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The Canada School Journal.

AND WEEKLY REVIEW.

Vol. X.

TORONTO, JULY 16, 1885.

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Table of Contents.

EDITORIAL:—		AG
The World.....	313	
The School.....	314	
A Vexed Question.....	314	
Old English.....	315	
Competitive Examinations.....	315	
Calendar of McGill University.....	316	
SPECIAL ARTICLES:—		
Examinations.....	316	
HOLIDAY READINGS:—		
Science and Modern Discovery.....	316	
The Master's Story.....	317	
James Russell Lowell.....	319	
EDUCATIONAL NOTES AND NEWS.....		322
NOVA SCOTIA CORRESPONDENCE.....		322
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CORRESPONDENCE.....		323
MISCELLANEOUS.....		323
LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.....		324
TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS.....		324
LITERARY REVIEW.....		324

The Canada School Journal and Weekly Review.

An Educational Journal devoted to the advancement of Literature, Science, and the teaching profession in Canada.

—o—TERMS.—o—

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CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL PUB. CO. (Limited)

Publishers.

The World.

"Man."—A new journalistic venture, comes to us from Ottawa. The paper of which this is the first number, is to be edited by Edward Playter, M.D., and is to be a semi-monthly journal for the family circle, devoted to physical, mental and moral culture and progress. The list of promised contributors contains several well-known names.

The loyal citizens of Salt Lake City were rather startled on the Fourth of July, when, on rising in the morning, they found all the national flags, on buildings controlled by the Mormons, at half mast. For a time a violent disturbance was threatened in consequence, but by the conciliatory action of the Governor, most of the emblems were either taken down or hoisted to their proper position. The incident was significant of the state of feeling amongst the polygamists. The Mormon leaders, by the way, are said to be actively engaged in negotiations with an Indian tribe for a place of retreat in Mexico. Whether the Mexican Government will be more tolerant of a polygamous hierarchy than the American Republic remains to be seen.

The approaching trial of Riel and his fellow-prisoners will be watched with great interest. The diary of the Rebel chief, if we may judge from the specimens being published in the papers, is a remarkable document. It seems hardly possible that it could have been written with a view to publicity. Internal evidence, as well as common probability, is against such a supposition. But it would fairly seem as if the only other alternative is to regard him as a sincere religious crank or monomaniac.

The recent debate in Parliament on the causes of the rebellion serves to make it tolerably clear that affairs there were sadly mismanaged, and the rights of the settlers grossly neglected, by both the present government and its predecessor. It is a remarkable and we fear ominous sign of legislative blindness, or injustice, that one of the first Acts of Government and Parliament, after the rebellion, should have been to add another nominated member to the Northwest Council. The proposal to deprive white settlers of their arms is worse, but will probably not be persisted in. Unless Anglo-Saxon human nature in the Northwest differs widely from that nature elsewhere, the intelligent and energetic settlers who go up there will be a thorn in the flesh of old Canada until they get representative institutions at home and a voice in the Dominion Parliament.

It is not often that an act performed ostensibly in the public interest calls for expressions of opinion so violently contrasted as those which have greeted the horrible revelations of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The estimates of the editor range all the way from moral hero and martyr to villain of the lowest and vilest grade. We have often had occasion to deprecate the influence of our great dailies in giving publicity to details of police courts, pugilistic rings, etc. But there are occasions when it seems the duty of the press to speak out, and if half of the allegations of the *Gazette*, all of which it declares itself able to prove, be true, there seems no other way of reaching the aristocratic criminals. The police are represented as worse than indifferent, intervening only to prevent interference with the abominable trade. The *Gazette* articles may hasten a political crisis. It is to be devoutly hoped they may bring about a great moral revolution.

The change from a ministry led by a Gladstone and containing a Dilke and a Chamberlain, to one led by a Salisbury and a Churchill, and composed almost entirely of Lords, is indeed a great one. But as yet there seems little indication of any marked or sudden change of policy at home or abroad. The responsibility of office is a heavy balance wheel. The man who in opposition denounced Russia as a swindler, has now as Prime Minister to treat with her as an equal, and he who accused her statesman as "lying as only a Russian can," will, as Secretary for India, find it his duty to treat them with studied courtesy. Lord Salisbury's declaration of foreign policy the other day was

hardly distinguishable from Gladstone's in tone, the only outcropping of Jingoism being in the single sentence in which, while stating the undisputed proposition that it is the duty of England to make provision for the defence of her Indian frontier, he added that she "should also stretch out beyond, so that when the tide of war comes, it will not come near the English defences." These words, it is true, may mean a great deal and, taken in their widest sense, would foreshadow a policy that would make war inevitable. There is little doubt, however, that if challenged by Russia, they will be shown to be tolerably harmless.

The School.

We have received the first number of *The Kindergarten and Drawing School Monthly*, published by Selby & Co., 28 Wellington St. East. It is, as the name denotes, to be a journal specially devoted to Kindergarten and Drawing.

"Teacher," writing to the Editor of the *Mail* on the subject of University Examinations, is obviously right when he claims that "it is only justice to ask that no tutor or professor shall set papers for examinations at which his own classes and outside candidates are competitors."

A pleasing feature of the McGill Calendar referred to elsewhere, is the lists of subscriptions by private benefactors to the general and special endowment funds. These lists occupy several pages of the Calendar, and speak well for the interest taken in the work of the college by its friends in Montreal and elsewhere. We cannot but feel that our own university will never be on the right track until the men of wealth and intelligence in the city and province begin to come to its aid with similar liberal benefactions. So far as its dependence upon public funds stands in the way of this it is a source of weakness rather than of strength.

A real grievance of the teacher, and one which seems hopelessly beyond the reach of remedy is the undoing of much of his work by the misuse of vacation. So many children are permitted to run wild during holidays that many a teacher would, we dare say, be almost willing to forego the rest, rather than suffer the disappointment and pain which are sure to be caused him by the evident deterioration of some of his pupils during the recess. In many cases it seems as if the work of months were destroyed by the evil associations of a few days. Boys and girls who, by dint of patient effort, seemed to have been fairly started on the rising grade, will come back stolid and refractory as ever. However, these cases are generally exceptional and, as we have said, there seems no help for them. This trouble may as well be borne philosophically.

Two projects of great merit are just now before the citizens of Toronto. One is the establishment of an Industrial School for immigrant boys at Mimico. Mr. W. P. Howland and others who have the matter in hand, are pushing it forward as

rapidly as circumstances will admit, and the success of the project may be considered assured. The other is the founding of a somewhat similar institution for girls. A committee of ladies representing the Woman's Christian Association, the Northern Woman's Temperance Union, and the City Relief Society, have been for weeks maturing a scheme of preventive work for neglected girls. The commodious building known as the old Maternity Hospital, at the corner of Richmond and Sheppard streets, has been rented for the purpose, and contributions are now being asked for repairs and fitting up. In September, classes in cooking, sewing, and various other departments of domestic economy will be opened, under the supervision of a class of young ladies, who have prepared themselves at the Kitchen Garden Normal School, to which we lately referred. Coffee, reading and recreation rooms, also an employment bureau, will be opened in connection, under the auspices of the W.C.A. Both these enterprises represent the very best phases of modern practical philanthropy, and are deserving of the warmest encouragement.

David Dudley Field, in an address before the New York Language Club a few weeks ago, took occasion to refer to the needless iteration which is so expensive and absurd a feature of legal and public documents. He instanced the tautologies in the constitution of the United States, such as "The President shall by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," "necessary and proper laws," &c., and further pointed out that in an ordinary deed of transfer 860 out of 950 words are superfluous. For recording deeds and mortgages 10 cents per 100 words are charged. There are recorded in one month in New York 688 deeds and 788 mortgages. A proper economy of words in these would therefore save those who put them on record over \$1,500 per month. Mr. Field further calculates that the people of New York State pay over \$100,000 per year for superfluous words in legal documents. A striking instance of this senseless verbosity has just been afforded in the indictment against Riel, the six counts of which as expressed must contain over 1000 words whereas a clever school-boy could probably express the whole charge clearly and definitely in 100 or 150. The legal fraternity and possibly the printers are about the only persons who can be benefitted by this unseemly repetition and multiplication of words. It is time the common sense of the people forbade it. A society should be formed to promote economy in the use of the Queen's English.

A VEXED QUESTION.

With the recurrence of each commencement season in the United States, the vexed question of the right of the Ancient Classics to retain their place in the college courses comes to the surface. The *Christian Union* sensibly observe, that an advance step would be taken if the disputants would but change the form of the question from What to How. It is as the Union observes, impossible to dismiss ancient literature from the college course, and equally impossible to study ancient literature without a study of ancient language.

