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JOURNAL OF EDUCATION,

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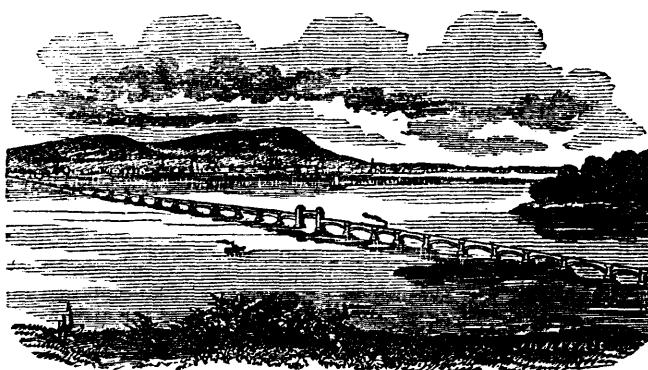
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We give, in this Number, a bird's-eye view of what has been not inappropriately designated the greatest engineering work of modern times. The Victoria Bridge is tubular, and is built on the principle of the Britannia Bridge, which spans the Menai Straits, near Bangor, in Wales. It will, we believe, be, when finished, the longest bridge in the world—its length, from bank to bank, being only 276 feet less than two miles. The Menai Bridge is 1,880 feet long. The Victoria Bridge is, therefore, nearly five and a half times longer. The place where it crosses the St. Lawrence is about half a mile to the westward of Montreal—a short distance below the Lachine Rapids—and about nine miles from St. Anne's, the place immortalised in "Moore's Canadian Boat Song."

There will be twenty-four piers, which, with the two abutments, will leave twenty-five spaces or spans for the tubes. The centre span will be 330 feet wide, and each of the other spans will be 242 feet. The width of each of the other piers, except the two at the centre, will be fifteen feet. The two centre piers will each be eighteen feet wide. The difference is very evident in the beautiful model of the bridge, which now forms a prominent object of attraction in the Canadian department of the Crystal Palace, at Sydenham. This model—the length of which is thirty-two feet—has been made, in every part, exactly to scale: it is, therefore, a truthful representation, in miniature, of the actual structure.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE PROPOSED VICTORIA TUBULAR BRIDGE,
GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY, MONTREAL.

The western faces of the piers—that is, those towards the current, which flows here at a rate varying from seven to ten miles an hour—terminate in a sharp-pointed edge, and the fore part of each pier presents two beautifully smooth bevelled off surfaces. They are so shaped in order that the least possible resistance may be offered to the avalanches of ice that come along at the departure of winter, and that would hurl away every impediment, less solid than massive rock, that might be opposed to their progress. For, it should be remembered, that not only is the whole length of the St. Lawrence, from its first receipt of lake

water at Kingston to tidal water at Quebec—a distance of 360 miles—frequently frozen over in winter, but the 2,000 miles of lake and upper river, together with the tributaries of the St. Lawrence (one of which—the Ottawa—has herself tributaries, several of which exceed the Thames in length, depth, and in volume of water), likewise send down their defiant masses, all to aggregate in the immediate vicinity of Montreal. The "piling" of the ice is sometimes as high as thirty, forty, and even fifty feet; and on several occasions great damage has been done by it to the massive stone buildings which line the quays, and form the noble river front for which this city is celebrated.

The stone used in the construction of the piers and abutments is a dense blue limestone, partly obtained from a quarry at Pointe Claire, on the Ottawa, eighteen miles above Mon-

treal, and partly on the borders of Vermont, United States, about forty miles from Montreal. The piers, close to the abutments, will each contain about 6,000 tons of masonry. Those to support the centre tube will contain about 8,000 tons each.

The total amount of masonry in the bridge will be about 3,000,000 cubic feet, which, at thirteen and a half feet to the ton, gives a total weight of 222,000 tons.

Scarcely a block of stone used in the piers is less than seven tons weight; and many of those exposed to the force of the breaking-up ice weigh fully ten tons. The blocks are bound together, not only by the use of the best water cement, but each stone is clamped to its neighbours, in several places, by massive iron rivets, bored several inches into each block, and the interstices between the rivet and the block are made one solid mass by means of molten lead.

At the present time, fourteen of the piers are completed; eight—including the two centre ones—will be finished this year, leaving only two to erect in 1859.

The piers hitherto constructed have stood as "firm as a rock." Had it been otherwise, and that the mighty St. Lawrence had conquered the combined appliances above stated, there would then, indeed, have been an end to all mechanical resistances.

Each of the abutments is 242 feet long and ninety feet wide. The north shore of the St. Lawrence is connected with the northern abutment by an embanked causeway, faced with solid masonry towards the current, 1,400 feet in length. The causeway, from the south bank of the river to the southern abutment, will be 700 feet long. The distance between this outer or river end of one abutment to the outer end of the other, is 8,000 feet.

The clear height of the ordinary summer level of the St. Lawrence above the under surface of the centre tube, will be sixty feet; and the height will diminish towards either side with a gradient at the rate of one in 180, or forty feet in the mile, so that at the outer or river edge of each abutment the height will be only thirty-six feet above the summer level.

The navigation of the river through the Lachine Rapids is limited to steam-vessels only, and they will pass exclusively between the two centre piers, as the river is unsuited for navigation at the site of the bridge, except between those two points.

The tubes will be nineteen feet high at each end, whence they will gradually increase to twenty-two feet six inches in the centre. The width of each tube is to be sixteen feet, or nine feet six inches wider than the rail track, which is five feet six inches—the national railway gauge of Canada.

The total weight of iron in the tubes will be 10,400 tons. They will be bound and riveted together precisely in the same manner and with the same machinery as at the Britannia Bridge. The tube connecting the northern abutment with pier No. 1 is now completed. The material for the second tube has reached Canada; and preparations are in progress for the despatch, from England, of eight more tubes early this year, so as to insure their erection during the summer.

Mr. Robert Stephenson and Mr. A. M. Ross are the engineers of this great work. The latter gentleman, having completed his duty as Engineer-in-Chief of the Grand Trunk Railway, now directs his skill and attention exclusively to this structure. The contractors are Messrs. Peto, Brassey, and Betts. The bridge will cost about £1,250,000.

As regards the commercial importance of the Victoria Bridge, Mr. Robert Stephenson, in a report addressed to the directors in May, 1854, says:—

"The great object, however, of the Canadian system of railways is not to compete with the river St. Lawrence, which will continue to accommodate a certain portion of the traffic of the country, but to bring those rich provinces into direct and easy connection with all the ports on the east coast of the Atlantic, from Halifax to Boston, and even New York, and consequently, through these ports, nearer to Europe.

"If the line of railway communication be permitted to remain severed by the St. Lawrence, it is obvious that the benefits which the system is calculated to confer upon Canada must remain, in a great extent, nugatory and of a local character.

"The Province will be comparatively insulated and cut off from that coast to which her commerce naturally tends; the traffic from the West must either continue to adopt the water communication, or, what is more probable—nay, I should say certain—it would cross into the United States by those lines nearly completed to Buffalo, crossing the river near Niagara."

There can be no doubt that, without the Victoria Bridge, the large and comprehensive traffic system involved in the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway, could only be partially and, by comparison, ineffectually carried out at a very great cost. Montreal is the terminal point of the ocean navigation, and is connected with the Lower

St. Lawrence and the ocean on one side, and with the great Canadian and American lakes—extending 2,000 miles into the heart of the continent—on the other. It is also the centre from which lines of railway now radiate to Portland, Boston, and New York, and to which lines will converge from the Ottawa and the other rich, though as yet only partially developed, districts of Canada. It is, therefore, the conviction of those persons most capable of forming a sound judgment on the question, that, great as is the cost of the bridge, by means of it a better, more rapid, and cheaper communication will be afforded for the produce of the magnificent districts of Western Canada and of the North-Western States of America, including Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, &c., to the Atlantic seaboard, and for the supply of these districts with imported goods, than by any other route on the American continent.—*From the Canadian News.*

The illustration of the bridge is taken from the *Geography and History of British America*, by J. George Hodgins, page 36.

II. THE NAVIGATION OF THE LOWER ST. LAWRENCE.

It is gratifying to find by the following letter and its enclosure that the Imperial authorities are co-operating with the Province to facilitate the navigation of our noble river below Quebec. Mr. Pennefather's letter is really a most welcome and auspicious New Year's gift to our merchants and shipowners. If these matters be properly and efficiently attended to, the St. Lawrence route will be found not only the shortest, but the safest crossing between the old and new worlds. The following is Mr. Pennefather's letter to the Secretary of the Board of Trade, Montreal,—“I am directed by His Excellency the Governor General to forward, for the information of the Montreal Board of Trade, the following extract from a letter just received by him from Commander John Orlebar, dated Prince Edward Island, December 14, 1857.—His Excellency has no doubt that the Board of Trade of Montreal will learn with much satisfaction the steps taken by Her Majesty's Government to facilitate the navigation of the St. Lawrence and the Straits of Belleisle, and will do all in their power to assist in promoting an object of such importance to Canada.”

Extract of letter from Captain Orlebar to His Excellency the Governor General, dated Prince Edward Island, December 14, 1857:—“I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that I have this day addressed a letter to be laid before your Excellency in Council on the subject of sounding the Strait of Belleisle, &c., so as to improve the facilities of that route for Canadian Mail Steamers. Having recently returned from England, and having received instructions from the Hydrographer in accordance with your suggestions, about remedying the defects of the present Admiralty Charts and Plans of the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, I beg to say that I am prepared to enter upon the work of sounding the Strait about the 1st of July next; and later in the season I shall hope to visit Quebec and commence the work of remodelling the River Plans from Montreal to the Gulf, inserting the soundings in feet, inserting all the improvements in Buildings, Piers, Wharves, Roads, and Bridges, enlarging the scale of the Plans, and making the whole suite of Plans in accuracy and clearness of outline, worthy of the first river in the world, and of the energetic commercial people now availing themselves of its unrivalled facilities for the world's traffic. As the work I am entrusted with is so entirely Canadian in its interests and advantages, I trust I may reckon upon the assistance of the public bodies to whom is committed the conservancy and improvement of the navigation of the St. Lawrence both above and below Quebec.”—*Montreal Herald.*

III. MIRACLES OF EVERY-DAY LIFE—EVIDENCES OF THE TRUTH OF REVEALED RELIGION.

The following extract from the Hon. Edward Everett's speech, at the Buffalo Exhibition, is so exquisite in its way, and so characteristic of that really great orator and eminent Christian statesman, that we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of giving it a place in our columns:—

"The culture of the soil has, in all ages, been regarded as an appropriate and congenial occupation for declining life. Cicero, in his admirable treatise on *Old Age*, speaking in the person of Cato the Elder, to whom I have already referred, when he comes to consider the pleasures within the reach of the aged, gives the most prominent place to those which may be enjoyed in agricultural pursuits. These, he adds, are not impaired by the advance of years, and approach as near as possible to the ideal 'Life of the Wise Man.' Guided by the light of Nature, he contemplated with admiration that 'power,' as he calls it, of the earth, by which it is enabled to return to the husbandman, with usury, what he has committed to its trust. It belongs to us, favoured with a knowledge of the spiritual relations of the universe not vouchsafed to the heathen world, to look upon agriculture in higher aspects, especially in the advance of life; and as we

move forward ourselves towards the great crisis of our being, to catch an intelligent glimpse of the grand arena of nature, as exhibited in the creative energy of the terrestrial elements—the suggestive mystery of the quickening seed and the sprouting plant—the resurrection of universal nature from her wintry grave.

"A celebrated sceptical philosopher of the last century—the historian Hume—thought to demolish the credibility of the Christian revelation by the concise argument,—'It is contrary to experience that a miracle should be true; but not contrary to experience that testimony should be false.' The last part of the proposition, especially in a free country, on the eve of a popular election, is, unhappily, too well founded; but in what book-worm's dusty cell, tapestried with the cobwebs of age, where the light of real nature never forced its way; in what pedant's school, where deaf ears listen to dumb lips, and blind followers are led by blind guides,—did he learn that it is contrary to experience that a miracle should be true? Most certainly he never learned it from sower or reaper—from dumb animal or rational man connected with husbandry. Poor Red Jacket—off here on Buffalo Creek—if he could have comprehended the terms of the proposition, would have treated it with scorn! Contrary to experience that phenomena should exist which we cannot trace to causes perceptible to the human sense, or conceivable by human thought! It would be much nearer the truth to say that, within the husbandman's experience, there are no phenomena which can be rationally traced to anything but the instant energy of creative power.

