and classical literature. Their object is to discipline the mind of the student to elevate the taste, and to develop critical faculty. The elevation of the taste and the promotion of the critical faculty are commonly attained by familiarizing the youthful mind with the best productions of literature. If these are to be found among the foreign languages, this cannot be done without a knowledge of the languages in which they are written. However much we may be beyond the ancients in the characteristic features of our age, in oratory, in art, and particularly in sculpture, they are still our masters. Although the works were composed two thousand years ago, they are still unsurpassed as examples of mental power and beauty. A knowledge of the classical languages is indispensable to the student, even in the cultivation of literary taste. No man can arise from construing a page of Demosthenes and Cicero, without being elevated by contact with these gigantic minds who were representatives of the Greece and Rome of that day. Young men, I would impress on you the importance of following the excellent advice given you by the gentleman who delivered the valedictory address to-day—not to abandon the study of the classics—the opportunities for the study of which you have so extensively enjoyed here. You cannot tell when it may exercise a practical influence in your career. While I would strongly advise devotion to mental culture, I should be doing injustice to my own convictions were I to neglect to impress upon you the higher importance of that religious culture which you have also received in this University. The fruits of all other victories will pass away, whether won on the battle field, in the forum, or in the senate; they are transitory in value as in duration, and only aptly prefigure the triumphs for which the sacred education you have received has prepared you. May you, then, keep your eyes steadily fixed upon that greatness, the theatre of whose victory shall be a dissolving world, the applause the commendations of the Divine, and the reward the immortal golden crown. His Excellency's speech was received with the most enthusiastic applause, which was continued long after he took his seat.—*Echo.*

### BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

— UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.—VISIT OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.—The great event of the month has been the royal visit. Their Royal Highness the Prince and Princess of Wales were received with enthusiasm beyond description. At the ceremony of conferring the degree of Doctor of Laws on his Royal Highness, the Public Orator led him before the Chancellor, and introduced him in a short Latin speech, to which his Grace replied to the effect that, by the authority vested in him, he admitted the Prince to the degree of Doctor of Laws, in the name of the Holy Trinity. The Duke of Cambridge having taken his degree in the same manner, the Public Orator delivered a long address in Latin, which contained many points of general interest, and which appealed at each of those points to popular feeling. In particular, the allusions to the Princess of Wales were received with great favour and approval. The Chancellor afterwards admitted to their degrees as Doctors of Laws, Earl Spencer, Lord Alfred Hervey, Lord Harris, and General Knollys. He then presented three prize medals, after which prize poems were recited in English, Latin and Greek. The proceedings having closed, the Prince and Princess, with the Duke of Cambridge, left the hall, and were conveyed to the house of the Vice-Chancellor.

— OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—On the 13th May, in the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor's Bill for the Endowment of the Regius Professorship of Greek in Oxford, was thrown out in the second reading, by a majority of 30. The main ground on which it was rejected was, that it proposed a dangerous remedy for a mere temporary evil. The general feeling seemed to be that the subject should be postponed till next session.

— UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—The annual meeting of the University of London, for the purpose of conferring degrees and awarding honours, was held at Burlington House, on the 11th May, Earl Granville, as Chancellor of the University, presiding. In the course of his address, his lordship stated that, whereas in 1857, the total number of candidates for all the examinations of the University had been 439, in 1863 they had been 1020. In 1857, the candidates for matriculation had been 266; in 1863 they had been 485; and, similarly, the candidates for the B.A. degree had increased from 75 to 153—those for the M.B. degree from 43 to 104. At the first examination for the degree of Bachelor of Science, held in this year, there had been 53 candidates.

### X. Scientific Intelligence.

— CELESTIAL PHENOMENON.—Last night those who happened to be out of doors between ten and eleven o'clock had the pleasure of witnessing a peculiar and strikingly beautiful celestial phenomenon. It consisted of a bright arc or belt of light stretching across the heavens from the north-west to the south-east, terminating at both ends very near the horizon. Though presenting a very bright, luminous appearance, its density could not have been very great, as stars of the third and fourth magnitude were plainly discernible through the densest portions of it. Its brightness was not at all regular, sometimes fading almost entirely away and again re-appearing as luminous and as beautiful as before.—*Toronto Globe, 24th August.*

### UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA COLLEGE.

#### MEDICAL FACULTY.

*Medicine and Medical Pathology*—Hon. John Rolph, LL.D., M.D., M.R.C.S. *Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children*—Walter B. Geikie, M.D. *Material Medica and Therapeutics*—Charles V. Berryman, M.A., M.D., Physician to Toronto General Hospital.

*Physiology*—John N. Reid, M.D.

*Chemistry and Botany*—J. Herbert Sangster, M.A., M.D.

*Surgery and Surgical Pathology*—James Newcombe, M.D., L.R.C.P., London, M.R.C.S., Eng., Physician Toronto General Hospital.

*General Pathology*—Hon. John Rolph, LL.D., M.D., M.R.C.S., Eng.

*Anatomy, Descriptive and Surgical*—John Fulton, M.D., L.R.C.P., London, M.R.C.S., Eng.

*Medical Jurisprudence*—Charles V. Berryman, M.A., M.D.

*Practical Anatomy*—J. A. Williams, M.D.

*Curator of the Museum*—S. P. May, M.D.

The Lectures will commence on the 1st day of October, and continue six months. *Graduation*—Spring and Fall, when the Examinations will be in writing and oral.

*Dean of the Faculty*—Hon. John Rolph, 56 Gerrard Street East, Toronto; to whom apply for any further information.  
Toronto, August 24, 1864. s—up.

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July, 1864

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