But it is the literature not the language which the average student, as distinguished from the specialist, needs, while the schools have been teaching language, not literature, or in many cases, not even language, but grammar. "Homer and Virgil have been used to illustrate Andrews or Harkness."

"We do not find it necessary," continues our contemporary, "to construe every sentence of Tennyson's 'Maud,' in order to enjoy the poem: much less is it needful to trace each word back to its cradle and discover whether it is of Celtic, or Anglo-Saxon, or Latin origin. The modern Ezekiel takes his class into the past to study a dead language. His real function is to cause the dry bones to stand erect, to clothe them with flesh and blood, and to breathe into them the breath of life. He who does this finds no lack of fascinated pupils. The 'Hypatia' of Kingsley, and the novels of Dr. Ebers illustrate the power of life to both fascinate and instruct in the domain of fiction. But too often the prophet of the class-room contents himself with grinding up the bones into a fine powder, and feeding it out by the teaspoonful to his disgruntled students. No wonder they call the operation a 'grind,' and vote the results to be 'very dry.'"

On another point we agree heartily with the writer in the *Union*. The question of Latin or no Latin, Greek or no Greek, is not to be settled by the absurd method of throwing the decision upon the freshman. As well might the parent leave it to the young child to decide what kinds of food and drink are most suitable for building up the frame into a healthy manhood or womanhood. If colleges are not to degenerate into mere training schools for the professions, if they are still to make it their chief aim to promote scholarship and culture, the study of literature both ancient and modern must occupy a still larger area in the academic pasture.

OLD ENGLISH.

We regret to notice that in the newly revised Curriculum of Arts in the University of Toronto, no place has been found for English texts prior to Chaucer. We regret it partly because Toronto University is the only one of any standing in America, which does not recognize the value of this line of study, and partly because it is impossible for a man to be an English scholar in the true sense of the word, who has not gone over the whole range of English literature chronologically speaking.

Old English has never been recognized in the Provincial University, but a few years ago that institution was not exceptional in this respect. Then it was impossible to get suitable text-books at a reasonable cost, and it was equally impossible to secure men competent to teach the subject. Both of these difficulties have, however, of late years disappeared, and any college which now ignores old English, can plead no better reason than a want of appreciation of its value for educational purposes—a plea which will surprise any one who has taken the trouble to look into the matter with any degree of thoroughness. There are various Anglo-Saxon readers, one of the best being Mr Sweet's, published by the Clarendon Press, and admirable edited selections from pre-Chaucerian English by the same publishers have been prepared by Messrs. Street and Morris. Any one who really desires to do so, can now become an Old English scholar without the aid of a teacher, though of course he will be all the better for having intelligent guidance.

The Early English Text Society has done much to promote the study of old English by offering prizes for competition in those universities which will give the subject a proper degree of prominence in their curriculums. In Canada this offer has been taken advantage of by at least Dalhousie College, Halifax, and McGill College, Montreal. There is no reason why the University of Toronto should not accept of the prize and prescribe the work. In McGill, as we learn from its new calendar, the course for this prize embraces (1) Anglo-Saxon language and literature, and (2) specimens of early English from 1298 to 1393. We hope to see the Senate of Toronto University take up this work whether the early English Text Society's prize is accepted or not.

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS.

Mr. Houston's letter in another column is an interesting contribution to a most important discussion. We fear that Mr. Houston is over sanguine in thinking that the higher motives referred to can be made sufficiently operative with ordinary school pupils. It is possible that were children's intellects and consciences properly trained from infancy they might at once be taken on those high grounds, though even in that case we doubt if the teacher would be following the lead of Nature, the best guide in such matters. But taking the average child as we find him we fear the preceptor who should rely solely on love of knowledge and sense of duty as motive forces, would often find himself sadly at fault.

If we understand Mr. Houston, he regards the motive appealed to by the offer of a prize as not only low in the scale but radically bad. If that were so nothing could justify its use. But we do not think such a view could be sustained by either philosophy or fact. Surely a moral force so deeply imbedded in human nature and so constantly applied in the moral government of the world as the spirit of emulation, must be good and right within its own proper sphere.

We greatly err if it is not the fact that, so far from tending to "crush every spark of generosity out of child nature," the keenest rivalry will often be found consistent with the largest generosity and the closest friendship in children. We should be glad, however, to hear from experienced teachers upon this important point. Certainly any intellectual gain would be dearly bought at the expense of moral deterioration. But as competition is ingrained in the very tissue of organized society and as one of the most salutary lessons we almost all have to learn sooner or later from experience is to bear defeat and to recognize the superiority of others, it would seem as if the lesson could not be too soon impressed upon the young.

But while we are still of opinion that it is quite in harmony with the methods of the great Teacher himself to use and stimulate the desire to excel which is so powerful a principle in human nature, we think it should at least take higher forms as we become capable of nobler ambitions. The love of knowledge itself, as well as the desire to be useful to others, are closely allied with the gratification that springs from a consciousness of power. But in any case when we become men and women we should surely put away childish things.

With the general tenor of Mr. Houston's remarks on the effect of the ordinary system of payment by results we are in hearty accord though even here we are inclined to think that the great fault is not so much in the principle involved as in the character of the examinations and other tests applied. The best educator is he who most successfully trains the pupil to sustained and self-reliant effort, and it is difficult to see how this training can be more effectively aided than by a series of such examinations as shall enable teacher, pupil and inspector to test frequently the genuineness and extent of the progress being made.

CALENDAR OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

The annual calendar of this institution just received contains full information in regard to its various faculties and courses of study. McGill is evidently thoroughly awake and determined to keep abreast of the times. While it does not abate in any measure from the completeness of its old established Arts courses, its success in establishing special courses attests both the enterprise of its managers and the liberality of its patrons. We have in previous numbers referred to the provision made under the Donalda endowment for the higher education of women. This special course has already been open one session, but the classes of the second year will be commenced in September in new class rooms specially provided and fitted up by means of a donation for the purpose from the founder of the endowment, Mr. Donald A. Smith. As the *Montreal Gazette* observes :

"In this special course the education given will be precisely similar to that for men, but in wholly separate classes, as will be that of the third and fourth years, except in so far as honor classes are concerned. The advantage of this arrangement will be that young women will have the same facilities as men without any interference or the necessity of choosing between mixing with young men and merely cramming with special tutors for examinations."

The *Gazette* further informs us that :

"In the faculty of applied science a new reward is offered to successful students in the British Association gold medal founded in commemoration of its visit to Montreal. In this faculty also laboratories for chemistry, assaying and metallurgy are being extended and improved to accommodate the increased number of students, while some new rooms are being prepared for the large junior classes in arts and applied science.

The medical faculty, which in the past session had its classrooms and laboratories overcrowded with 234 students, is having a large extension of its building, including two classrooms, each capable of seating 300 students, and new laboratories for chemistry, histology and physiology, while the rooms in the old building are being greatly enlarged and improved. These changes with the large and efficient medical staff and the hospital facilities now enjoyed, should leave little to be desired in the work of medical education and should enable the McGill Medical School to retain its position at the head of institutions of its class."

McGill also makes provision for the higher examination of women in two classes of subjects. I. Imperative, including Classics, Mathematics, Logic and English, and II. Optional, including Chemistry, Botany, Mathematical and Experimental Physics, Biology and Geology, English Literature and Ancient

History, French and German Languages and Literature, &c. These examinations are held at the same time with those for school certificates and may also be conducted at local centres.

We congratulate the sister province on the great advance which has been and is being made by its higher institution of learning and its young people on the excellent educational faculties it brings to their doors.

Special Articles.

EXAMINATIONS.

The motive of examinations, and not the examinations themselves, is the real point of attack. In fact, without examinations there can be no genuine progress. Every lesson, every bit of work done by the pupils, play on the school grounds, their bearing, in intercourse with each other—in a word, all the elements of character should be continually and persistently examined. Their should be oral examinations, written examinations, drawing examinations, manual-training examinations, and physical examinations. The teacher should examine to ascertain what and how much of character she has developed; the principal should examine to find out exactly the ability of his teachers; the superintendent should examine that he may judge whether his principals are fit for their positions; the board of education should examine in order to know whether its superintendent should be kept in office, and the people should carefully examine to settle the question whether they are paying their money for character-building or cram.