"Did this philosopher ever contemplate the landscape at the close of the year, when seeds, and grains, and fruits have ripened, and stalks have withered and leaves have fallen—and winter has forced her icy curb even into the roaring jaws of Niagara, and sheeted half a continent in her glittering shroud, and all the teeming vegetation and organized life are locked in cold and marble obstruction; and, after week upon week and month upon month have swept,—with sleet and chilly rain and howling storm,—over the earth, and rivetted their crystal bolts upon the door of Nature's sepulchre; when the sun at length begins to wheel in higher circles through the sky, and softer winds to breathe over melting snows, did he ever behold the long-hidden earth at length appear, and soon the timid grass peep forth, and anon the autumnal wheat begin to paint the field, and velvet leaflets to burst from purple buds throughout the reviving forest; and then the mellow soil to open its fruitful bosom to every grain and seed dropped from the planter's hand—buried but to spring up again—clothed with a new mysterious being; and then, as more fervid suns inflame the air, and softer showers distil from the clouds, and gentler dews string their pearls on twig and tendril, did he ever watch the ripening grain and fruit, pendant from stalk, and vine, and tree; the meadow, the field, the pasture, the grove—each after his kind arrayed in myriad-tinted garments, instinct with circulating life; seven millions of contented leaves on a single tree, each of which is a system, whose exquisite complication puts to shame the shrewdest cunning of the human hand; every planted seed and grain, which had been loaned to the earth, compounding its pious usury thirty, sixty, an hundred fold—all harmoniously adapted to the sustenance of living nature—the bread of a hungry world; here a filled corn-field, whose yellow blades are nodding with the food of man; there an unplanted wilderness—the great Father's farm—where He 'who hears the raven's cry' has cultivated with His own hand His merciful crop of berries, and nuts, and acorns, and seeds for the humbler families of animated nature;—the solemn elephant, the browsing deer, the wild pigeon—whose fluttering caravan darkens the sky; the merry squirrel, who bounds from branch to branch, in the joy of his little life! Has he seen all this? Does he see it every year, and month, and day? Does he live, and move, and breathe, and think, in this atmosphere of wonder—himself the greatest wonder of all, whose smallest fibre and faintest pulsation is as much a mystery as the blazing glories of Orion's belt;—and does he still maintain that a miracle is contrary to experience? If he has, and if he does, then let him go, in the name of Heaven, and say that it is contrary to experience that the August Power which turns the clods of the earth into the daily bread of a thousand millions of a thousand million souls, could feed five thousand in the wilderness!

"One more suggestion, my friends, and I relieve your patience. As a work of art, I know few things more pleasing to the eye, or more capable of affording scope and gratification to a taste for the beautiful, than a well-situated, well-cultivated farm. The man of refinement will hang with never-wearied gaze on a landscape by in the West would not purchase a few square feet of the canvas on which these great artists have depicted a rural scene. But Nature has forms and proportions beyond the painter's skill—her divine pencil touches the landscape with living lights and shadows, never mingled on his pallet. What is there on earth which can more enthrall the eye or gratify the taste than a noble farm? It stands upon the southern slope, gradually rising, with variegated

ascent, from the plain—sheltered from the north-western winds by woody heights, broken here and there with moss-covered boulders, which impart variety and strength to the outline. The native forest has been cleared from the greater part of the farm, but a suitable portion, carefully tended, remains in wood, for economical purposes, and to give a picturesque effect to the landscape. The eye ranges round three-fourths of the horizon, over a fertile expanse, bright with the cheerful waters of a rippling stream, a generous river, or a gleaming lake; dotted with hamlets, each with its modest spire; and, if the farm lies in the vicinity of the coast, a distant glimpse from the high grounds, of the mysterious, everlasting sea, completes the prospect. It is situated off the high road, but near enough the village to be easily accessible to the church, the school-house, the post office, the railroad, a sociable neighbor, or a travelling friend. It consists in due proportion of pasture and tillage, meadow and woodland, field and garden. A substantial dwelling, with everything for convenience and nothing for ambition—with the fitting appendages of stable, and barn, and corn-larn, and other farm buildings, not forgetting a spring-house with a living fountain of water,—occupies upon a gravelly knoll, a position well-chosen to command the whole estate. A few acres on the front, and on the sides of the dwelling, set apart to gratify the eye with the choice forms of rural beauty, are adorned with a stately avenue, with noble solitary trees, with graceful clumps, shady walks, a velvet lawn, a brook murmuring over a pebbly bed, here and there a grand rock, whose cool shadow at sunset streams across the field; all displaying in the real loveliness of nature, the original of those landscapes of which art in its perfection strives to give us the counterfeit presentment. Animals of select breed, such as Paul Potter, and Morland, and Landseer, and Rosa Bonheur, never painted, roam the pastures, and fill the hurdles and the stalls; the plough walks in rustic majesty across the plain, and opens the genial bosom of the earth to the sun and air: nature's holy sacrament of seed-time is solemnized beneath the vaulted cathedral sky; silent dews, and gentle showers, and kindly sunshine, shed their sweet influence on the teeming soil; springing verdure clothes the plain; golden wavelets, driven by the west wind, run over the joyous wheat-field; the tall maize flouts in her crispy leaves and nodding tassels;—while we labor and while we rest, while we wake and while we sleep, God's chemistry, which we cannot see, goes on beneath the clods; myriads and myriads of vital cells, ferment with elemental life; germ and stalk, and leaf and flower, and silk and tassel, and grain and fruit, grow up from the common earth;—the mowing machine and the reaper—mute rivals of human industry, perform their gladsome task; the well-piled wagon brings home the ripened treasures of the year; the bow of promise fulfilled, spans the foreground of the picture, and the gracious covenant is redeemed, that while the earth remaineth, Summer and Winter, heat and cold, day and night, and seed time and harvest, shall not fail."

IV. Papers on Natural History.

No. 2.

THE ANIMALS AND FURS OF CANADA.

(From the Quebec Gazette, January 6.)

On Monday evening last, Lieut. Col. Munro, C. B., commanding the 39th Regiment, delivered a lecture on the animals and furs of Canada, to the men of his regiment, in the regimental reading room, in the citadel. The room was crowded to its full extent, and we record with pleasure a feature of those meetings, which we most ungallantly, but most unwittingly, omitted to mention before, proving how much the interest in these lectures is extending—and that feature is the presence of the ladies connected with the officers, and many of the wives of the non-commissioned officers and men. Col. Munro's lecture was listened to with marked attention, and while its effect was highly pleasing and entertaining, we easily ascertained, from after conversation with several of his hearers, that much useful knowledge, many unknown facts, and a great amount of solid information had been communicated. He spoke in a tone of high feeling with regard to the over-ruled power of God's providence, as manifested in all His works; pointed out the workings of that power, displayed in the care with which the meanest and the smallest, as well as the most important and greatest, insect and animal, were provided with all the appliances and instincts calculated to render them thoroughly adapted to each peculiar locality and climate. The Colonel stated that ever since he had entered the army, much of his leisure time had been devoted to the study of natural history, and that, as those studies opened up before him field upon field of knowledge and information, he felt a corresponding degree of interest and excitement, until the study became a source of unalloyed enjoyment and increasing pleasure. To illustrate his subject, Col. Munro had provided a great variety of pre-

served animals peculiar to Canada, which enhanced the value of the lecture very much. His description of the various animals was simple and comprehensive, and the history he gave of each was replete with well arranged and extensive information.

The Beaver, especially, received great attention; and with regard to its geographical range he said, that it appeared to have been at one time co-extensive with the whole of North America, from the Arctic Ocean south to the Gulf of Mexico. The progress of civilization had, however, exterminated the animal in nearly all that portion of the continent which constituted the United States, and the settled portions of Canada. North of the Ottawa, and in the head waters of the streams which flow into the St. Lawrence below it, it is still quite abundant. They were also still quite common between Lake Huron and the Ottawa. The only feature which distinguished the American from the European beaver was, that the fur of the latter was lighter in color than that of this continent. It had at one time been an inhabitant of the British Islands. He mentioned also that the remains of an extinct species of beaver, had been discovered in Europe and America, which appeared to have been as large as a sheep. He next gave a most interesting account of the places to which beavers resort; and descended ably and fully on the construction of their dams, their food, habits, industry, sagacity, and their mode of treating their *paresseux*, or idlers—beating, sometimes cutting off part of the tail, and driving out from among them the fellows that won't work—and their consequent easy capture by the trappers; the seasons in which they are found and caught with the fur in good order. Cartwright, he said, had found a beaver weighing 45 pounds, and that they had been caught weighing 61 pounds before being cleaned. Colonel Munro gave an excellent account of the whole system of trapping the beaver, intermingling this portion of his lecture with anecdotes, derived from trappers, of many singular habits of the animal; and concluded by noticing the particularly engaging qualities displayed by it when domesticated. The American, or Black Bear, was also well delineated, and a full detail given of its habits. The manner of hunting it; and its desperate struggles when fairly brought to bay, were well given, and well illustrated by many incidents extracted from many sources. The Raccoon; the Wolverine, or Glutton; the Loup Cervier, or Canadian Lynx*; the Fisher—Black Fox, or Black Cat, of the northern hunters; and the Musk Rat, or Musquash, each in turn received a due share of attention, by histories which displayed an amount of research and industry which amply proved how delightful the study of Natural History was to their author. It has been most truly remarked, "that the pursuit of Natural History is almost any way, as a study or an amusement, is both indicative and productive of gentleness, refinement, and virtue;" and we sincerely trust that Colonel Munro's lecture will have the effect of creating among many of his auditors a taste for a study calculated to produce so many pleasing and salutary results.

V. Biographical Sketches.

No. 1.

THE LATE HON. M. DE BOUCHERVILLE.

We have already noticed the death of the Hon. M. de Boucherville, Member of the Legislative Council, at the age of 73 years. His death took place at his residence, which takes its name from that of his family—Boucherville. He was descended from one of the most ancient of the French Canadian families, and when quite young engaged in the service of the North West Company, where he remained for several years. In that capacity he traversed a large portion of the territory of the North West trafficking with the Indians, whose esteem he acquired by his frankness, probity and conciliatory manners. Afterwards he took charge of a commercial house established at Little York, now Toronto, by M. de St. Georges, which he managed with such prudence and ability that it attained a very flourishing condition. In 1812, when the war with the United States broke out, the establishment was pillaged and burned by the invading Americans. He afterwards engaged as volunteer under Major Muir. His influence with the Indians, whose language he spoke with nearly the same fluency as the French, soon pointed him out as the person most capable of conducting them. Placed at the head of several tribes, he accompanied the regular troops on several expeditions, in which capacity he rendered very great service. In one of these expeditions while fighting by the side of his friend, the illustrious Tecumseth, he received a serious wound in the thigh, of which he retained the effect to the hour of his death. At the end of

the year 1812, he returned to Lower Canada, and established himself at Boucherville, the residence of his ancestors. A man of probity, integrity and good faith, he is described by those who knew him best as having been a good father and a firm friend, and he has left as a heritage to his family an irreproachable name. He had suffered from a painful malady for no less than two years; and a French contemporary says "il est mort, en héros Chrétien, entouré de toutes les consolations de la religion."—*L. C. Paper.*

No. 2.

LORD BROUHAM AND HIS EDUCATION IN EDINBURGH.

At the dinner recently given to Lord Brougham, at Penrith, and in reply to one of the toasts, his lordship said,—"I look on my education in Edinburgh as having been a very great benefit conferred on me by Providence."

At the opening of the University of Edinburgh, a short time ago, the Very Rev. Principal Lee, in his introductory address, took notice of this remark, and gave a short account of the school-boy history of Lord Brougham. "Though descended," he said, "from an ancient English family, he was born in Edinburgh, and his mother was a niece of Principal Robertson. In 1786, when seven years old, he entered the High School, in a class of 164 boys, and he had the advantage of being instructed by Mr. Luke Fraser, who was forty years a favourite teacher, under whose inspection Sir Walter Scott commenced his classical studies, along with the late Lord Melville, in the year 1777. The late Lord Jeffrey became a pupil of the same master in 1781. Among the school-fellows of Henry Brougham (amounting, as I have said, to 164) were several youths afterwards highly eminent, of whom I make special mention of James Abercrombie, afterwards Speaker of the House of Commons, now Lord Dumferline—and Joseph Muter, subsequently recognized by the title of Sir Joseph Stratton, one of the greatest benefactors of this University. Lord Brougham was *dux* of the Rector's class, in 1791. I personally know how pre-eminently conspicuous at this University his attainments were, not in one or two branches of study, but in all to which his attention was directed—and particularly in mathematics and natural philosophy, as well as in law, in metaphysics, and in political science. Some of these shreds of information may not be familiarly known to every one, but I allude no further to a biography which is already, to a great extent, written in our national history."

In a later portion of his address, the Principal, who himself entered the University as a pupil in 1794, enumerated the following as having been educated there, contemporaneously with, or subsequently to, Lord Brougham:—Thomas McCrie, the historian; George Cranstoun (Lord Corehouse); Mount Stuart Elphinstone, Peter Roget, George Birbeck, Sir David Brewster, Francis Horner, Henry Cockburn, Henry Petty (now Marquis of Lansdowne), John Leyden, Henry Temple (now Lord Palmerston), the Earl of Haddington, Lord Webb Seymour, Lord Dudley, the Earl of Minto, Lord Glenelg, Lord Langdale, and Lord John Russell.

VI. Papers on Practical Education.

1. STUDIES IN ENGLISH ETYMOLOGY.

The importance of the thorough etymological study of English has been of late earnestly commended to many of our teachers. It is urged that such study discovers unsuspected richness of meaning in many familiar words, reveals to us the wondrous power of our language, and gives greater skill in the use of it. The following analysis of a well-known passage is offered as an illustration of this kind of study:

"Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
The evil that men do lives after them;
The good is oft interred with their bones;
So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
Hath told you Caesar was ambitious:
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Caesar answered it."