It is not examinations in themselves, but making, that exercises such a terrible influence upon the children, an influence that has its greatest and most powerful outcome in selfishness, the cardinal sin of mankind. Mental and spiritual death is the inevitable result of making per cents the end and aim of school teaching.

Show me a school system where averages and per cents are the ruling passion, and I will show you teachers who spend very little time in the study of child-nature and child-growth. Unconsciously the demon of selfishness dominates every action which has its end in a high average. Dull, weak-minded children, whose only hope of temporal salvation lies in careful, patient, persistent, loving culture, are driven to the wall, because their per cents are low, and the glory of the school is jeopardized.

In such schools the Master's hand never touches the lame, the halt and the blind. Bright, ambitious, nervous boys and girls are kept up to the full bent of cultivating an almost useless power until brains and bodies give way, and death, insanity or hopeless invalidism ensues, while all that remains of their work is the glittering, useless bauble of a per cent. Fight on, Brother Harrington, the rickety, worm-eaten fortress is crumbling. For long years your loving heart has been filled with the cry of the children,

"Your old earth is very dreary

Our young feet are very weak."

Strike and spare not, your victory is a sure one.

—The Practical Teacher.

Holiday Readings.

SCIENCE AND MODERN DISCOVERY.

The present occupant of Sir Isaac Newton's Professorial Chair at Cambridge University, Professor G. G. Stokes, F.R.S., who is also Secretary of the Royal Society of England, delivered a remarkable address at the Annual Meeting of the Victoria Institute, in London, towards the end of June. Sir H. Barkly, G.C.M.G., F.R.S., occupied the chair, and the audience, which included many mem-

bors of both Houses of Parliament, filled every part of the large hall. Professor Stokes gave an important account of the progress of physical science during the past quarter of a century, and, reviewing the results, specially noted that as scientific truth developed, so had men to give up the idea that there was any opposition between the Book of Nature and the Book of Revelation. He said that for the last twenty years or so one of the most striking advances in science had been made in the application of the spectro-scope, and in the information obtained with regard to the Constitution of the heavenly bodies. The discovery that there were in these particular chemical elements, which were also present in our earth, exalted our idea of the universality of the laws of Nature, and there was nothing in that contrary to what he had learned in Revelation, unless we were to say as the heathen did that the God of the Hebrews was the God of the hills and not of the valleys. Entering with particularity in to the composition of the sun, the Professor said this gave an idea of an enormous temperature, since iron existed there in a state of vapour. This was utterly inconsistent with the possibility of the existence there of living beings at all approaching in character to those we have here. Are we then to regard this as a waste of materials? Might we not rather argue that as in animals we ascend by greater specialization, so we could consider the differentiation of office in different members of the solar system as marks of superiority, and could regard the sun as performing most important functions for that system? In fact, all life on our earth was ultimately derived from the radiation of solar heat. Referring to the doctrines of conservation of energy and of dissipation of energy, he pointed out at some length how the sun, so far as we could see, was not calculated for an eternal duration in the same state and performing the same functions as now. We must regard the Universe on a grand scale, and then there was progress. If we contemplated nothing but periodicity, perhaps we might rest content and think things would go on for ever as at present; but, looking on the state of the Universe on a grand scale as one of progress, this idea obliged us to refer to a First Cause. Prof. Stokes concluded with recommending that the Annual Report of the society, read by Captain Frank Petrie, the honorary secretary, be adopted. It showed that the number of home, American, and Colonial members had increased to upwards of eleven hundred, and that the Institute's object, in which scientific men whether in its ranks or not aided, was to promote scientific inquiry, and especially in cases where questions of science were held by those who advanced them to be subversive of religion. All its Members and one-guinea Associates received its Transactions free, and twelve of its papers were now published in a People's Edition, which was to be had in many of the Colonies and America. The address was delivered by Dr. J. Leslie Porter, President of Queen's College, Belfast, the subject being "Egypt: Historical and Geographical," a country with which he had been thirty years intimately acquainted. Having referred to the antiquity of Egyptian records, which in so many instances bore on the history of other ancient countries, he proceeded to describe the various changes through which that country had passed since its first colonization; and, touching on its physical geography, concluded by giving the main results of recent exploration. One or two special statements may be here recorded. Dr. Porter said.—"Were the Nile, by some convulsion of Nature, or by some gigantic work of engineering skill,—neither of which is impossible,—turned out of its present channel away up to Khartoum, or at any other point above Wady Halfa, Egypt would speedily become a desert." No tributary enters the Nile below Berber, that is to say, for the last thousand miles of its course. "The arable land of Egypt is about equal in extent to Yorkshire." The White Nile, issuing from Lakes Albert

and Nyanza, is broad and deep, never rises above a few feet, and supplies the permanent source of the river of Egypt. "The other tributaries produce the inundation." Of these the *Atbara* from the mountains of Abyssinia is the most fertilizing, as it brings down with it a quantity of soil. The deposit of this soil is slowly raising the bed of the river as well as extending on each side; for example, on the plain of Thebes the soil formed by deposits has in 3,500 years encroached upon the desert a third of a mile, "while the ruins of Hierapolis in the Delta, which once stood above reach of the inundation, are now buried in a mud deposit to a depth of nearly 7 ft." In conclusion, he referred to Egypt and its present condition, saying:—"The commerce from the upper tributaries of the Nile, and from the wide region of the Soudan, forms an essential factor in the prosperity and progress of Egypt." The Earl of Bolmore and the Right Hon. A. S. Ayrton moved and seconded a vote of thanks, after which the company present assembled in the Museum, where refreshments were served.

THE MASTER'S STORY.

BY MRS. HARRIET A. CHEEVER.

Master Shieldstone was sitting on a rock close by a hedge in the field, gently tapping his boot with his cane. He had walked long and far, and was glad to turn from the dusty road to the soft, green field, and from the glare of the summer sun to the shelter of the thick, dark hedge.

The master was an elderly man, shrewd, wise, and kindly; but his face wore a look of sadness which made the boys wonder how it was he could be so cheerful and encouraging, with such mournful eyes and unconscious air of melancholy.

School had just closed for the long vacation, and in two days more would come the Fourth of July, when every youngster in town would consider it not only a privilege, but a bounden duty to make all the noise possible, and the boy whose tin horn would toot the loudest and whose cannon-crackers would hold out the longest would be the best fellow in the village for that day at least.

But dear, dear! If only the merry boys could be content with horns and crackers, and consider it glory enough to toot and bang, without imagining, as they grow a little older, that other and less harmless ways of celebrating become the proper and manly thing.

Master Shieldstone, intently ruminating, soon became aware that some of his boys were coming along the road on the other side of the hedge, and in a few moments he distinctly heard the voice of Paul Shepard, one of his brightest pupils, a fine boy of fifteen years.

"Yes, that'll be grand," Paul was saying; "we'll start early in the morning, and each take a lunch along, then, about noon, we'll dine gaily all by ourselves, off there in the woods, and I guess by the time we finish dinner and are ready for speech-making we shall be pretty gay. I'll mix some first-class lemonade, with a stick in it to stiffen it a little."

"Oh, I know how to make jolly Roman punch!" cried Tom Whittaker, a boy whose parents were wealthy, and allowed their handsome, only son considerable spending money; but they were good, sensible people, and probably entirely unaware that Tom was getting on as fast as he was in some directions.

"I'll tell you what's nice," said Everett Cutter, a great rogue, and son of the most popular physician of the place; "it's a new drink, made with sherry and eggs and ginger, and a bit of soda 'till it.' I heard pa tolling old Mr. Smithers it would tone him up; then father added, quickly, 'Whore's that boy?' But 'that

boy,' my lads, was hiding behind the portiere, and father thought I didn't hear his neat little prescription, but I tell you it's just a toney old crink, and I'll help ye to some; it'll make the tongues of yees fly well; even Teddy'll say it's a nice mixture, won't you Ted?"

"Just you wait till I warm up your little wits with some of my doctor's toddy," said Everett, gaily, "and you'll make a speech fit for Mr. Washington himself to applaud."

Then the merry troop tramped off.

"Can it be possible!" mused the astonished teacher, his face the very picture of distress. "Can it be possible! these mere lads toying with the bait, and with no conception as to whither their steps were tending!"

He mused in piteous melancholy for a moment, then started up, saying, in a pent, firm voice:

"Yes, I must save my boys; I'll tell the whole wretched story, if needs be; but those dear boys must be saved."

He started "across lots" and came out at a turn in the road just ahead of the four lads, and waited smilingly their approach. They came up in high glee, accosting the elderly teacher with respectful freedom; for Master Shieldstone was loved far more than feared by the boys who knew the kind but lonely man well.

"How now, boys," said the gentle voice; "almost ready for the Fourth? I suppose your plans are all laid for Independence day."

"Oh, yes, sir," began Paul Shepard, "we mean to have a regular holiday frolic; want to be out of harm's way, so we four chummies are going to the woods to dine."

"And there's no harm possible in the woods, you think?" smiled the teacher.

"Pretty safe place for boys and babies," said Everett Cutter.

The master spoke musingly, as if to himself, but the four bright faces sobered at his next remark:

"I remember how I fell into 'harm's way' one Fourth of July, in the woods, too, and,—I've,—never,—been the same man since."

There was silence for a moment; then Tom Whittaker said, a little eagerly, "I wish you would tell us about it, sir."

"Well, I will," said the master, seriously. "It's something of a story; but suppose we go over to yonder field and sit down on the grass while I try to tell you all about it. You see," began the master, as they were comfortably seated on their yielding carpet, "you see, when I was a lad and a young man, some things were different from what they are now. It was the fashion then to observe Independence and election days just the same, only a great deal of strong drink was requisite in order to celebrate properly. And that kind of drink means liquid poison, my boys; stuff that sets the brain on fire and turns a true-hearted friend into a friend with one letter left out. What would that be, 'Teddy?'—the old habit of question-asking asserting itself.

"Fiend," promptly responded 'Teddy'.

"Yes, and a dangerous fiend at that; but I won't stop to lecture in vacation. I'll get right on with my story. It was a splendid Fourth of July, thirty years ago, and I was in all the flush and pride of a bright, early manhood. I had graduated from college with, perhaps, a little more than the usual honors, there being but one young man who ranked higher than myself in my study; and he was my dear, inseparable friend,—alert, manly, chivalrous,—ah, Will? you stand yet a friend in my heart of hearts!

"I will call him Will Hunting, although that was not exactly his name; but we had been devoted to each other from mere boyhood, having been sent to the same schools from the time we were twelve years old. There were only district schools in those days, taking us to the simplest rules of grammar; then such lads as were to become 'scholars' were sent from home to be educated.

"Will did not live in the same place I did, but we used to visit

each other during vacations. In this way I met, and after a while, became engaged to his sister, the most beautiful and intelligent young lady in my eyes I had ever seen,—or ever shall see, my boys, although the sunny face paled, and the bright eyes closed years ago, my lads, many long years ago.

"It was during one of my visits at Will's home that a picnic was planned for the Fourth of July. The party was to be a small one and very select,—only about a dozen persons, including Will, my Helen, and myself.

"The evening preceding the Fourth, the minister of the place called on Will's parents, and as I sat nearer him than the others who were gaily discussing the next day's party, I plainly heard what I think escaped them, in the way of some remarks the minister made to Will's father as some of the various drinks to be concocted were mentioned,—lemon punch, whiskey toddy, and cherry rum. 'Don't you think it hazardous,' he asked, 'for young people to use intoxicating drinks to the extent they do; it acts so insidiously upon the senses?'

"Mr. Hunting, senior, straightened his tall form a little as he answered with fatherly confidence and pride, 'My son has been educated to understand the nature and action of what he imbibes in the way of drink; moreover he has the instincts of the gentleman to restrain him from excess. I can truly say his habits in that regard cause me no solicitude whatever.'

"But only the next night, my dear boys, his only and idolized son lay a helpless imbecile under that same roof, while the agony of father, mother, and sister, was something I cannot dwell upon for a moment.

"It was the old story, which never loses its pignancy, however, by repetition. The drinks were mixed only too skillfully, and when the time came when we should have mastered our inclination for further indulgence, a pitiless mastery was rioting in its own strength to lure us on.

"I never could remember how it began, but Will and I, who were apart from the rest, for the first time in our lives suddenly quarreled. I grew angry under repeated taunts, and made some exasperating reply. Will started forward, as if to strike me, when, with all the strength of unwonted excitement to give force to the blow, I struck him. It was a dreadful blow, succeeded by a still more fearful fall, his head striking violently against the edge of a felled tree. Only partially sobered, I found Helen, and said to her quietly:—

"'I've struck Will, and he fell, and his head is bleeding.' Then there was great confusion. I told exactly the truth of the matter, not sparing myself in the least."

"And did he die?" asked Everett Cutter, his usually roguish face the picture of pity.

"No, Everett, boy; worse than that. He is living to-day, the same hopeless imbecile he became that night. I visit the asylum which shelters him every season, but never a glance of recognition, never a word of forgiveness or reproach has Will Hunting been capable of expressing since that fateful day."

"I s'pose they blamed you awfully," quavered Paul Shepard's sympathizing voice.

"No, I believe that was the worst of it all," replied the master; "they never spoke a word of blame in my hearing."

"Twarn't you that did it, anyway," said tender-hearted Teddy French.

"No, Teddy, boy; in one sense it was not I who did it; but I wish right here to impress one lesson on your mind and hearts; then, my dear boys, I must leave you. I do not tell this story to grieve, but to help you. Education I believe to be a prime necessity in order to a true manly career; but no amount of learning, refine-

ment, or any scholarly attainment whatever, is going to shield you from absolute failure in life, if without you lack wisdom in resisting habits of degrading tendency. Mark I do not say of a degrading character, but even of that tendency. And one drop of strong drink, disguised or smothered as it may be, contains just the danger.

"Good night, my lads; God bless you, and a happy Fourth to you!"

For a few moments no one spoke as the susceptible lads watched the master's retreating figure; then Teddy French's gaze happened to meet Everett Cutter's eye.

"No, sir!" he said, with low-spoken decision, "none of your doctor's toddy for me; I'll sharpen my little wits in some other way, or they may remain dull as they please."

"Good reason why," replied Everett, "I wouldn't be seen mixing the old stuff. I guess it blunts more wits than it over sharpens."

"Glad my Roman punch died before it 'twas born," said Tom Whittaker, with a sort of rueful smile; "how about your fancy lemonade, Paul?"

"Oh, that's got spilled before 'was ever mixed," said Paul. "Poor, dear old Master Shieldstone! Who would ever have believed it! Awful sad story, wasn't it?"

"Yes," began Everett Cutter, his mischievous face full of a manly resolve; "yes, but I'll tell you what 'tis, dear old fellows. I believe it's a kind of mercy I heard it, for twixt you and me, my fondness for that 'tendency' has been growing of late, but I'm going to nip it in the bud, and you fellows know I hope, that when I say a thing I mean it."

"Let's take a vow," said Teddy French; "father says a promise means manhood, if you're true to it."

"All right, let's!"

The picnic took place and was duly enjoyed; but four bright lads became four whole men, greatly aided in that tendency by the sad lesson of the master's story.—*New England Journal of Education.*

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

The recent retirement of Mr. Lowell from the high position of American Minister to Great Britain and his return to his native country have awakened a renewed interest in the personal and literary history of one of the most graceful and at the same time one of the profoundest writers of prose and poetry America has yet produced. Mr. Lowell, during his official residence in England has won the respect and admiration of all classes to a degree that is scarcely exaggerated in the following stanza from a complimentary poem composed in his honour and read by the author, Oliver Wendell Holmes, at the Harvard commencement a week or two since:

"By what deep magic, what alluring arts,
Our truthful James led captive British hearts;
Whether his shrewdness made their statesmen halt,
Or if his learning found their dons at fault,
Or if his virtue was a strange surprise,
Like honest Yankees we can simply guess;
England herself will be the first to claim
Her only conqueror since the Normans came."

Mr. Lowell is the descendant of an old Massachusetts family. His father was a Congregational Minister of Boston. He graduated from Harvard University in 1838, and afterwards matriculated at the University of Edinburgh, where he studied divinity under Hunter and Moral Philosophy under Dugald Stewart. He recited a class poem on the occasion of his graduation and in 1841

published *A Year's Life*, his first volume of poems. In 1843 he, in conjunction with Robert Carter, now deceased, commenced the publication of *The Pioneer*, a *Literary and Critical Magazine*, which died at the end of three months, from want not of internal vigour but of external support. In 1844 he published another volume of poetry, followed in 1845 by *Conversations on some of the Old Poets*. Another series of poems and *The Vision of Sir Launfal* appeared in 1848. After some time spent in travel he was appointed in 1855 to the professorship of Belles Lettres at Harvard, a position since held by the poet Longfellow. He was the first editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*, established in 1857, and afterwards became one of the editors of the *North American Review*. In these and other magazines he published many poems, essays and critical papers. Amongst his prose writings may be mentioned *Among my Books* and *My Study Windows*, each containing a series of critical and historical studies, to which are added in the latter observations on nature and contemporary life. But the writings which most indelibly stamp him as a wit and genius of no mean order are the *Biglow Papers*, two series of satirical poems; the first of which was written to mark his detestation of the Mexican war and the second with somewhat deeper feeling, to express his sentiments during the great rebellion. In 1877 Mr. Lowell was sent as Minister Plenipotentiary to Spain, and in 1880 was transferred to hold a similar position at the court of St. James.