JULIUS CAESAR, Act III., Scene 2.

Few, if any, of these words are invested with any peculiar historical interest. The meaning of none of them has undergone any marked change in the lapse of time. They have neither been exalted nor degraded from their first estate. Most of them are short; most of them are Saxon in their origin.

With a multitude of other words expressive of social relations and their fitting emotions, or associated with home and the fire-side, the

* A very good specimen of the Canada Lynx, caught in the County of York, will be found in the Educational Museum, Toronto.

Anglo-Saxon tongue has given us the first word of this oration. Side by side with "father," "mother," "brother," and "sister," "friend," has come down to us from that remote past, when oppression knit the subject race more strongly together, and mutual love was strengthened by common woes. "Friend" was originally a present participle of the verb "friian," "to love." Affection is regarded in this derivation as essential to true friendship. The termination "ing" has taken the place of this old participial form in "nd"; though Spencer (F.Q.B.I. Canto vii. 29) has "glitterand" for glittering." Supply the indefinite "some one" "friend," i.e., "loving," and you have a friend. The word has the common English plural termination which was once peculiar to one of the Saxon declensions.

To this conciliatory word Shakspere makes Antony add one which to Antony's fellow citizens was full of honor. To be a Roman was to be noble. "With a great sum," said the chief captain to Paul, "obtained I this freedom." "But I," said the apostle with becoming self-respect, "was free born." This form of address was therefore flattering. Our English word "Roman" comes to us through the Norman French—itself a descendant of the Latin, and therefore called a Romance language from the city where that ancient tongue was the vernacular speech. The third word of salutation was not less winning, "countrymen," partakes with me of national privileges, honors, joys, and reverses. The speaker puts himself on the same footing with his hearers. This word "countrymen" is one of those hybrid words common in our tongue, in which one element is contributed by one language, another element by another language. Thus the Norman French gives us "country;" the Anglo-Saxon gives "man;" the two together implying community of national origin and abode. In Shakspere's time, as now among those who use English correctly, it was not thought necessary to prefix to the word the epithet "fellow" to express this social idea. It was left for those who take for one of their maxims, "Our country right or wrong" to commit this barbarism, by speaking of their "fellow countrymen."

The word "country," the first element in this complex word is from the French. In Chaucer's Prologue to the Canterbury Tales, written before the English had assumed its present forms the foreign spelling is retained, "contree." This Romance word has no immediate Latin ancestor. Its nearest Roman relative is the military term "conteraneus," applied to men of the same land.

"Lend me your ears," not give, but retain your control over your hearing and your assent. "Lend" and "loan" related words, as in Polonius' address in Hamlet,

"Neither a borrower, nor a lender be,
For *loan* oft loses both itself and friend,"

have this idea in common, the perpetuation of the right of the original owner of the thing lent.

It may be remarked once for all, in respect to the several personal and possessive pronouns of this passage, "we," "you," "your," "it" and "their," that they come with very slight verbal change from that vigorous tongue which, contributing five-eighths of the words in our language, gives us all those frequently occurring words which, expressing relation, furnish the essential elements of all our sentences. The Latin, the French, the German, and the Anglo-Saxon, denote the organ of the hearing by kindred words, "Auris," "oreille," "ohr," "ear," are so nearly alike as to suggest community of origin.

"I come" is Saxon; and so also is "to bury." The latter expression, however, deserves some attention, first, for its derivation and meaning, and secondly, for its form. Its Saxon is "byrgan," signifying primarily to put in safety, to conceal, and secondarily, to put into a grave. Its derivative noun in Saxon is "buhr" or "byhr," which will remind German scholars of "Burg," "a castle," or "stronghold," and will remind us all of common terminations for the names of places, Edinburgh, Dryburgh, Shrewsbury, Roxbury. The orator comes to put in a place of safety these mangled remains of Cæsar. But whence originates the proposition "to" between these verbs? The Saxon primitive "byrgan" has no such prefix, nor do the classical tongues exhibit such a construction in the simple infinitive. Saxon etymology offers the key to this form of expression. In all the Gothic languages verbs were declined as well as conjugated, and relics of those declensions still survive. They had one form for the nominative and the accusative case. The latter after a verb required no intervening preposition. All instances of the immediate connexion of an auxiliary and a principal verb as e.g. "I shall go," "I will speak," are illustrations of this construction. The dative of the infinitive—a strict gerundive form like the Latin "Amandum"—ended in "enne" in Saxon, and was preceded by the preposition "to." The termination has been dropped, but the preposition is retained, and standing before the verb governs it as thought it were a noun. It need scarcely be remarked in this connexion that the practice of inserting a qualifying adverb between the preposition and the verb is forbidden by this theory of their mutual relation. Cæsar is of course directly from the Latin. "Not" "a surly sort of word," as Horne Tooke calls it, is

contracted from "naught," itself a compound of "no" and "aught," "awhit," "anything."

"To praise him." We *praise* what we *prize*, and we *prize* that for which we either ask or give a *price*. These related words, derivatives from "pris," the past participle of the French verb "prendre," to take, because the price is that which is taken, show that a value, real or fictitious is attributed to that which we command.

One of the most frequently recurring words in our language is the definite article "the," here prefixed to "evil." In common with its relative "that," it has received a curious derivation, which, though seemingly fanciful, may be received until supplanted by one more satisfactory. There is a Saxon verb "thean," meaning "to get," "to take." An object is defined by being taken out of its class. If a man is taken from among men in general he is rendered definite. Translate "take man" into Anglo-Saxon, and you have "thean man," i.e. the man. So "the evil" determines what evil is meant.

The word "evil" is as universal in the Gothic tongues, as the thing it denotes was common to those who spoke them. The German "Ubel," the Anglo-Saxon, "Esel," are evidently the immediate connexions of our English "evil." But have they a common source? We can hardly be mistaken in suspecting that in the Hebrew "evil," kindred in sound and in form, we have a name for this mysterious principle which carries us back to

"Man's first disobedience, and the fruit
Of that forbidden tree, whose mortal taste
Brought death into the world, and all our woe."

"Mem," "do," "lives" and "after" are all words of Saxon origin, and almost of Saxon form. "Lives" contrasted with "hath" exhibits to us a form of the third person singular, once peculiar to the northern counties of England, but now common to all English verbs except when the antiquated and solemn style adheres to the form ending in "th."

From "good," a Saxon word, formerly written god is derived the name of that being in whom it dwells unmixed and supreme. "Is" and "oſt" are Saxon, but "interred," comes to us through the French "enterrer," from the Latin "in terra," "in earth,"—and shows the place of burial.

Many of our particles were originally parts of verbs. It is not altogether a fanciful derivation which refers the uniting, binding preposition "with" to the imperative of the Anglo-Saxon verb "withan," "to join"; and Walter Scott was not far out of the way in his etymology, when he sustained his school-mate in his reply to the master's question, "What part of speech is 'with'?" "A noun," said the boy. "You young blockhead," cried the indignant domine, "what example can you give of such a thing?" "I can tell you," cried little Walter, "there's a verse in the Bible which says, 'they bound Samson with green withes.'"

But we must hasten to close these illustrations. Passing by the words "bones,"—Saxon, though probably related to the Greek, "baino," "I go," or if not to that, to the Saxon "beon," to exist "if" from the Saxon imparative "gif" implying a concession of probability, "grievous" from the Latin, "gravis" heavy, a fitting description of sorrow, "fault," through the French, "faute," from the Latin "fallos," "I deceive," we come to the picturesque word, "ambitious." We say "picturesque" advisedly, for in this word which comes to us through the French "ambiteaux" from the Latin "ambitus" a "going round," we have a representation of the habits of the ancient and the modern office seekers. The solicitation of votes, the winning of popularity, the friendly greeting dictated by self interest alone, the secret offer of bribes, the "stumping the state"—all of which required a good deal of going round—and sometimes not a little of *turning round*—had their counterparts in the old republics. They certainly entitled a man to be called ambitious; and if they won him the rewards, they no less exposed him to the reverses of an anxious and busy politician.—R. I. Schoolmaster.

2. ORIENTAL STUDIES.

Perhaps no language that was ever known surpasses the Sanscrit in majesty, in perfection of grammatical refinement, in grace, in accuracy. It is unrivaled, whether used as a means of commercial and practical intercourse, as a subject for philological research, or as a vehicle of philosophical subtleties. It forms a third in the group of the Indo-Germanic tongues, with the Latin and Greek, and while it elucidates many seeming anomalies in those languages, forms the link which binds together the speech of the Saxon and the Persian: the stepping stone which leads from the knowledge of the one to that of the other.

The languages of India chiefly studied by Europeans are, besides the Sanscrit, the following; for the presidencies of Bengal, the northwest provinces, and Bombay—Persian, Hindustani, Guzerati, and sometimes the dialects of the Indus, as Paujabi and Kâsburî; for the

presidency of Madras—Telugu, Tamil, and Canarese. It will thus be seen that the field of language in India is a wide one; and when we assert that of the nine languages mentioned above, five are little more than dialects of Sanscrit, and the rest more or less closely connected with it, the importance of the sacred language will at once be perceived.

The stores of Persian literature, though of a kind scarcely solid enough for our English taste, are extensive and replete with beauty. Many Europeans are wearied by the tedious and inflated style of Persian writings, by their childish play on words, and their long rhyming sentences, (where to take a liberty with the words of Pope)

" Clause nods to clause, each sentence has its brother,
And half the volume just reflects the other."

Still beneath this uninviting garb much wisdom is hid, and though kings are always losing their escort in hunting, and coming up with a damsel, a jinn, (our old friend the "genie") or a hermit, which rencontre is the starting point for an endless series of story within story, yet by the time we have waded through some two or three hundred pages of these inveterate prosers, we may boast of considerable knowledge of eastern customs, and a fair stock of that shrewdness which combines a large portion of the wisdom of the serpent with a very small alloy of the harmlessness of the dove.

It may here be appropriately noticed that the great drawback to the study of the otherwise simple Persian, is the habit so common to the writers of that language, of stuffing out their already turgid sentences with long Arabic participles. To such an extent does this habit prevail, that a Persian sentence generally contains about two words of Arabic to three of Persian, and although in reality all these participles are formed from simple trilateral roots, and are therefore easily recollected by the initiated, yet so wide spread is the habit of metaphorical expression in the east, and so far do words travel from their original meanings that the task is to a beginner Herculean, and when to this we add that it is by no means a common practice to lay before the student a synopsis, or even a grammar of these Arabic derivatives, it is easily imagined how great a hindrance must be experienced. To take an instance. We see at a glance that having a trilateral root consisting of the stetics *Fa Ra Qa* the words *ta FRiQ isti Fa Rra Q muta Fa Rrat &c.* are only the same roots with certain prefixes, affixes, and lengthenings, we see through them all the old *Fa Ra Qa* in various shapes. Moreover when we know that to each form a certain modification of the original meaning is attached; that some are reciprocal, others casual, &c. the difficulty vanishes. When we stand on the summit of a mountain and observe the different rivers starting from its sides, some winding through rich vales and growing broad and full till they lose themselves in the sea, others dashing over rock and boulder, later turning mills and bearing vessels to the haven; we see at once the origin of them all, and take in at a glance their various divergencies and different natures. But the case is different with those who dwell in the valley, they must take each stream by itself and by long wanderings follow up their course if they would comprehend their unity. Patience at last becomes blind drudgery and the language itself untangible under its protean shapes.

The Hindustani language may be briefly described as a patois, or rather a sort of *Lingua Franca* among eastern tongues, composed of Persian, Arabic, and Sanscrit terms grafted on to an aboriginal stock. It is a language simple and graceful in its construction, though apt to fall at times into the Persian fault of bombast. It is by far the most useful language of India, being the tongue formed and adopted by the Moghul conquerors, and thus spread all over India. Indeed in almost every part of that region, from Cashmere to Calcutta, from Gangouti to Comorin, people are found who can converse in it. Professor Forbes's excellent practical works have greatly reduced all difficulties attendant upon its acquisition, and with a slight preliminary knowledge of Sanscrit and Persian, a few months study will enable any one to read with ease the Bâjb-o-babâr or Iotâ Kabâni.

The other dialects of northern India have scarcely any literature, and in many cases no European grammars; they are seldom studied, as being confined to small districts, as the Punjaub and the valley of Cashmere. We must not omit to mention here the admirable Marâthi Dictionary of captain Molesworth, a book of great ability; indeed the Marâthi, from being the language of great part of the Bombay presidency, has had more attention bestowed on it than the other purely local tongues.

We come now to the second group of languages, spoken in the south and east of India; they are principally four,—the Telugu, Tamil, Canâca, or Canarese, and Malayalam, with a few other unimportant and barbarous dialects. Of these the Telugu is a soft and melodious language, supposed like the rest of this Drâvidian family, to be of Scythian origin, but having many words of Sanscrit origin. It is little studied by Europeans, except by the civil servants appointed to the Madras Presidency.