We have thought we could not better serve our readers in this our first vacation number than by giving them some samples of the style and spirit of this inimitable writer. To some of our readers some of the extracts may be new, and Mr. Lowell is among the few writers whose productions will always have fresh charms even for those who may be familiar with them.

As has been pointed out by a recent critic there are passages even in his first volume, written before he was twenty-one years of age which none but a true poet could have written. We may add that in the last two lines of the following from "Threnodia," the metaphor is so bold and at the same time so striking that it is hardly too much to say none but a Lowell could have written it.

"He seemed a cherub who had lost his way,
And wandered hither, so his stay
With us was short, and 'twas most meet
That he should be no deliver in earth's clod,
Nor need to pause and cleanse his feet
To stand before his God."

The following stanzas in which the poet is describing his love in this first volume, are quoted by the same critic, G. Barnett Smith, in the *Nineteenth Century*, as having a Tennysonian ring. Let the reader judge for himself.

"Blessing she is: God made her so,
And deeds of week-day holiness
Fall from her noiseless as the snow,
Nor hath she ever chanced to know
That aught were easier than to bless.

She is most fair, and thereunto
Her life doth rightly harmonize;
Feeling or thought that was not true
Ne'er made less beautiful the blue
Unclouded heaven of her eyes.

She is a woman: one in whom
The spring time of her childish years
Hath never lost its fresh perfume,
Though knowing well that life hath room
For many blights and many tears."

As an example of simple, appropriate eulogy, the following tribute to Lincoln, from the "Harvard Commemoration Ode," published in 1869, has seldom been surpassed:

"For him her Old-World moulds aside she threw,
And, choosing sweet clay from the breast
Of the unexhausted West,

With stuff untainted shaped a hero now,
 Wise, steadfast in the strength of God, and true.
 How beautiful to see
 Once more a shepherd of mankind indeed,
 Who loved his charge, but never loved to lead ;
 One whose meek flock the people joyed to be,
 Not lured by any cheat of birth,
 But by his clear-grained human worth ;
 And brave old wisdom of sincerity !

* * * * *

Here was a type of the true elder race,
 And one of Plutarch's men talked with us face to face."

In the following from "Under the Old Elm," a poem read at the Centennial celebration in 1875, of Washington's first taking command of the American army, under the Elm tree near Cambridge common, on July 3rd, 1775, we have a graphic delineation of the stuff out of which that army was wrought.

"A motley rout was that which came to stare,
 In raiment tanned by years of sun and storm,
 Of every shape that was not uniform,
 Dotted with regimentals here and there ;
 An army all of captains, used to pray
 And stiff in fight, but serious drill's despair,
 Skilled to debate their orders, not obey ;
 Deacons were there, selectmen, men of note
 In half-tamed hamlets ambushed round with woods,
 Ready to settle Freewill by a vote,
 But largely liberal to its private moods ;
 Prompt to assert by manners, voice, or pen,
 Or ruder arms, their rights as Englishmen,
 Nor much fastidious as to how and when :
 Yet seasoned stuff and fittest to create
 A thought-staid army or a lasting state :
 Haughty they said he was, at first ; severe ;
 But owned, as all men own, the steady hand
 Upon the bridle, patient to command,
 Prized, as all prize, the justice pure from fear,
 And learned to honor first, then love him, then revere.
 Such power there is in clear-eyed self-restraint
 And purpose clean as light from every selfish taint.

In the following passage Hosea Biglow remarks in reply to Mr. Robinson, who is in favor of the Mexican war :—

We kind o' thought Christ went agin war an' pillage,
 An' thet eppylets wern't the best mark of a saint ;
 But John P.
 Robinson, he
 Sez this kind o' thing's an exploded idee.

Parson Wilbur sez he never heard in his life
 'Thet th' Apostles rigged out in their swallow-tail coats,
 An' marched round in front of a drum an' a fife,
 To git some on 'em office, and some on 'em votes ;
 But John P.
 Robinson, he
 Sez they didn't know everythin' down in Judee.

We cannot refrain from giving the following as additional samples of the peculiar quality of Hosea's Satire. The first passage from the "Pious Editor's Creed," refers to the press writers who had much to do with fanning the war spirit into a flame. The other extracts speak for themselves, and are still in order :—

I du believe in prayer an' praise
 To him that hez the grantin'
 O' jobs—in everythin' thet pays,
 But most of all in CANTIN' ;
 This doth my cup with marcies fill,
 This lays all thought o' sin to rest,—
 I don't believe in princerple,
 But O, I du in interest.

* * * * *

In short I firmly du believe
 In Humbug generally,
 For it's a thing thet I perceive
 To have a solid vally ;

This hath my faithful shepherd boon,
 In pasturs sweet hath led me,
 An' this'll keep the people green
 To feed ez they have fed me.

Ez to my princerples, I glory
 In havin' nothin' o' the sort ;
 I ain't a Whig, I ain't a Tory,
 I'm jest a candidate, in short.

A merciful Providence fashioned us holler
 O' purpose thet we might our princerples swoller.

I'm willin' a man should go tollable strong
 Agin wrong in the abstract, for thet kind o' wrong
 Is ollers onpop'lar, and never gets pittied,
 Because it's a crime no one never committed ;
 But he musn't be hard on partickler sins,
 Coz then he'll be kickin' the people's own shins.

A ginooine statesman should be on his guard,
 Ef he must hev beliefs, not b'liev' 'em tu hard ;
 For ez sure ez he does, he'll be blurtin' 'em out
 'Thout regardin' the natur' o' man more'n a spout,
 Nor it don't ask much gumption to pick out a flaw
 In a party whose leaders are loose in the jaw ;
 An' so in our own case I ventur' to hint
 That we'd better not air our perceedins in print,
 Nor pass resserlootions ez long ez your arm
 That may, ez things happen to turn, do us harm ;
 For when you've done all your real meanin' to smother,
 The darned things 'll up an' mean sunthin' or 'nother.

We should hardly be doing justice to the genius of our author, were we to close our extracts without some specimens of complete poems. We think our readers will not object to the amount of space occupied, if we quote two, of very different character. The first is a fine example of quaint American humor. Of the second Mr. G. Burnett Smith is scarcely too bold in saying that its pathetic and unadorned simplicity "has never been surpassed by any English writer" :—

THE COURTIN'.

God makes sech nights, all white an' still
 Fur 'z you can look or listen,
 Moonshine an' snow on field an' hill,
 All silence an' all gliston.

Zekle crep' up quite unbeknown
 An' peeked in thru' the winder,
 An' there sot Huldy all alone,
 'ith no one nigh to hender.

A fireplace filled the room's one side
 With half a cord o' wood in—
 There warn't no stoves (tell comfort died)
 To bake ye to a puddin'.

The wa'nut logs shot sparkles out
 Towards the pootiest, bless her,
 An' leotle flames danced all about
 The chiny on the dresser.

Agin the chimbley crook-necks hung,
 An' in amongst 'em rusted
 The ole queen's-arm thet gran'ther Young
 Fetched back from Concord busted.

The very room coz she was in,
 Seemed warm from floor to ceilin',
 An' she looked full ez rosy agin
 Ez the apples she was peelin'.

'T was kin' o' kingdom-come to look
 On sech a blessed cotur,
 A dogrose blushin' to a brook
 Ain't modester nor sweeter.

Ho was six foot o' man, A 1,
Clear grit an' human natur';
None could n't quicker pitch a ton
Nor dror a furrer straighter.

Ho 'd sparked it with full twonty gals,
Hed squired 'em, danced 'em, druv 'em,
Fust this one, an' then that, by spells—
All is, he could n't love 'em.

But long o' her his veins 'ould run
All crinkly liko curled maple,
The side sho breshed felt full 'o sun
Ez a south slope in Ap'il.

She thought no v'ice hed sech a swing
Ez hisn in the choir;
My! when he made Ole Hundred ring,
She knowed the Lord was nigher.