The Tamil is chiefly known through the medium of the Jesuits who, following St. Francis Xavier, the great apostle of their order, settled

at Goa, on the western coast. Of these, Father Beschi has left behind many works written in this dialect; the father, it is said, accustomed himself so entirely to the native habits as to wear the dress of a brahmin, and to speak this difficult language with fluency. The natives called him Viramâmuni, or the great doctor; he even attained to the post of vagir to one of the rajahs of the district.

Thus briefly and imperfectly have we touched upon a few of the thirty languages of India; of the stores of learning contained in their literature we may not here speak, it would draw us to too great a length. Suffice it to say, that whether the subject be science or philosophy, religion or art, poetry or prose, wit or wisdom, the East is very little, if at all, inferior to the West. The Mabâtharata has passages that equal the Iliad, and Sakoontola may vie with Antigone in affection, tenderness, and decision. To one moreover who desires to hold the handle of the machine by which Indians are to be moved, a knowledge of their gorgeous and fantastic Pantheon is indispensable. For one who would wield the power intrusted to him with justice and prudence, it is necessary to read and study carefully the constitutions of Akbar and the Zemindâri controversies of a later date. Finally, the land of Scythian Amany, Mahometan is at our feet, the bright gates are unlocked to genius and industry, it is for us to show that men who have been nurtured in the belief of Christ, and whose minds are formed by his words "who spoke as never man spake," hold in their hands that mighty engine which shall do for India what successive races of idolaters and misbelievers could never effect. Alas! that hitherto it has not been so. Alas! that the footsteps of the Christian are as red in the blood of India as those of this predecessors! But now a new era has dawned, it is time to wipe away this reproach, least it should be said of us, that with more opportunities of doing good we have conferred fewer benefits on the people under our power, than their former idolatrous and ignorant sovereigns.

8. EARLY TRAINING.

Children are germs of an immortal growth, and the family the garden in which the Lord first plants them. Here they first taste the sunshine. Here they receive the earliest nature. Here the form and tendencies of their growth are determined. It is the law of the Bible and of Providence, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and he will not depart from it." The law is laid in the constitution of our being, in the conditions of society, and in the provisions of the gospel. It is laid in the constitution of our being, for, in childhood we are most susceptible of all genial, kindly, and formative influences. It is laid in the conditions of society, for in childhood we are exempt from cares, temptations, employments, and disturbing influences in general, which beset our mature life. It is laid in the provisions of the gospel, for of little children alone it is said, "Of such as the kingdom of heaven." And again, "Except ye become converted, and become like little children, ye shall in nowise enter into the kingdom of heaven." During this period the destiny of human souls, in a most important sense, is committed to parental faithfulness.

It is, indeed, true, that conversions do take place after a neglected childhood; but the stains and deformities early contracted never become entirely obliterated and removed. The errors of childhood are carried into growth, and are there still further developed. From growth they are carried into manhood, and are there confirmed. Old age is darkened by ripened evil. Eternity alone can fully reveal the effects of an early blight.

On the other hand, it may be said that parental faithfulness is often disappointed in its hope. It does appear so sometimes, but we believe the instances are rare. And even in respect to these, who is prepared to affirm that there certainly has been no parental delinquency which led to the bad result?

Let parents, in the education of their children, place before themselves solemnly the question, "For what shall we educate them—for the uses of earth, or of God, and Christ, and heaven? If they choose the latter, God, and Christ, and heaven will all be arrayed on their side, and the end cannot be doubtful. But if, with a show of religious discipline, the world be really allowed to maintain its ascendancy, or it be attempted to hold a middle course between the claims of the world and the calls of duty, then there need be no surprise if those, whom we were unwilling to give wholly to God, depart wholly from Him.

The education of our offspring for immortality must be undertaken as our greatest and all-absorbing duty in respect to them, or it is not properly undertaken. There are interests which are so engrossing in their very nature that they do not admit of competition, and this is one of them. The accumulation of estates for our children; their introduction into fashionable life; the endowments of gay accomplishments; the formation of eligible connections—of how much worth are these put in the balance against a godly character; a preparation for noble usefulness here, for death at last, and for blessed immortal-

ity? We may not evade the question—we must choose whether we will give them to the world or to God.

When this great question of duty is once settled, then we may proceed to consider the principles on which we shall conduct the momentous discipline.

How shall we bring them up for heaven?

1. First of all we must aim to secure habits of implicit obedience. The years of childhood are absolutely committed to the parents. The child is only beginning to gain knowledge and experience, and must therefore, of necessity, be subject to an authority which is already possessed of both. Reckless, wild, and ungovernable tempers will soon appear, if obedience be not early formed into habit. This once gained, and then the growing soul forms easily under the plastic hand of parental love.

Herein, too, is laid the fundamental element of social and civil life, and of religion; for herein is established the great principle of subjection to law. The well-governed child easily and naturally yields to the restraints of social order, to the authority of the State, and, more than all, learns the principle of obedience to God as the highest duty of man. Children who have not been brought to submit to the mild and loving authority of a blessed home can hardly be expected to yield readily to any other authority. All law to them will prove irksome, and most of all the law of God. The habit of implicit obedience, therefore, must be established, or nothing else can be accomplished. Let this point never be given up. Begin early; patiently, wisely, and lovingly pursue it until it is gained. Then what comes after will be comparatively easy, and altogether pleasant.

2. The second point is daily religious instruction from God's word. The father is the priest of his household. The mother is the impersonation of heavenly mercy. Let both unite by precept and example in inculcating the great truth, and laying open the glorious influences and hopes of the gospel.

There is no religious instruction which may be substituted for that home. The public catechism of children, the Sabbath school, and the Bible class, are important aids; but the parents may not resign their personal responsibilities and their own proper offices to any other hands whatever. Their power is greater, because it can be constantly exercised—it is daily, hourly influence. Besides, who can feel such interest, who can be so tender, and patient, and thorough—who can so get into a child's heart as father and mother? These lambs, parents, are in your fold—you must guard them; they are to feed in your pastures—you must nourish them. They are your charge for the world that now is, and in the preparations for eternity. No one can take your place. Behold you have a double motive for personal godliness—you are to save not only your own souls, but the souls of your children also. With these instructions must be mingled prayer for them, prayer with them, and the teaching of them to pray. The early habit of prayer—oh, who can estimate its power and value! The simple hymns and prayers which we learn in childhood at our mother's knee are never forgotten. John Quincy Adams remarked near the close of his life, that he had never omitted repeating, before he went to sleep, the prayer which his mother taught him when a little child—

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take."

And the Lord's prayer, that prayer fitted to all ages and conditions, is made, too, for little children. "Our Father who art in heaven" is childlike language. It makes us feel that God is our Father. And this is the feeling we must aim to produce in the hearts of our children—that God is their father, to whom they must look for protection, blessing, salvation, and happiness before all others. It is by daily habitual prayer that this feeling will be cultivated. Thus a little child forms its dearest and most confiding intimacy with the most glorious of all beings, and comes to live in the clear atmosphere of God's love.

3. In childhood, if ever, the bad passions must be weeded out, just as they begin to appear. The weeds are easily removed from a garden before they have taken deep root.

And here, first of all, let every tendency to prevarication and lying be checked. Truthfulness is the foundation of character. Let the manliness, the moral dignity, and the imperative duty of always speaking the truth be inculcated. Let the meanness, the turpitude, and guilt of lying and prevarication be equally inculcated. Every sentiment of honor, and the whole moral sense, should be arrayed against lying, under every form and degree. Speak the truth in all things, on all occasions, under the strongest temptations not to speak it; in the face of shame and suffering speak it; speak it if ye die for it; for there is no gain or advantage to be put in the balance against speaking the truth. Thus ought we to teach our children from the earliest dawn of moral apprehension.

These three things once gained, viz., the habit of implicit obedience, the habit of prayer, and undeviating truthfulness, and then the way is open for every gracious influence, and every form of holy nurture. You have now withdrawn your child from the circle of worldly snares and unholy powers, and brought him to the place where heavenly order reigns, where sacred altars are kindled, and where angels pay their visits.—*British Mothers' Journal.*

4. TO WINTER SCHOLARS.

We commend the following article from the *Student and Schoolmate*, to the earnest consideration of all "winter scholars."

"Winter is again with us; the fall work is finished, and the boys and girls have once more picked up their books and commenced "going to school." The "first day," doubtless, was some time last month, so that by this time their studies are all arranged; and perhaps some are learning their lessons during the long evenings, so that they may keep ahead of their class. This is well; but there are a few other things of great importance, which you should not forget. The first is to be regular and punctual in your attendance at school. Go every day, through rain and snow, as well as fair weather. Let no trifling excuse keep you away for a single day or even hour. Another is, learn all your lessons thoroughly, not merely so as to recite them, but so that you can remember them afterwards. If you remember and practise these two injunctions, you will not only make rapid improvement, but will gain the esteem of your teachers, and give your parents happiness.

"During these long evenings of winter, a vast amount may be done to promote the intellectual, moral, and social culture of the young. Every family should be supplied with at least one good newspaper, and one or more monthly magazines. The valuable articles in these should be read aloud by some member while the others listen, asking questions and making remarks, as the subject may suggest.

"Where several children are attending school, some portion of nearly every evening should be devoted to the study and recitation of their lessons—the children taking turns in acting the teacher."

VII. Poetry.

WHAT IS TIME?

I asked an aged man, a man of years,
Wrinkled, and curved, and white with hoary hairs;
"Time is the warp of life," he said; "Oh, tell
The young, the fair, the gay, to weave it well!"

I asked the ancient, venerable dead,
Sages who wrote, and warriors who bled:
From the cold grave a hollow murmur flowed,
"Time sowed the seed, we reap in this abode!"

I asked a dying sinner, ere the tide
Of life had left his veins: "Time!" he replied,
"I've lost it! Oh, the treasure!"—and he died:

I asked the golden sun and silver spheres—
Those bright chronometers of days and years;
They answered, "Time is but a meteor glare,"
And bade me for Eternity prepare.

I asked the Seasons, in their annual round,
Which beautify or desolate the ground;
And they replied—no oracle more wise—
"Tis Folly's blank or Wisdom's highest prize!"

I asked a spirit lost,—but, oh, the shriek
That pierced my soul! I shudder while I speak!
It cried, "A particle! a speck! a mite
Of endless years! duration infinite!"

Of things inanimate, my dial I
Consulted, and it made me this reply,—
"Time is the season fair of living well—
The path of glory or the path of hell!"

I asked my Bible, and methinks it said,
"Time is the present hour, the past is fled,
Live! live to-day! to-morrow never yet
On any human being rose or set!"

I asked old Father Time himself at last,
But in a moment he flew swiftly past ;
His chariot was a cloud, the viewless wind
His noiseless steeds, which leave no trace behind.

I asked the mighty angel, who shall stand
One foot on sea and one on solid land ;
"Mortal," he cried, "the mystery now is o'er;
Time was, Time is, but Time shall be no more!"

—Marsden.

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

OFFICIAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PROPOSED BY LOCAL SCHOOL AUTHORITIES.

Since the commencement of the last month, nearly eight hundred letters have been received at the Upper Canada Education Office, at Toronto; and most of these letters involve legal questions. To lessen the increasingly onerous correspondence of the Department, and to consult the convenience of many parties, we have thought it advisable to select and insert in this and the following numbers of the *Journal of Education*, some of the answers which have been given by the Chief Superintendent to letters of local school authorities, involving questions and proceedings under the school law. We will number them for convenient reference by parties concerned :

No. 1. SCHOOL FEES MUST BE PAID MONTHLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

"By the General Regulations, all school fees are payable in advance, and no child has a right to enter the school until he pays the monthly or quarterly fee required. The Trustees have no authority to levy a fee for a less period than one month; and any child entering school is liable to pay a fee for one month, though he may attend but a few days, or even one day, of that month. The house is provided and warmed, and the teacher is employed and paid for every teaching day of the month, and if a parent keeps his child at home, the school section or teacher should not suffer the loss of his doing so; besides which, the irregular attendance of pupils is a financial loss to the section in regard to the school fund, as each school section shares in that fund according to the average attendance of pupils at the school during each half year."

No. 2. EVILS OF A RATE-BILL PER DAY.

"The imposing of a rate-bill per day presents a temptation to parents to keep their children from school, an evil of a former law that the present law was intended to prevent. According to the present law, the Trustees cannot impose a rate-bill for a shorter period than one month. Every child entering the school is, therefore, liable to pay the monthly fee, which the General Regulations make payable in advance, as has always

been done in the Provincial Model School—no child ever being admitted without the payment of the fee. The name of each pupil must be entered in the school register; and the fee must be paid for that pupil. One child cannot be substituted for another, any more than one elector can be substituted for another.

"The irregular attendance of pupils is injurious to the school, and injurious to the progress of the other pupils in the same classes with the pupils who are so irregular in their attendance."

No. 3. POWERS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING.—APPLICATION OF SCHOOL FEES.

"The annual school meeting has a right to decide whether a rate-bill shall be imposed or not, and what shall be the amount of it for each pupil, not exceeding twenty-five cents per month; but the Trustees have a right to say whether the rate-bill shall be paid monthly, or quarterly, or half-yearly.

"The specific purpose for which a school rate is levied need not be stated, although it is more satisfactory to state in the warrant that it is for the salary of the teacher and support of the schools, or the erection or repairs of a school, without stating the exact amount for each purpose.

"The Trustees are justified in expending the balance of school fees in their hands in repairing the school-house. The whole of the School Fund (consisting of Legislative Grant and Municipal assessment) must be expended in paying the salaries of teachers; but fees and school rates are liable to be expended for any lawful school purposes whatever.

"The Trustees are not authorized to levy upon the parents of children attending the school any rate-bill for wood, in addition to the rate-bill voted at the annual school meeting, whether 12½ cts. or 25 cts. per month. All the expenses of the school, whether for fuel or repairs, apparatus, &c., over and above the amount of the rate-bills and school fund, must be provided by a rate on property, without any vote of a public meeting. See latter part of the 7th clause of the 12th section of the School Act of 1850."

No. 4. NEGLECT OR REFUSAL OF A SCHOOL MEETING TO PROVIDE FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE SCHOOL.

"When the majority at a school meeting refuse to make any provision for the support of the school, the Trustees have authority by the latter part of the 7th clause of the 12th section of the School Act of 1850, to levy and collect on all the property of the school section the balance they require for the support of their school over and above the amount of the apportionment.

"The electors who neglect to attend the annual school meeting of their Section, have no just reason to complain of any decisions of such meeting, any more than electors, who neglect to vote at the election of a Councillor or Member of the Legislature, have just reason to complain of the result of such election. But by the 12th clause of the 12th section of the Act, Trustees, if they think proper, can call a special meeting for any school purpose whatever.

"The Trustees can thus call a special school meeting to reconsider the mode of supporting the school, and of devising such means as the meeting may think proper for that purpose."

No. 5. ADMISSION OF NON-RESIDENT CHILDREN.

"The Trustees cannot levy a rate to pay the fees for attendance of non-resident children, as it is only by private mutual agreement between Trustees and the parents of non-resident children that they are admitted to a school. If collected at all, such fees can only be collected by suit at the Division Court.

"Trustees can admit or not admit non-resident children to their school, and can charge what they please for their attendance. If a dispute arises between the Trustees and parents of such non-resident children, as to the fees charged for their attendance, it must be settled by the Judge of the Division Court, as in other cases of difference as to charges and debts for small sums between private individuals.

"There is no law against a non-resident being elected a trustee, if the electors choose to elect him, and he is willing to serve, and resides near enough to a school section to attend to his duties as trustee; but the children of such trustee, any more than those of any other non-resident, have no right to attend the school unless he is a *freeholder* in the section of which he is Trustee, and unless his name appears as such on the Assessor's Roll."

NO. 6. ADMISSION OF PUPILS UNDER 5 AND OVER 21 YEARS OF AGE.

"It is at the discretion of Trustees as to whether they will receive as pupils at all children under five years of age, or persons over 21 years of age, and whether they will admit them as free scholars or charge them fees for attending the school. If such persons reside with their parents (though they may be over 21 years of age) as heretofore, and if their parents pay rates according to property, I think it is most seemly and equitable for Trustees to admit such persons to attend the school upon the same terms as younger pupils, that is assuming that such grown persons, having had little opportunity to go to school when young, are anxious to get a better education than they have. Persons so old, and but little taught, are to be pitied, and are to be respected and encouraged in their efforts to remedy as far as they can the defects or neglect of their education in early years.

IX. Miscellaneous.

1. THE YEAR 1857.

A very interesting chronological statement of the principal events of the year which has just closed, has been published in the New York *Herald*. The following is a slight enumeration of the occurrences of that memorable year :

The year 1857 opened with wars existing between England and China, and England and Persia. After some severe fighting Great Britain concluded a treaty of peace with Persia; but her difficulty with China still exists, after having produced a most serious interruption of the trade of all nations with that country, and almost involving the government of the United States in the dispute. The only results of the quarrel so far have been merely the exhibition of the immense progress which the Chinese have made in the science of war during a few years, the burning of a great portion of the city of Canton, both by "outside barbarians" and natives, the presence of a fleet of English gunboats in the rivers, and the more than hereditary obstinacy shown by the Court of Pekin in refusing to negotiate with foreign powers. The republics of Central America were convulsed with war disturbances during the year. By a combination of the Central American States, under the lead of Costa Rica, Nicaragua was enabled to expel General Walker and his followers. In the end, Costa Rica seized on the Nicaraguan Transit route, and made war on the new government of Nicaragua, when General Walker again attempted to aid the struggle of the Central Americans for independent self-rule. The disastrous termination of Walker's second enterprise is too fresh in the minds of our readers to require further allusion in this place. The republics of Peru, Bolivia and Mexico were convulsed with revolution or attempts at revolt. In Mexico, President Comonfort had to contend against two powerful and united factions, the one headed openly by the clergy and the other stimulated by the wily partizans of Santa Anna. As a national safeguard, a new constitution was promulgated and sworn to, and after that Comonfort was clothed with the powers of Dictator. England's rule in the East Indies was threatened in the most vital manner during the year by a

revolt of the Sepoy soldiers serving in the Bengal army, in consequence of an offence offered to their religious prejudices by the military authorities. An attempt was made to more closely unite England with the United States by means of a submarine telegraph sunk in the Atlantic ocean, during the past year, but the enterprise failed for the moment, owing to the sudden breaking of the wire cable when in process of being laid. Most foreign countries were seriously disturbed by a severe financial revulsion consequent on a money panic which commenced in the United States, and ended for the present, in the suspension of the charter of the Bank of England. Heavy commercial failures took place in London, Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Madrid, and the crisis extended to St. Petersburg, Warsaw, and Constantinople. The French Government entered into a contract for supplying its West India colonies with free negroes, to be imported from Africa as laborers. This was looked on and is still viewed as a modified renewal of the slave trade. Very many fatal explosions of steam and in the collieries took place in England during the year, whilst the coast of the United Kingdom was visited by destructive storms. A large amount of property was lost in France in consequence of storms and inundations. The Russian war ship Le Forte foundered suddenly in the Gulf of Finland, and over five hundred persons perished by the calamity. The coasts of China were visited by most destructive syphoons, and many ships were lost in the Eastern trade during the year.

2. OBITUARY FOR 1857.

Death has been more than ordinarily busy among the titled orders during the year which has just come to a close. The obituary for 1857 contains the names of no less than twenty-two members of the peerage of the United Kingdom. The list is as follows:—The Dukes of Rutland and Marlborough; the Marquis of Ely; the Earls of Buchan, Airthirst, Castle Stuart, Ellesmere, Mornington, Fife, Fitzhardinge, Fitzwilliam, Harewood, and Spencer; Viscounts Downe, Lismore, and Strangford; the Bishops of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross; and Lords Alvanley, Douglas, Milford, Radstock, and Thurlow. Of these, the peerages of Lords Alvanley, Douglas, and Milford have become extinct, as also the English barony of the late Earl of Fife.

During the same period, the following members of the baronetage have paid the debt of nature:—Sir Hugh R. Hoare, Sir Edmund Filmer, Sir Robert Barlow, Gen. Sir J. A. D. Agnew-Wallace, Sir G. L. Phillips, Sir Compton Donville, Sir J. R. Rowley, Sir J. Kennard Shaw, the Rev. Sir R. Fleming, Sir C. W. Taylor, Sir G. W. Denys, Sir E. Haggerston, Sir Norman R. Leslie (killed in the Indian mutiny), Sir Oxford Gordon, Sir T. B. Lennard, Sir R. Howe Bromley, Sir C. Dodsworth, Sir W. G. Milman, Sir J. A. Boyd, Sir George Parker (killed in India), Sir Charles M. Clarke, Sir Digby Mackworth, Sir Charles P. Shakerley, Sir C. H. Rich, Sir Robert Price, Sir C. Wolseley, Sir J. Boswell, Sir Theophilus St. George, Sir George Cayley, Sir F. G. Foster, Sir A. Dixie, and the noble and gallant Sir Henry Havelock. Out of the above thirty-two baronetcies, only the titles of Price and Boswell have become extinct.

The list of Knights Bachelors and Knights of the Bath who have died during the year 1857, includes the names of Sir E. H. Alderson (Baron of the Exchequer), Sir Nicholas Thorn, Sir Jno. Owen, Sir G. W. Anderson, Sir R. J. Hare-Clarges, Sir J. Macdonald (of Glengarry), Sir W. Lloyd, Sir G. Magrath, Sir W. L. Herries, Sir James Eyre, Sir Robert Carswell, Sir C. B. Egerton, Sir Hugh Pigot, Sir John Bent, General Sir H. W. Barnard, Sir Henry Montgomery Lawrence, General Sir Hugh M. Wheeler, Sir W. II. Dillon, Sir J. Doveton, Sir G. H. Berkeley, Sir A. Clarke, Sir Thomas Le Breton, and Sir Francis Beaufort—in all twenty-three.

Among the other notables who have died during the past year, we ought to mention Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, the Princess Lieven, Madame Rachel, Marshal Radetzky, Reschid Pacha, General Cavaignac, Viscountess Keith, Mr. Morrison (the millionaire), Mr. James Coppeck, Mr. Wilson Croker, Bishop Bloomfield, General Neil, General Nicholson, Eugene Sue, Dr. Dick, the Rev. Mr. Gorham, the Rev. Canon Townsend, the Rev. Dr. Macfarlane, and the following members of the House of Commons:—Mr. G. F. Muntz, M.P. for Birmingham; Mr. D. Saunders Davies, M.P. for Carmarthenshire; Mr. A. Stafford, M.P. for Northamptonshire; Mr. J. Platt, M.P. for Oldham; Mr. A. Hastie, M.P. for Paisley; Mr. Robert Hall, M.P. for Leeds; Major G. D. Warburton, M.P. for Harwich; Mr. Charles Hindley, M.P. for Ashton-under-Lyne, and Mr. R. C. Hildyard, M.P. for Whitehaven.

3. THE BRITISH PEERAGE SINCE HER MAJESTY'S ACCESSION.

While the public are interested in the elevation of Mr. Macaulay and Lord Robert Grosvenor to the peerage, it may not be out of place to lay before our readers a brief *résumé* of the titles thus far

conferred since Her Majesty's accession. On the 21st day of June, 1837, Queen Victoria, on coming to the throne, found the house of peers composed of about 450 members, exclusive of the spiritual lords and the Scotch and Irish representatives. Her Majesty's first act was to give an English title to the Scottish Duke of Roxburghe, then just of age, by creating him Earl Innes; and to elevate to the earldom of Leicester the late father of the House of Commons and the friend of her royal father, Mr. T. W. Coke, of Holkam, who had often refused the inferior dignity of a baron. At the coronation, in June, 1838, Mr. Ponsonby, the ex-member for Dorsetshire; Mr. Hanbury-Tracy, for Tewkesbury; Sir John Wrottesley, for Staffordshire; and Mr. Paul Methuen, for Wiltshire—all of whom had lost their seats at the previous general election—were advanced to the English baronies of De Mauley, Sudeley, Wrottesley, and Methuen. At the same time, Her Majesty conferred English baronies on the Irish Lords Lismore and Carew, and on the Scottish Earl of Kintore; advancing Lords King and Dundas to the earldoms of Lovelace and Zetland, and the Earl of Mulgrave to the Marquisate of Normanby, and summoning the present Duke of Leeds to the upper house as Lord Osborne. In the course of the same year, the title of Lord Vaux of Harrowden was revived in the person of Mr. G. Mostyn. In the course of the following year, Lord Melbourne elevated to the peerage a "batch" of his own more immediate friends and supporters, including his own brother Frederick, long ambassador at Vienna, who became Lord Beauvale; Colonel Talbot, many years the liberal member for the county of Dublin, as Lord Furnival; Sir John T. Stanley, as Lord Stanley of Alderley; Mr. Villiers Stuart, as Lord Stuart de Decies; Mr. Charles Brownlow, who had long sat for the county of Armagh, as Lord Lurgan; and Mr. Beilby-Thompson, as Lord Wenlock—a title which had for a short time been enjoyed by his brother, the late Sir Francis Lawley; while Mr. A. French, the veteran M.P. for Roscommon, accepted the title of De Freyne. At the same time, in Mr. Chandos Lee, the ancient barony of Leigh was revived; and Mr. Ridley Colborne, who had sat for many years for Wells and other places, became Lord Colborne—the first and the last of that title. In the same year, the late Lord Ponsonby, then ambassador at Constantinople, was promoted to a viscountcy, which has since expired with him; Mr. Abercromby, after a four years' tenure of the Speakership, was advanced to the title of Lord Dunfermline; the ancient Camoys title was also revived in the person of Mr. Thomas Stoner, who had sat for Oxford for a few weeks in the first reform parliament. About the same time, Mr. Spring Rice, on resigning the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, became Lord Monteagle of Brandon; Lord Auckland, the Governor General of India, was advanced to an earldom; while the titles of Lord Keane and Lord Seaton were conferred on two general officers, who had seen more than the ordinary share of foreign military service. In 1840, Mr. Miles Stapleton obtained in his favour the revival of the ancient barony of Beaumont; and Sir Jacob Astley, the ex-member for Norfolk, that of Hastings. In 1841, another "batch" of elevations were gazetted just before the retirement of the Melbourne ministry. English baronies were then conferred on the Scotch Earl of Stair and the Irish Earl of Kenmare; while Sir John Campbell became at a leap Lord Campbell and Lord Chancellor of Ireland; Sir Hussey Vivian and Sir Henry Parnell were made respectively Lords Vivian and Congleton; the late Duke of Norfolk and the present Earl of Gosford at the same time being called to the upper house in their fathers' baronies; and Lords Barham and Segrave being advanced to the earldoms of Gainsborough and Fitz Hardinge. Not long afterwards, Mr. Poulett Thompson, then Governor General of Canada, was created Lord Sydenham—but the title, we believe, became extinct within the year. In August, 1841, Lord Melbourne resigned, having conferred no less than forty-two coronets in four years. It is but justice to his successor, the late Sir R. Peel, to state that he discontinued the established practice of conferring the honours of the peerage with a lavish hand. On taking office, he found that there were two gentlemen whose services he required in the upper house. They were the eldest sons of peers, and had long enjoyed seats in the commons. These noblemen Her Majesty was pleased at once to call to the upper house in their fathers' baronies, and they are now the Earls of Derby and Lonsdale. At the same time, the late Lord Hill, the Commander-in-Chief at the Horse Guards, was advanced from a barony to a viscountcy. Sir Robert Peel remained in office till the close of the summer of 1846, just five years, but during that time the only other English peerages conferred were the barony of Metcalfe (since extinct) on the late Sir C. T. Metcalfe, the earldom of Ellesmere on Lord Francis Egerton, and the viscountcy of Hardinge on Sir Henry Hardinge, besides the advancement of General Gough to a barony, and of Lord Ellenborough to an earldom, for their Indian careers. On their return to office, in September, 1846, the whig party renewed their practice of increasing the peerage. In the five years during which Lord John Russell held office, we find the Earl of Dalhousie advanced to a marquisate, Lords Strafford and Cottenham to earldoms, and Lord Gough to a vis-