An' sho 'd blush scarlit, right in prayer,
When her new meetin'-bunnet
Felt somehow thru' its crown a pair
O' blue eyes sot upon it.

That night, I tell ye, she looked some!
She seemed to 'vo gut a new soul,
For she felt sartin sure he 'd come,
Down to her very shoe sole.

She heered a foot, an' knowed it tu,
A-raspin' on the scraper,—
All ways to once her feelins flow
Like sparks in burnt-up paper.

Ho kin' o' l'itered on the mat,
Some doubtle o' the sekle,
His heart kep' goin' pity-pat,
But hern went pity Zekle.

An' yit she gin her cheer a jerk
Ez though she wished him farder,
An' on her apples kep't to work,
Parin' away like murder.

"You want to see my Pa, I s'pose?"
"Wal . . . no . . . I come disignin'"—
"To see my Ma? Sho 's sprinklin' clo'es
Agin to-morrer's 'inin'."

To say why gals act so or so,
Or don't, 'ould be presumin';
Mobby to mean *yes* an' say *no*
Comes nateral to women.

He stood a spell on one foot fust,
Then stood a spell on t' other,
An' on which one he felt the wust
He could n't ha' told ye nuther.

Says he, "I 'd better call agin;"
Says she, "Think likely, Mister:"
The last word pricked him like a pin,
An' . . . Wal, ho up an' kist her.

When Ma bimeby upon 'em slips,
Huldy sot pale ez ashes,
All kin' o' smily roun' the lips
An' teary roun' the lashes.

For she was jes' the quiet kind
Whose naturs never vary,
Liko streams that keep a summer mind
Snowhid in Jenooary.

The blood clost roun' her heart felt glued
Too tight for all expressin',
Toll mother see how metters stood,
An' gin 'em both her blessin'.

Then her red come back liko the tide
Down to the Bay o' Fundy,
An' all I know is they was cried
In meetin' come nox' Sunday

THE CHANGELING.

I had a little daughter,
And she was given to me
To lead me gently backward
To the Heavenly Father's knee,
That I, by the force of Nature,
Might in some dim wise divine
T' o depths of his infinite patience
To this wayward soul of mine.

I know not how others saw her,
But to me she was wholly fair,
And the light of the Heaven she came from
Still lingered and gleamed in her hair;
For it was as wavy and golden,
And as many changes took,
As the shadows of sun-gilt ripples
On the yellow bed of a brook.

To what can I liken her smiling
Upon me, her kneeling lover,
How it leaped from her lips to her eyeids,
And dimpled her wholly over,
Till her outstretched hands smiled also,
And I almost seemed to see
The very heart of her mother
Sending sun through her veins to me!

She had been with us scarce a twelvemonth,
And it hardly seemed a day,
When a troop of wandering angels
Stole my little daughter away;
Or perhaps those heavenly Zingari
But loosed the hampering strings,
And when they had opened her cage-door,
My little bird used her wings.

But they left in her stead a changeling,
A little angel child,
That seems like her bud in full blossom,
And smiles as she never smiled:
When I awake in the morning, I see it
Where she always used to lie,
And I feel as weak as a violet
Alone 'neath the awful sky;

As weak, yet as trustful also,
For the whole year long I see
All the wonders of faithful Nature
Still worked for the love of me;
Winds wander, and dews drip earthward,
Rain falls, suns rise and set,
Earth whirls, and all but to prosper
A poor little violet.

This child is not mine as the first was,
I cannot sing it to rest,
I cannot lift it up fatherly
And bless it upon my breast;
Yet it lies in my little one's cradle,
And sits in my little one's chair,
And the light of the Heaven she's gone to
Transfigures its golden hair.

Educational Notes and News.

Mr. S. Hughes, late of the Collegiate Institute, Toronto, has taken financial and editorial control of the *Victoria Warbler*.

The Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle now numbers over 60,000 paying members.

Mr. Thos. Gregory, of Exeter Public Schools, has been more than ordinarily successful in passing students through the examination for teachers certificates. Last year Mr. Gregory sent up six candidates for 2nd class. Not one of the six failed. One of the candidates was only thirteen years old. A pretty good record for both teachers and pupils.

Mr. James E. Stewart is evidently doing good work as principal of the Woodburn Public School. Report says the school has not for years been in so good condition.

At the last examination 54 students of the Strathroy Collegiate Institute obtained teachers' certificates, viz., Second A 11, Second B 29, Third Class 14. Thirty-two of its pupils passed the Intermediate.

On Decoration Day the teacher and pupils of S.S. No. 9, Howich, planted about 70 shade trees. They have also laid out the school grounds with gravelled walk, flower pot, etc.

Mr. Jno E. Tom, a graduate and medallist of Toronto Normal School, and for nine years past a master in St. Mary's Collegiate Institute, has been appointed Science Master in Strathroy Collegiate Institute.

Mr. M. S. Clark, B.A., (Tor.), who was for six years Master of Residence and Teacher of Modern Languages in the Canadian Literary Institute (now Woodstock College), and who has just returned from the University of Berlin, has been appointed Modern Language Master in Strathroy Collegiate Institute.

NOVA SCOTIA.

From our own Correspondent

Much interest attached to the recent Encoena at King's College, which was held on the 25th ult. The Associated Alumni met on the 24th for the purpose of electing four gentlemen as members of the University Board, partly in regular rotation of office, partly to fill vacancies caused by death and resignation. The following were elected. — Rev. C. E. Willett, D. C. L., Windsor, Dr. Moody Windsor, Rev. H. How, A.B., Newport, L. Auen Jack, Esq., D. C. L., St. John, N. B. The election of these gentlemen is claimed as a triumph for the party opposed to union with Dalhousie College, though it was evidently secured by a large influx of new voters, the most of them non-college men from the immediate vicinity of the University. The Lord Bishop of the Diocese and many of the most influential of the clergy present declared themselves in favor of prosecuting the pending negotiations with Dalhousie. The following are the terms of the "basis of union" to which the Boards of the two Universities have personally agreed. —

MEMO.

- "University to be established at Halifax under new name"
- "Dalhousie to sell present buildings and erect university buildings so far as funds permit supplemented by subscription"
- "Alumni of Kings and Dalhousie to be alumni of new university"
- "Election of governors to be provided for, either election by joint alumni or as may be agreed, but parties endowing a chair to have a right to appoint a governor for each chair"
- "All the bursaries and exhibitions (not divinity) belonging to King's and Dalhousie to belong to the university."
- "King's to endow a chair in the university."
- "King's to remove college to Halifax to be a divinity college, but if desired to have students in residence attending university under the control of the authorities of that college."
- "King's may retain charter, but to be confined to degrees in Divinity; no arts degrees to be given by Kings."
- "All graduates in arts in Kings and Dalhousie to be graduates of the university."

It is apparent that the recent action of the Associated Alumni must fail to seriously obstruct the movement for union. The new governors, though elected on an anti-union ticket, are moderate men, and on investigation will be sure to feel the force of reasons which have induced the venerable Bishop, the visitor of the

College, to adopt the policy of union. The election of Governors was followed by a spirited debate, at the close of which a motion indirectly condemning union was carried by a narrow majority of three. This motion was supported by Mr. Dewolf, of Windsor; Mr. Jack, of St. John; and Senator Almon, of Halifax, and opposed by the Lord Bishop, Rev. Canon Partridge, Rev. Mr. Murray, W. C. Siler, Esq., of Halifax; Rev. Canon Brigstocke, of St. John; Dr. Corrie, of Halifax, and others.