countcy; while the baronies of Dartrey, Milford, Elgin, Clandeboys, Eddisbury, Londesborough, Overstone, Truro, Cranworth, and Broughton, were conferred respectively upon Lord Cremorne, Sir R. B. Phillipps, the Earl of Elgin, Lord Dufferin, Mr. E. J. Stanley, Lord Albert Conyngham, Mr. Jones-Loyd, Sir Thomas Wilde, Sir P. M. Rolfe, and Sir John Cam Hobhouse. Mr. Byng, too, was called to the upper house as Lord Strafford. It was the boast of Lord Derby, that during his brief ministry of 1852, he had advised Her Majesty to raise to the peerage three individuals, and three only—Sir Edward Sugden, Lord Fitzroy Somerset, and Sir Stratford Canning, since better known to the world as Lords St. Leonards, Raglan, and Stratford de Redcliffe. Lord Aberdeen did not avail himself of his premiership, from 1852 to 1855, to confer a single peerage on his friends. The first English coronet bestowed by Lord Palmerston was the unhappy life peerage which lit upon the head of Baron Parke, but subsequently exchanged for one with a less questionable title. Since then, Sir Gilbert Heathcote has been made Lord Aveland; Sir E. Lyons, Lord Lyons; Mr. E. Strutt, Lord Belper; and the late Speaker, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Viscount Eversley. Lords Kenmare and Talbot de Malahide have been honoured with English baronies, and Lord Shelburne has been called to the upper house in his father's barony of Wycombe; and now, last of all, we chronicle the elevation of Lord Robert Grosvenor and Mr. Macaulay to the coronets of English barons.—*Times.*

4. THE HIGHLANDERS AND THE RELIEF OF LUCKNOW.

Scarcely out of Scott's novels can a scene be found more dramatic, touching and picturesque, than that described by a lady, the wife of an officer at Lucknow, in a letter published in the *London Times*.

To give it its due effect, it should be remembered that General Havelock was not an hour too soon in his relief, as the advance of the enemy's batteries and mines had settled the fate of the garrison; and it should be known that in the continual uproar of the cannonade, and the obstructions of military works and buildings, the beleagured and devoted garrison did not hear nor see anything of the advancing relief until the battle had been fought outside, and the relieving force was marching up to the gates.

"On every side death stared us in the face; no human skill could avert it any longer. We saw the moment approach when we must bid farewell to earth, yet without feeling that unutterable horror which must have been experienced by the unhappy victims of Cawnpore. We were resolved rather to die than to yield, and were fully persuaded that in 24 hours all would be over. The engineers had said so, and all knew the worst. We women strove to encourage each other, and to perform the light duties which had been assigned to us, such as conveying orders to the batteries and supplying the men with provisions, especially cups of coffee, which we prepared day and night.

I had gone out to try and make myself useful, in company with Jessie Brown, the wife of a corporal in my husband's regiment. Poor Jessie had been in a state of restless excitement all through the siege, and had fallen away visibly within the last few days. A constant fever consumed her, and her mind wandered occasionally, especially that day, when the recollections of home seemed present to her. At last overcome with fatigue, she lay down on the ground wrapped up in her plaid. I sat beside her when, as she said, I should awake her when "her father should return from the ploughing." She fell at length into a profound slumber, motionless and apparently breathless, her head resting in my lap. I myself could no longer resist the inclination to sleep, in spite of the continual roar of the cannon. Suddenly I was aroused by a wild unearthly scream close to my ear; my companion stood upright beside me, her arms raised and her head bent forward in the attitude of listening. A look of intense delight broke over her countenance, she grasped my hand, drew me towards her, and exclaimed, 'Dinna ye hear it? dinna ye hear it? Ay, I'm no dreaming, its the slogan o' the Highlanders! We're saved! We're saved!' Then flinging herself on her knees, she thanked God with passionate fervor. I felt utterly bewildered; my English ears heard only the roar of artillery, and I thought my poor Jessie was still raving; but she darted to the batteries, and I heard her cry incessantly to the men, 'Courage! courage! hark to the slogan,—to the Maegregor, the grandest o' them a'. Here's help at last!' To describe the effect of these words upon the soldiers would be impossible. For a moment they ceased firing, and every soul listened in intense anxiety. Gradually, however, there arose a murmur of bitter disappointment, and the wailing of the women who had flocked to the spot burst out anew as the Colonel shook his head. Our dull lowland ears heard nothing but the rattle of the musketry. A few moments more of this death-like suspense, of this agonising hope, and Jessie who had again sunk on the ground sprang to her feet, and cried in a voice so clear and piercing that it was heard along the whole line—"Will ye no believe it noo? The slogan has ceased indeed, but the Campbells

are comin' ? D'ye hear, d'ye hear? At that moment we seemed indeed to hear the voice of God in the distance, when the pibroch of the Highlanders brought us tidings of deliverance, for now there was no longer any doubt of the fact. That shrill, penetrating, ceaseless sound, which rose above all other sounds, could come neither from the advance of the enemy nor from the sappers. No, it was indeed the blast of the Scottish bagpipes, now shrill and harsh, as threatening vengeance on the foe, then in softer tones, seeming to promise succor to their friends in need. Never surely was there such a scene as that which followed. Not a heart in the residency of Lucknow but bowed itself before God. All by one simultaneous impulse fell upon their knees, and nothing was heard but bursting sobs and the murmured voice of prayer. Then all arose, and there rang out from a thousand lips a great shout of joy which resounded far and wide, and lent new vigor to that blessed pibroch. To our cheer of "God Save the Queen," they replied by the well known strain that moves every Scot to tears, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot," &c.

After that moment, nothing else made any impression on me, I scarcely remembered what followed. Jessie was presented to the General on his entrance into the fort, and at the officers' banquet her health was drunk by all present, while the pipers marched round the table playing once more the familiar air of "Auld lang syne."

5. THE PIBROCH OF MACGREGOR.

Beleaguered by a fiendish crew,
The remnant of a gallant few,
By battle wasted, smaller grew,
Yet still, with belt of flame
And sturdy steel, they held at bay
The hell-hounds, longing for their prey—
But, close and closer, day by day,
The monster myriads came.

There was no time for rest or food
In that wild festival of blood;
E'en while the gun its shot made good,
The cannoneer took breath;
The gallant woman, maid or wife,
Daring the danger of the strife,
With food sustain'd the soldier's life—
While he was dealing death.

They held, for days, their feeble towers,
Against the swarm of traitor powers—
But now—they fight for numbered hours,
Unless relief were near;
Yet still, with spirit undepressed,
They keep the bloody battle-crest,
And forth from every manly breast
Still bursts the ringing cheer!

The fort was mined from flank to face—
The match was lighted—short the space
Till Death, in fiery wings' embrace,
Should snatch them all from shame;
When through the roar of battle-clear—
Like music faint to dreamer's ear—
A Highland maiden's heart to cheer,
The sound of pibroch came.

She rush'd amid the battling men,
"Rescue!" she cried—"again, again
I hear the Slogan down the glen,
A Highland hive is humming:—
Ye'll na' believe me—for your ear
Is clogg'd wi' battle;—dinnar ye hear
Macgregor's pibroch ringing clear
‘The Campbells are a-coming’!"

They paus'd awhile—they could not hear
What reach'd the maiden's finer ear;
But soon outrang a warrior-cheer,
And pray'r from woman's lip broke,
As, piercing through the war-cloud grim
That crown'd the battle's fiery rim—
Like a redeeming Angel's hymn,
Peal'd forth Macgregor's pibroch.

Barnes, London.

SAMUEL LOVER.

6. STORY FOR THE YOUTH.

A GOOD DEED IN SEASON, BY VIRGINIA F. TOWNSEND.

"Get away with you, you dirty old beggar boy. I'd like to know what right you have to look over the fence at our flowers!" The speaker was a little boy not more than eleven years old, and though people sometimes called it handsome, his face looked very harsh and disagreeable just then.

He stood in a beautiful garden just in the suburbs of the city; it was June time, and the tulips were just opening themselves to the sunshine. Oh! it was a great joy to look at them as they bowed gracefully to the light winds their necks of crimson, of yellow and carnation. The beds flanked either side of the path, that curved around a small arbor, where the young grape clusters that lay hidden among the large leaves wrote a beautiful prophecy for the autumn.

A white paling ran in front of the garden, and over this the little beggar boy, so rudely addressed, was leaning. He was very lean very dirty, very ragged. I am afraid, little children, you would have turned away in disgust from so repulsive a spectacle, and yet God and the angels loved him.

He was looking, with all his soul in his eyes, on the beautiful blossoms, as they swayed, to and fro, in the summer wind, and his heart softened while he leaned his arm on the fence railing, and forgot everything in that long absorbed gaze. Ah, it was seldom, the beggar boy saw anything good or beautiful, and it was sad his dream should have such a rude awakening.

The blood rushed up to his face, and a glance full of evil and defiance flashed into his eyes. But before the boy could retort, a little girl sprang out from the arbor, and looked eagerly from one child to the other. She was very fair, with soft hazel eyes, over which dropped long, shining lashes. Rich curls hung over her bare, white shoulders, and her lips were the color of the crimson tulip-blossoms.

"How could you speak so cross to the boy, Hinton?" she asked, with a tone of sad reproach quivering through the sweetnes of her voice. "I'm sure it doesn't do us any harm to have him look at the flowers as long as he wants to."

"Well, Helen," urged the brother, slightly mollified, and slightly ashamed, "I don't like to have beggars gaping over the fence. It looks so low."

"Now that's all a notion of your's, Hinton. I'm sure if the flowers can do any body any good, we ought to be very glad. Little boy," and the child turned to the beggar boy, and addressed him as courteously as though he had been a prince—"I'll pick some tulips if you'll wait a moment."

"Helen, I do believe you're the funniest girl that ever lived!" ejaculated the child's brother, as he turned away, and with a low whistle sauntered down the path, feeling very uncomfortable—for her conduct was a stronger reproof to him than any words could have been.

Helen plucked one of each specimen of the tulips, and there was a great variety of them, and gave them to the child. His face brightened as he received them, and thanked her.

Oh! the little girl had dropped a pearl of great price into the black, turbid billows of the boy's life, and the after years should bring it up, beautiful and bright again.

Twelve years had passed. The blue-eyed girl had grown into a tall, graceful woman. One bright June afternoon she walked with her husband through the garden, for she was on a visit to her parents. The place was little changed, and the tulips had opened their lips of crimson and gold to the sunshine, just as they had done twelve years before. Suddenly they observed a young man in a workman's blue overalls, leaning over the fence, his eyes wandering eagerly from the beautiful flowers to herself. He had a frank, pleasant countenance, and there was something in his manner that interested the gentleman and lady.

"Look here, Edward," she said, "I'll pluck some of the flowers. It always does me good to see people admiring them," and releasing her husband's arm, she approached the paling, saying—and the smile round her lips was very like the old child one—"Are you fond of flowers, sir? it will give me great pleasure to gather you some."