The regular Encoenial services on the 25th were largely attended. Divine service was celebrated in the Parish Church. The Encoenial Oration was pronounced and degrees conferred in the Collegial Hall in presence of a brilliant assemblage. The President, Dr. Dart, directed attention in his opening remarks to the study of "History" and discussed various theories that have been propounded respecting the claims of that branch of study and literature to be regarded as a science. He alluded feelingly to the approaching severance of the ties which bound him to the University. Dr. Dart was followed by Bishop Burney, whose remarks on the Federation question will be of interest to the Ontario readers of *THE SCHOOL JOURNAL*. His Lordship spoke in substance as follows:—He had found, when he came to Windsor this time, that there was a feeling of alarm over a rumor that arrangements had been made to take the University up, to carry it away by force and violence to another place. Some had since told him that they had understood the case wrongly had thought the whole business had been settled, and King's was handed over to the Presbyterians. Now he wanted it understood that nothing had been done whatever. Those who thought that because negotiations had commenced the whole matter was completed, knew very little of the difficulties of such an undertaking. A basis for negotiations had been laid down with the view of submitting it to the alumni and other parties concerned, but many things had only been touched on which would require to be gone into fully. There was the endowment. The King's men insisted, Dr. Hill particularly, that the capital which Dalhousie claimed should be handed over and invested in trust funds, and made secure. The proposed university must have its endowment safe. The library matter was also discussed as to who would bear the expense of moving it. This and many other topics were left unsettled. The governors had been merely feeling their way. It was asked, "Why did we do this?" The tendency of the time was to centralize, to co-operate in educational as well as other matters. The College movement in Ontario afforded a striking example of this. Trinity College, Toronto, had entered into negotiations with the University, and that College was not inferior to Kings. If Trinity could safely do this why not we? If Trinity, which was much richer, felt the need of such a departure what must be the case with us? The Methodists of Ontario were also negotiating, and the Baptists were doing the same. It had been thought from the first record of the President of Queen's College, Kingston, that this College would join the movement, but this was a mistake. The action of Trinity had been the first thing to commend the invitation of Dalhousie College to him (the Bishop.) He considered that it was impossible to carry on a College in opposition to the tendencies of the age. People may bend circumstances to their use, but must not ignore them. If students persist in patronizing only large universities, small colleges cannot be sustained. Whatever success we might have we could never be able to give our students the advantages which the proposed university would give. The bishop then repeated the details of the scheme as discussed. Thus, he said, was not a new system. There was a King's College in London and another institution called the University of London. The same thing had been done there as was proposed to be done here. He had not heard that any harm had come of the London union. He had not such an opinion of the men of the Church of England as to suppose Dalhousie would entirely rule the proposed University. He thought the King's men could look out for themselves. He would, however, help the gentlemen who were put in yesterday to carry on the business. If they thought they could keep up the College on the funds they had, they had his best wishes and warmest support. But he could not see how King's was to compete with larger universities, especially if the staff was to be still further reduced.

The following degrees were conferred:—B.D.—Rev. L. S. M.A., and O. F. Hiltz. B.C.L.—Mr J. J. Hunt. M.A.—M.A.—Rev. K. C. Hind, B.A., J. Lowry, B.A., and G. H. Butler, B.A. B.A.—Rev. G. R. Martell, A. T. Tucker, A. H. Dimock, C. A. Saunders, R. W. Hobart, M. Rattenbury, and C. T. Easton. B.E.—Mr. A. H. Dimock. Mr. Dimock graduates with first-class honors in science and second in mathematics. The following is the

prize list:—Bishop's prize—Rev. E. A. Harris, B.A. Binney exhibition—C. H. Fullerton. Almond Walsford testimonial—J. P. Silver. Stevenson's scholarship—A. B. Murray. McCawley scholarship—C. E. A. Simonds, T. H. Hunt.

The subject of the historical essay for the Akins' prize, was "the County of Victoria." The winner, Mr. Patterson, is a graduate of Dalhousie, and at present Principal of the High School at New Glasgow.

The Provincial Educational Association meets in annual session, at Truro, on the 15th inst. The programme of essays and addresses includes the names of Chief Superintendent Crockett, of New Brunswick; Chief Superintendent Montgomery, of Prince Edward Island; Dr. Rand, of Acadia College; Principal McKay, of Picton; Professor Eaton, of Truro, and other gentlemen. The occasion bids fair to be one of great interest.

The closing exercise, of the Provincial Normal School, Truro, take place on the 14th inst. The attendance has been the largest of any of the thirty years during which the institution has been training the teachers of Nova Scotia.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

From our Special Correspondent.

The ninth annual meeting of the Prince County Teachers' Institute took place in Summerside on the 17th and 28th of May. Good inducements are offered to attend. Besides the professional benefits received, reduced railway fares, and two teaching days in each term, are given for the purpose, and members are not slow to avail themselves of these advantages. Though a programme of five papers was prepared, only two could be submitted—one by Miss Ramsey on *Teaching; Conscious and Unconscious*, the other by Mr. Bears, Vice-Principal Davies School, on the *Course of Study*. An impression is deepening, that the true work of the Institute is to take into consideration measures for the immediate benefit of the teaching profession, rather than indulging in vague generalities on the purpose, prospects, and necessity of "the thing called education." The need of organization among teachers is strongly felt, and, if Institutes serve to develop an *esprit-de-corps* it is conceived they will have accomplished a good work. Anything tending to advance the interests of the teacher cannot fail to have a beneficial influence on the schools. The interests of the two are identical. There is much to contend against. Young men and women obtain licenses, and they must get schools and teachers of years' standing, and of good record are crowded out of their situations. It is extremely to be regretted that *supply* follows so closely on the heels of *demand* that the teacher is sought whose services can be obtained for the least money. This gives rise to grave evils, unless security and permanence are established. It cannot reasonably be expected that a man will give his best thought and effort to that which will engage him but for a very few and uncertain years. Though nearly half the revenue of the province is applied to education much remains yet to be done. It is intolerable that teachers, under this vicious system, should be kept in uncertainty from year to year, that they have to protect themselves by being always prepared for this emergency, having continually shoes on their feet and staff in hand ready to go forth into new and untried fields. While thus preparing for the future they are only obeying a law of nature, but it is fatal as far as they are concerned to that "latest gospel—*know thy work and do it*." If the members of the Prince County Teachers Institute in any degree enable teachers with justice to themselves to do the work which lies nearest to them their meetings will not in any wise have been in vain. The officers for the ensuing year are:—A. D. Fraser, president; A. A. McLellan, secretary. The retiring officers are: A. J. McDougall, president; John A. MacPhail, secretary. J. A. M.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL.

A few weeks ago I proposed in the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL, to find a triangle whose area and three sides shall be rational, shall have the perimeter 20, and contain a greater area than the triangle whose sides are 5, 7, 8. As I have seen but two JOURNALS I do not know whether any one has attempted the case. The area for 5, 7, 8 is $10\sqrt{3}$, a surd.

Let $x=a$ sought side, $13-x$ is another, and $\sqrt{10(10-x)(10-7)(10-\sqrt{13-x})}$ =square of area; equate with $q^2(x-3)^2$, and $x = \frac{300+3q^2}{30+q^2}$. If q is 5 $x = \frac{15}{2}$.
new sides are 7, $\frac{15}{2}$, area $\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{19}$, which is greater than $10\sqrt{3}$.
Questions:—If the angles of a square be disturbed, the figure becomes a rhombus; could we ever get a rational diagonal and rational area?
JOHN IRELAND, Fergus.

COMPETITION IN EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL.

SIR,—I am glad to see from your article in the SCHOOL JOURNAL of July 2nd, that you disapprove of prize-giving in colleges and universities. I regret to see that you do not entirely disapprove of the practice in schools. I think it is a mistake to suppose that the higher motives of which you speak—"a sense of duty, of responsibility for the use and cultivation of God-given faculties, and the love of knowledge both for its own sake and as a power for good"—cannot be made sufficiently operative with children to enable us to dispense with such a stimulus as the desire to win a prize. You urge one danger attending prize-giving—the tendency towards dishonesty on the part of the pupil when he is asked for his record. Allow me to specify others. The competition for prizes leads usually to "cramming," and is generally fatal to the adoption of sound methods. The daily lesson takes the form of a recitation of what has been memorized, the best marks being secured by the pupil who can repeat the lesson most accurately in the very words of the textbook. Competition for prizes impairs the moral nature of the children, not merely by substituting a low motive for a high one, but by making each competitor look on the others as rivals and enemies. This species of emulation has a direct and powerful tendency to crush out every spark of generosity, and to convert even the naturally well disposed into mean-spirited and unaimable monstrosities. The prevailing feeling of the many unsuccessful pupils on exhibition day is not one of cheerful sympathy with the few prize-winners, but one of ill-concealed envy which the praises of thoughtless teachers and trustees will convert into a deep and abiding sense of injustice. If children were not so hard to spoil the bad effects of the prize-system would be more easily seen, but I cannot understand how any thoughtful and observant teacher should fail to detect them.

Closely connected with this subject is that of payment by the State according to the amount of work done, as ascertained by examinations. You quote some striking remarks in this connection from Archdeacon Farrar. Referring to certain other countries in comparison with England, he says, "Nowhere does a single penny of the States' money depend on any examination, nowhere is there a system of individual examination, nowhere is there that striving after percentages or the mechanical accuracy which causes anguish to teachers and so much weariness, nowhere are there such traces of worry and anxiety." How is it possible to secure freedom from this "worry and anxiety," if either prizes or school grants are made directly dependent on the results of either periodical examinations or daily recitations? I venture fearlessly the assertion that where the teacher and pupils are working with such competition in view the work done is not of the best character. Nothing tends more surely to substitute "cramming" for intelligent and reasonable methods of imparting instruction, and of training those faculties the education of which is the highest function of the true teacher. Knowledge acquired by rote, as it is apt to be acquired by pupils competing with other pupils, and in schools competing with other schools, is of little value even when remembered, and very little of it is carried for any length of time in the memory.
Toronto, July 6th, 1885. WM. HOUSTON.

Miscellaneous.

REFORM IN FUNERALS.

"One of the greatest reforms in modern extravagance, pomp, and show," said a prominent divine, "will, in my opinion, be made in funerals and the customs of mourning within the next generation."
"What will cause it?" interpolated a reporter.

"The pressure of the times in money matters. Economy is being practiced in every branch of domestic life, and why not in funerals? Why, I have known poor people to draw their money from a savings bank—the result of a year's hard work—and spend it in burying a son or daughter. The expense does not end with the purchase of a richly mounted casket, the hire of carriages, or the cost of flowers. Elaborate mourning garments are put on, and a marble tomb erected with inscriptions thereon of virtues which, if the deceased possessed in life, thoroughly fitted them to be saints in death. These extravagances the exigencies of the times will regulate. What I think will especially be reformed is the outward show of grief and woe assumed by the mourners for months after death. They ostracise themselves from society, look sad when in company, and generally try to assure the public that their grief is sincere. Perhaps it is, and frequently it is not.

"Wearing crape, looking melancholy, and staying at home is more frequently a sham than otherwise, and custom only is responsible. In the time of the Byzantine Empire mourning at funerals devolved upon professional weepers, who hired themselves to follow in the processions and indulge in loud lamentations. This saved the relatives the trouble of wailing and weeping to convince the public of their grief. They would not be out of place in some modern funerals I have attended. I believe due respect should be shown the dead, but not in a deceitful manner. The expensive funerals of the wealthy, and pomp and trappings they display, have an effect on the poor people. They desire to imitate them in a small way, and bankrupt themselves to have a long line of empty carriages in a funeral procession. In the matter of marriage and death, sham should be avoided."—*Mail and Express*."

Literary Chit-Chat.

"Our Little men and women" for August is already to hand, full as usual of interesting pictures for the little folk. The racy sketch of L. M. Alcott by Frances A. Humphrey, with portrait, will be appreciated by Miss Alcott's many thousands of little friends and admirers.

Mind in Nature for July contains *inter alia* another instalment of Bishop Coxe's interesting papers on "Chances and Mischances."

An article on "George Eliot's Country," in the July *Century*, is contributed by Miss Rosa G. Kingsley, a daughter of Charles Kingsley.

More than four thousand children in America and Great Britain tried their hands at solving the puzzle of "feet without owners," in a recent number of *St. Nicholas*. It is said that very many of the lists sent in were surprisingly near to absolute accuracy.

Electra for July contains a sketch entitled "Virginia in 1612," which is said to have been written by Mrs. Virginia Cary, in 1829, and never before published. Pocahontas is the chief actor.

Mr. Beecher's sermons on Evolution are published, as revised by himself, in "The Pulpit of To-Day," at Westfield, N.Y.

It is said that more than 280 forgeries of Mr. Ruskin's name have been discovered, many of them being in the form of petulant and arrogant letters to newspapers.

"Stories by American Authors," published by Messrs. Scribner a short time ago have had a great success, nearly 100,000 copies having already been sold, and the demand not abating. Messrs. Scribner have paid the authors represented in this series \$3000 for the privilege of issuing their stories.

The August number of the *North American Review* is to contain articles by five leading medical specialists, giving information as to the steps that should be taken by National, State and City authorities to prevent a visit from the cholera this season.

It is said that in consequence of late political anxieties, the Queen has postponed reading the proof sheets of "The Speeches and Addresses of the late Duke of Albany," to a more convenient season.

The Philosophical Society of England has made an appeal in behalf of Dr. Murray, who finds himself \$2,500 in debt through his connection with the new English Dictionary.

The three lectures delivered by Dr. Arnold in America, are soon to be published in a volume by MacMillan & Co. The subjects are "Numbers," "Emerson," and "Literature and Science."

Teachers' Associations

NORTH WELLINGTON TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.—The Annual Meeting of North Wellington Teachers' Association, was held in the Central School, Harristown, on Friday and Saturday, 19th and 20th of June. Nearly 100 teachers were present. The President, Mr. P. McEachern, Parker P.S., occupied the chair. Rev. J. Blaikie, opened the session with prayer. The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted, after which Mr. James McMurchie, B.A., Harristown H.S., gave a useful and practical address on "Mistakes in Teaching and Remedies." Miss C. A. Jones, Harristown P.S., read an excellent essay on "Ethics of the School Room." Mr. J. M. Cameron discussed the "Relation of Teacher to Parent" in a well prepared essay. "Orthoepy for Entrance" was taken up by J. L. Smith, who showed his method of treating the subject. Its relative importance was discussed by the convention. Miss A. A. Doyle, Drayton P.S., had Map Drawing of County Wellington, and handled it well in a short time. Prof. R. Lewis Toronto, was present and read a thoughtful essay on "The Bible in schools."

Saturday's Session was opened by Rev. Mr. German, with reading and prayer. Mr. J. Noble, showed his method of teaching Geography. Prof. Lewis, took for his subject "How to Read," getting the teachers to join in concerted reading and breathing exercises. D. F. Wilkins, B.A., B.Sc., read a paper on "Some of Our Spring Flowers," illustrating by means of some flowers gathered on his way from Mt. Forest.

On Friday Evening.—A very successful entertainment was held in the Town Hall; Prof. Lewis assisted by some good readings. The following are President, Treasurer, and Secretary, respectively for ensuing year:—Mr. A. M. Shields, B.A., Mt. Forest; A. Spence, Newbridge P.O.; and Miss C. A. Jones, Harristown. The next meeting will be held in Mt. Forest.—*Com.*

Literary Review.

THE EDUCATION OF MAN, by Friedrich Friebel. Translated by Josephine Jarvis. A. Lovell & Company, New York, 1885.

This work appears most opportunely. There has probably never before been a time when so much earnest attention was being directed to methods of teaching. The age blushes at the thought of the hard, stiff, unnatural processes to which the minds of young children have so long been subjected in the name of education, and rejects to recognize and adopt the more excellent ways, whose simple yet profound principles were first expounded by Friebel. This book will supply a felt want of the many who would like to go back and study the principles of the new system as expounded by the master. Friebel's great work is primarily addressed to mothers. He, as we are told in the American Preface, had been for ten years engaged in an attempt to educate children who came to him at ten years old. His experience soon convinced him that "no mortal mother could have the strength to do all that is due to children in order that justice may be done to their natures." He therefore invented the Kindergarten in 1839, in which he proposed that from twelve to twenty five children should be gathered for three hours every day, from several families, under the care of a mother's assistant, whom he called a Kindergarten, and he played with in the mother's general cherishing way, till old enough to be sent to school. It would be well if every mother and every teacher in the land were familiar with the principles so fully unfolded in this standard work.

MOFFAT'S GEOGRAPHICAL READERS, Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, is an admirable series of school books published by Moffat and Paige, 25 Warwick Lane, Paternoster Row, London. These readers are, as the title implies geographical in character. There are seven numbers in all, adapted for use by the Seven Standards of the English public schools. Of the specimens before us, No. 1 explains in a manner suited to the capacity of a child, the cardinal points of the compass. No. 2 illustrates simply and attractively the principal terms used in geography as coast, continent, ocean etc. No. 3 deals with the geographical features of England, and No. 4, with those of Scotland, Ireland, Canada and Australia. The instruction throughout, is conveyed in the form of simple dialogue and narrative. The style is pleasing and can scarcely fail to interest the dullest pupil. The books are well got up and neatly bound, and most of the many illustrations are clear and attractive.

THE JOURNALS OF SALLUST, edited by U. P. Brooke, Assistant master at Rugby school, and late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. Rivington's Waterloo Place, London.

This is an attractive edition, well printed and edited, and containing introductory sketches of the History of Numidia, and the life of Sallust; also chronological and genealogical tables, copious and helpful notes for young students, and several valuable appendices on difficult points of Latin Syntax and on the Roman Army.