The young workman looked a moment very earnestly into the fair sweet face. "Twelve years ago, this very month," he said, in a voice deep, and yet tremulous with feeling, "I stood here, leaning on this railing, a dirty, ragged little beggar boy, and you asked me this very question. Twelve years ago, you placed the bright flowers in my hands, and they made a new boy—aye, and they have made a man of me, too. Your face has been a light, ma'am, all along the dark hours of my life, and this day that little beggar boy can stand on the old place, and say to you, though he's an humble and hard-working man, yet thank God, he's an honest one."

Tear-drops trembled like morning dew on the shining lashes of the lady, as she turned to her husband, who had joined her, and listened in absorbed astonishment to the workman's words. "God," she said, "put it into my child heart to do that little deed of kindness, and see how great is the reward He has given me."

And the setting sun poured a flood of rich purple light over the group that stood there—over the workman in his blue overalls, over the lady with her golden hair, and over the husband at her side. Altogether it was a picture for a painter, the angels who looked down on it from heaven saw something more than a picture there.—*Boston Gazette.*

7. HABITS—THEIR FORCE AND INFLUENCE.

"Habit is second nature." This axiom is freely admitted in words by teachers of all classes; but, unfortunately, is not always made to bear upon their actions; and yet it is one of the most important branches of education to inculcate good habits, and eradicate bad ones. Can we give a reason for this difference between words and deeds? We think we may supply a twofold answer.

The first is, that habits cannot be taught by precept only, but must be exhibited in practice. A child has sufficient of the imitative character of the monkey about him to prefer copying what he sees, rather than what he is merely told; besides, in the dry, formally-delivered precept, the pupil is apt to consider himself "talked at;" his self-pride is awakened, and the teacher has raised a most powerful barrier against the success of his own teaching; whereas, if he does himself what he enjoins on him or them, his pupils feel that he is not merely trying to form them on a certain model, because it is his duty so to do, and because he thereby earns a stipulated salary, but that he is endeavouring to lead them *with* himself in the path of duty and of right.

An anecdote of the celebrated North American Chief, Tecumseh, exemplifies our meaning. The Chief was invited to witness the embarkation of a detachment of British troops on active service. Their orderly movements, soldierly appearance, and noble bearing, as they marched past their commander-in-chief, who remained behind with the rest of the troops, delighted the wild American, and he warmly expressed his admiration of the scene to the English General; adding, however, these remarkable words—"There is but one fault; you say *go*, I say *come*." Now the teacher, like the American Chief, must also say come—not go—if he would be master of willing hearts. There is no use of talking of honesty and truth—of order and regularity—of forming good habits and correcting bad ones: we shall never hit the mark at which we aim, unless we weight the arrow (our precept) with deeds, our doings. By them, under God's blessing, we may do much.

Another reason for neglecting the judicious formation of habits is, that it requires a careful study of the various physical and mental characteristics of the children committed to our care. The same course of education which is suitable for a child of nervous temperament, would be injudicious in one of phlegmatic nature. The habits we should most carefully instil into one to strengthen the weaker portion of his character, are less requisite in another whose very strength lies perhaps in the points where the other is deficient, but who has his own infirmities of character to be fortified and defended. All these niceties and varying shades of character, noting where to repress and where to encourage, require a long period of anxious thought, not always consonant with the railway speed of some of our modern educators, who attempt to do the work of a year in a month, of a week in a few hours; who aim at forcing a child's intellect as we should cucumbers in a hot bed; and then are disappointed themselves, and blamed by others for not achieving impossibilities.

Although the habits we should thus strive to inculcate assume a certain variety according to the characters with which we have to deal, there is one that cannot be too earnestly pressed upon all—not only on the pupil, but the teacher—on the parent as the child—on the old as the young,—the habit of attention and observation, leading to a course of reasoning from effects to causes. "A man of mere capacity undeveloped," says Emerson, "is only an organised clay dream, with a skin on it." "Genius unexerted is no more genius than a bushel of acorns is a forest of oaks."

This habit of observation and attention, while it has led to some of the noblest of man's discoveries, also guards us from leaping to conclusions without due investigation, and reveals to us even in the withered blade of grass, or the sea-worn pebble, the wisdom and goodness by which we are surrounded. We may select one or two instances.

The great Harvey was led to the discovery of the circulation of the blood, by observing that there were valves in the veins. This must have been seen by many an anatomist before him; but Harvey was not content with seeing, his habits led him to reason on what he saw. He knew that man constructs valves to allow fluids to pass in one direction, but to prevent them from flowing back in the opposite direction. He felt that the valves in the human veins must likewise have their allotted part to play; that they were there to serve a purpose; and by patient thought and observation was he led to the discovery which has immortalised his name: nevertheless, with a prudence and caution peculiarly characteristic of the sound philosopher, he withheld his opinions from the world until reiterated experiment had amply confirmed his doctrine, had enabled him to demonstrate it in detail, and to adduce every proof of its truth of which the subject is capable.

Another no less striking illustration of this subject is the discovery of printing by Gutemberg, of which M. de Lamartine gives us the following interesting account:—

"Gutemberg had formed an intimacy with a man named Lawrence Koster, the verger of the cathedral at Haarlem, who one day

showed him in the sacristy a Latin Grammar, curiously wrought in engraved letters on a wooden board, for the instruction of the seminarists. Chance, that gratuitous teacher, had produced this approach to printing. The poor and youthful sacristan was in love. He used to walk in the holidays in spring outside the town, and sit under the willows, to indulge his day dream, his heart full of the image of his bride, and would amuse himself in true love's fashion by engraving with his knife the initials of his mistress and himself interlaced, as an emblem of the union of their hearts and of their interwoven destinies. But instead of cutting these cyphers on the bark, and leaving them to grow with the tree, like the mysterious cyphers so often seen on the trees in the forests and by the brooks, he engraved them on little blocks of willow, stripped of their bark, and still reeking with the moisture of their sap, and would carry them as a remembrance of his dreams and pledges of his affection to his lady-love.

"One day having thus cut some letters on the green wood, probably with more care and perfection than usual, he wrapped up his little work in a piece of parchment, and carried it to Haarlem. On opening it next day, he was astonished to see the cypher perfectly reproduced in brown on the parchment by the relieved portion of the letters, the sap having oozed out during the night, and imprinted its image on the envelope. This was a discovery. He engraved other letters on a large platter, replaced the sap by a black liquid, and thus obtained the first proof ever printed. But it would only print a single page. The moveable variety, and the endless combinations of characters infinitely multiplied, to meet the vast requirements of literature, were wanting. The invention of the poor sacristan would have covered the surface of the earth with plates engraved or sculptured in relief, but would not have been a substitute for a single case of moveable type. Nevertheless the principle of the art was developed in the sacristy of Haarlem, and we might hesitate whether to attribute the powers of it to Koster or Gutemberg, if its invention had not been with the one the mere accidental discovery of love and chance, and its application with the other the well-earned victory of patience and genius.

"At the sight of this coarse plank the lightning from heaven flashed before the eyes of Gutemberg. He worked at the plank, and in his imagination analysed it, deconstructed it, put it together again, changed it, undid it, readjusted it, reversed it, smeared it with ink, placed the parchment on it, and pressed it with a screw. The sacristan, wondering at his long silence, was unwittingly present at this development of an idea, over which his visitor had brooded for the last ten years. When Gutemberg retired, he carried a new art with him."

We can add nothing to such a description as this, and will only ask what has been the result of that hour's thought and observation in the Haarlem sacristy?

One further instance may be allowed before we conclude this subject; and as our two previous illustrations show what may be accomplished by attention and observation, we will now point out the mistakes we are liable to commit, if we fail in these two particulars.

The celebrated naturalist, Buffon, when speaking of the hump on the camel's back, and the callous parts on this animal's legs, does not attempt to discover the reason of their existence, merely designating them as marks of degradation and servitude. A little patient investigation, however, suffices to show that these parts of their frame, like every other, fit these useful creatures for the purpose they serve in the regions which they inhabit. The callosities or parts on their legs permit them to lie down and repose on scorching surfaces, and their humps are supplies of superabundant nourishment provided for their long journeys, so that when deprived of other food their frames feed on this nutriment; and it has been observed, that at the close of a long journey their humps are much diminished in size.

Such facts as this must surely prove that it is our own ignorance and presumption which lead us to complain of the inconveniences of nature; and that a little more knowledge, and, better still, a little more humility and patience, would lead us to discover and acknowledge that there is admirable wisdom and benevolence even in those parts of God's works which may seem to be useless, or even injurious. This is the lesson taught; but the careful observer alone will learn to profit by it, the careless will pass it by unheeded.—*English Journal of Education.*

8. THE MONETARY CRISIS.

A WARNING TO MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS.

No thinking woman can have heard of the late monetary crisis, both in America and in our own country, without taking the subject into serious consideration, and making a personal application of it to herself and her own conduct.

Have those of us whose daughters have completed their course of home training, and entered upon the duties of married life, the satisfaction of knowing that they have been prepared to become helpmeets for their husbands in the day of adversity? We would ask whether they

have been taught the uncertainty of worldly prosperity in a commercial country like ours, and been led to regard it as not all essential to domestic happiness? Have they the cheerful, faithful spirit, that can bow to the storm, and raise again with renewed energy? Is the care-worn husband cheered by the quiet smile and affectionate welcome of the wife? And does he find that the hands which have guided with taste the pencil or the pen, and touched with skill more than one musical instrument, can be as cleverly employed in preparing the now frugal meal, and arranging the simple *ménage*? Does the anxious husband find that his wants are as carefully supplied now that there is little or no domestic help, as when he had servants to wait upon him; and that his children are being encouraged to display their infantile skill in waiting upon themselves and each other, and in helping to make all neat for the general comfort?

Many such instances could be found at this hour we doubt not; but, alas, there must, we fear, be many others of a directly opposite description, where the husband's business anxieties are greatly increased by the consciousness that there is one at home who is all unused to toil—unprepared for trial—unsifted for a life-struggle with this work-day world.

An important consideration should be suggested to the minds of the mothers of the rising generation connected with this crisis. Is the present system of home-training calculated to prepare our young people for the real, practical life that lies before them? If children are not taught when young to dress, and wait upon themselves; to use the needle for useful purposes; to be neat and orderly, not only in their own little affairs, but in all that concerns the general comfort of the household, it will be no easy matter to form such habits afterwards. This difficulty is increased if daughters are sent early from home to be educated. The conscientious teacher knows that it is the intellectual and moral training of the young lady to which she is expected to attend; and that the progress made in important studies and elegant accomplishments, and in the formation of lady-like manners and an amiable disposition, will be carefully watched by the anxious parents. But the teacher knows full well, that in the majority of cases, it would give great offence both to parents and children, were she to attempt practically to instruct them in those lighter domestic duties, on the performance of which so much of the happiness and brightness of home depends. It is quite as much as she can venture upon to ask a young lady to group a few flowers—she must know well the character of her pupil before she can request her to dust the vases in which they are to be arranged.

But there are sensible mothers who are constantly striving to combat the natural tendency of young people to love ease and pleasure in preference to useful occupation, and an improving course of study. All honor be to them who thus labor, and may that labor be crowned with the Divine blessing.

These hasty observations are penned with an earnest desire to assist mothers in turning the events which have lately transpired, and are still progressing, to good account in the education of their daughters. We hope, too, that they may be read by some, who will remember past efforts that have been made to rouse them to a sense of their individual responsibility, both towards their families and society at large.—*British Mothers' Journal*.

9. THE TWO PATHS.

A SKETCH FOR OUR ELDER DAUGHTERS.

"YES, Harris, that is the way I wished to have it done, double bannisters in front, with these lilies and forget-me-nots nicely arranged behind; I think lilies look best for a birthday fête. And then reach me my pink tarlatane with the bugle trimmings; or, no—stay, Harris, I think I will have the white muslin to-night. I know white suits me very well; Captain Flitters told me so, when we were at the Sutton's the other day; besides it looks girlish too, and simple. And so Lucy, you've quite made up your mind not to go with me to Hallingwell's to-night; well I can't imagine what has come over you lately—only just a little birthday fête, with dancing and music in the grounds. People will begin to remark about you bye-and-bye; you make such a fuss about little things, and shut yourself out from society so. But, at any rate, I'm glad I know how to enjoy myself, and make a comfortable thing of life. There, Harris, that will do, you've made my dress look just the thing to-night; now then reach me my gloves and that lace handkerchief, and I'm quite ready."

Very beautiful did Marion Morton look as she glided through the dance on the smooth daisied lawn, or tripped with the gay band of pleasure-seakers along the winding walks and flower-spangled woods of Hallingwell's that night. There were bright eyes, too, and merry voices, and light footsteps, rang out among the old ancestral trees of Sir Edward's broad domains. Perhaps, had any stood by who looked very deeply into things, they might have marked besides, the concealed glance of vexation, or the flush of envy, or the curled lip of scorn, or the veiled sigh of weariness, or the *aside* murmur of discontent; but the gaiety-hunting world thinks not of little things like these.

It was a brilliant birthday fête, splendidly got up and admirably arranged, and what more could be wished for? So Marion danced and sang, and laughed, and made, as she said, a comfortable thing of life—a *very* comfortable thing.

* * * * *

"Bless your sweet face, miss, I'm right glad to see you! It's the biggest pleasure I have to see you coming along up the lane yonder—it's a real wafto' sunshine it is! Will you please take a seat, miss, and read to me a bit? It isn't often I get to hear a chapter now," and the old woman dusted one of the chairs with her apron, and sat down by the open window, with a brighter smile on her face than had rested there all the long day.

"Thank you, Jenny; it looked so fine and sunny to-night, I thought I would just come and see you a little while. And how do you get on now?"

"Why, miss, it's a fearsome time like for us poor folks, things is so dear, and work so hard to get. I'm thinking many a time I'll have to give up, and go to the parish, after all; but then I think over some of them beautiful texts you tell me about, and somehow or other things get brighter; as the blessed book says, miss, there isn't no want to them as fears Him."

"Yes, Jenny, and as long as you put your trust in Him, He will never let you want. See, I've brought you a few things in this basket. Here's a little sago for you, and some oatmeal and tea, and—"

"Bless you, miss! sure you're the most kindest young lady as ever came near a body. I pray for you every night on my bended knees, I do," and the old woman's eyes glistened as Lucy took the parcels out of the basket, and laid them on the table. "They will set me up famously, they will; it isn't often I get such things now. I don't seem to have any heart for working as I used to have, you see he's so contrary with me, and puts me about so. Ah, miss, but I've had a rough carrying of it since I was married. I didn't think it would be so once."

Lucy cheered the poor woman in her own quiet way, reading to her the precious promises from the Word of God, for those who are weary and heavy laden, and leading her to look beyond the cloud to the "rest" that remains. Then bidding her good night, she took up her little basket and left the cottage.

"The Lord in heaven reward her!" said poor Jenny, as, with tearful eyes, she stood in the doorway watching the light step of her young visitor as it tripped down the lane; "she's a dear young lady she is, God bless her!"

With this unconscious benediction resting upon her, Lucy took her way through the village, stopping here and there to drop a kind look or a bright smile; then passing the little schoolhouse with its ivy-covered door, she sat down on the stone bridge close to the old church, and began thinking. And truly a pleasanter time or place she could not have chosen for her meditations. It was the close of day in early June, so calm, so bright, so peaceful, before the sultry winds of summer had dimmed the fresh green tints of the foliage, or faded the rich masses of hawthorn and lilac that clustered round the meadows and copses. The little stream came dancing along under the low arch of the bridge, waving the long tufts of weeds, eddying round the loose rocks, and tinkling over the shining gravel; then past the green slopes of the Rectory, and the grey battlements of the churchyard, it flowed on until it joined the broad lake in the park, where the stately trees stooped down to kiss its waters, and the swans unfold their snowy plumage over its depths. Then to the right the white turrets of Hallingwell's rose amid the trees, far away in the distance stretched the wooded heights of Firgold, purpling in the sunlight and blending with the faint line of mist which marked the —shire hills. Then close beside her was the shady path, canopied over with elm and thick-spreading chestnut trees, which led to the churchyard. The sun was glistening through them now, like a globe of fire, lighting up, too, the arched windows and tall pinnacles of the church, and then glancing downwards, rested upon the lowly graves which lay scattered round it, marking the spot where the dead find rest. Lucy thought of the time when poor old Jenny would lie there too, and the "rough carrying on" be done with for ever. But it was only eight o'clock, and there was time enough yet to go and see poor Mary Guest, a girl who was dying of consumption. So, taking another look at the quiet scene around her, Lucy left the bridge, and crossing the plantation, went over the meadow to the little cottage where the gamekeeper lived. It was a pretty spot; wild roses climbed over the low roof, jasmine crept in through the latticed windows, and the sparrows built their nests in the leafy porch, chirping away as merrily as though the wing of death were not even now darkening its threshold. Lucy knocked at the door, and finding that the gamekeeper's wife was out, she went upstairs into the chamber. The window was thrown open, and the white curtains folded back, so that the dying girl might look out on the sunset as she lay there, held up by pillows in her bed.

"Oh, miss," she said, stretching out her thin hand to clasp Lucy's, "I'm so glad to see you! I was only just thinking how nice it would be if you would come. Mother was obliged to go out, and I felt so lonely

And the flowers, miss—it was so kind of you to send me them—they're quite fresh yet; I have the water changed every day, and that keeps them nice."

"Ah, Mary, you will soon be in the land where the flowers never fade."

"I shall, miss, I shall, praise the Lord for it. Oh, it's a sweet thought! it often comforts me. Would you mind reading to me a little?"

"No, Mary. Where shall I begin?"

"Anywhere, miss, it's all beautiful; but I think I like best to hear about heaven—it seems as if I was almost there while I listen. Oh, it's a blessed hope, it is!"

Lucy took up the little Bible, and began. The last rays of the sun shone in through the window, shedding a faint glow on Mary's face; slowly the shadows of twilight rose up from the east, and one fair star glimmered on the dark edge of a cloud that lay piled up behind the hill. The old beech tree rustled its glossy leaves, and very softly from the distance came the pealing of the church bells, mingling with the low sweet tones of Lucy's voice as she reads—"And they shall see his face, and his name shall be on their foreheads. And there shall be no night there, and they need no candle, neither light of the sun, for the Lord God giveth them light."

Hush! a faint sigh, a fainter struggle, the clasped hand parted, the weary eyelid closed, the head fell quietly back upon the pillow—Mary was at rest. She saw his face.

— "Such a splendid fête as it was, Lucy. I never saw the grounds look so well, and the band played splendidly. But just help me off with my cloak, will you, and unfasten this wreath, it makes my head ache, and these late hours tire one so. There, thank you, that will do," and with a weary sigh that had been pent up all through the long gay evening, Marion lay down to seek such sleep as "pleasure" allows to its votaries.

The two paths—which of them will you follow?—British Mothers' Journal.

X. Educational Intelligence.

CANADA.

— PRINCIPAL OF THE LAVAL NORMAL SCHOOL.—His Grace the Archbishop of Quebec, has received letters from Rome announcing to him that Bulls are addressed to Mr. Horan, priest of Quebec, appointed to the Episcopal See of Kingston. Although we rejoice at the nomination of Mr. Horan, we cannot refrain from remarking that his departure will be a real loss to his native city, in which he is known, beloved, and respected. As a member of the Seminary of Quebec, and more recently as Principal of the Normal School at Quebec, he has rendered important services to his country, to public education and to religion. We congratulate our Catholic brethren of Kingston, on the happy choice made by the Holy See, as we are convinced that the more they know their new pastor, the more also they will appreciate the extent of his worth.—*Courrier du Canada*.

— NEWMARKET GRAMMAR SCHOOL EXAMINATION.—The half-yearly examination of this school took place on Friday last. We understand that the classes acquitted themselves more creditably than on any former occasion, as an instance of which it may be mentioned, that the competition for the several prizes offered was so great that the Head Master was compelled to hold another examination in order to decide the merits of the respective candidates. At the close of the proceedings, one of the senior pupils, with a few appropriate remarks, presented Mr. Marling in the name of his fellow students with two very fine, handsome volumes, being *Bryant's Poems* and *Scott's Lady of the Lake*, beautifully bound and illustrated. Mr. Marling, who was quite taken by surprise, made an appropriate reply, in which he referred to similar acts of kindness on the part of the pupils on two former occasions, and remarked that among all the rewards which a teacher could receive, none was more precious than to be assured of the appreciation of his labors by the pupils themselves; amid the difficulties and sometimes discouragements of his position these volumes would be at once a stimulus and a consolation; and to his latest day would retain a cherished place among his most valued mementos. This circumstance shows a state of things which is very gratifying, and we trust that Newmarket Grammar School may long continue to enjoy her position, as second only to Toronto, in the County of York.—*New Era*.

— TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. R. H. THORNTON, LOCAL SUPERINTENDENT.—The Ontario *Times* says, that on the evening of the 22nd, a Soiree

was held in the Rev. R. H. Thornton's Church, near Oshawa, for the purpose of presenting to that gentleman a purse containing \$300, as a mark of the esteem and respect in which he is held by the teachers and friends of education generally. During a period of nearly twenty years, Mr. Thornton has been at the head of almost every educational movement in this locality, and the benefits he has thus been the means of conferring upon the whole community cannot easily be estimated.

— PHILOSOPHICAL INSTRUMENTS AT THE CENTRAL SCHOOL, HAMILTON.

— We yesterday visited the Central School, for the purpose, among others, of inspecting the instruments recently supplied, according to the Government plan, for making meteorological observations. The plan is a well devised one, and although several years may elapse before it can be fully carried into effect, yet, if persevered in, it will give to Canada the benefit of a greater number of accurate meteorological observations than any country of which we know. In fact, it would make of Canada one vast observatory; we should arrive at facts, and might thence deduce natural laws, a knowledge of which would be of incalculable advantage to Canada and the world. The plan to which we allude is just this: the Government, through the Educational Department have provided a large number of philosophical instruments, which they are willing to supply to the Senior Grammar Schools in cities, towns and counties, paying half the cost, if the municipalities will defray the other half. Those at the Central School consist of a barometer, wet and dry bulb thermometer, self-registering maximum and minimum thermometers, a hygrometer, a rain gauge and a wind vane. These have been tested in England, and afterwards for a twelve-month at Toronto, so that the corrections to be made have been accurately ascertained. Books are also provided in which to register the observations at the different hours of the day, viz., 7 A.M., 1 P.M., and 7 P.M. It is a pity that no anemometer is provided, and that the force of the wind has therefore to be calculated by the rule of guess. It is, of course, intended that not only the master, but the pupils also, shall learn to make the observations requisite; and the youth of the country be thus indoctrinated with a taste for natural science. The observations will, in most places (we say it without any disrespect to the teachers,) be inaccurately and irregularly taken for the first year. Here they have so far been properly registered, and at least one of the pupils can take an observation as well as the principal of the school. This will hardly be the case anywhere else; but in time, we hope, similar exactness will be displayed at every station throughout the length and breadth of the land.—*Spectator*.

XI. Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

— THE LOGAN TESTIMONIAL.—We have been favoured with a sight of a letter from Professor Playfair, addressed to a gentleman in this city, explaining the cause of the delay in forwarding the Logan testimonial to this country. The Professor says that the artist only gave up the design some three weeks before he wrote, on the 19th ult., but that it was immediately placed in the hand of Mr. Garred, the goldsmith, who is to execute it and transmit it in February. The whole cost will be £200. The design has been highly approved of by Mr. Redgrave, the art referee of the Department of Science and Art. The support is a block of ebony representing a block of coal, from which springs the silver design, constructed as a fountain, and decorated with coal ornaments, in reference to Sir William's discoveries.—*Montreal Herald*.

— LOWER CANADA BOARD OF ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.—At the meeting of the Board of Arts and Manufactures for Lower Canada, held at the Mechanics' Hall, Montreal, on the 5th inst., the following gentlemen were elected Office-Bearers for the ensuing year: President, David Brown, Esq.; Vice-President, Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau; Secretary, B. Chamberlain, Esq.; Treasurer, N. B. Corse, Esq.; Sub-Committee, Messrs. G. W. Weaver, W. Rodden, A. Cantin, J. Redpath, C. Garth, W. P. Bartley, J. Grant, and Professor Dawson. An Annual Report of their proceedings was submitted by the retiring Sub-Committee, and adopted. A draft of By-laws was also submitted, and adopted after some discussion and amendment. A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring President, J. Redpath, Esq.,

— UPPER CANADA BOARD OF ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.—At the recent meeting of the Board, the sub-committee appointed in August reported that they had communicated with the several Mechanics' Institutes throughout the Province of Upper Canada, upon subjects connected with the Board of Arts and Manufactures generally, and more particularly with

reference to their active co-operation in carrying out the objects contemplated by the Act of the Legislature establishing the Board. Out of sixty institutes, thirty had consented to bear their proportion of the expenses necessary to be incurred by a paid lecturer in travelling from Toronto to their respective localities, and a lecturer had consequently been appointed, and would commence his duties as soon as a programme for his guidance could be prepared. With the funds at the disposal of the Board, but few of the objects contemplated by the Legislature could be attempted, much less carried out. The Committee, however, had provided and furnished rooms for holding their meetings, and also for the meetings of the Board, and had the satisfaction of communicating to the Board that the Minister of Agriculture had placed at their disposal, for exhibition, the models of all articles for which patents had been granted by the Government, and had also placed upon their shelves many valuable works and drawings, which were open to the inspection of the members of the Board, and of such others as might be desirous of inspecting or referring to them. The statute under which the Board had been organized would require some amendments, and a Committee had been appointed to prepare an amended Bill to lay before the Legislature at its next session; and no doubt was entertained that, with the assistance of the Minister of Agriculture, the necessary alterations would be obtained. The Committee enforced the policy of unity and co-operation in carrying out the provisions of the statute, and set forth the importance of the exercise of influence with mechanics and artisans generally, to induce them to send specimens of their works for exhibition at the rooms of the Board. The officers chosen for 1858 were the following: President, W. B. Jarvis, Esq.; Vice-President, Dr. Beatty; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. William Edwards; Sub-Committee, Professor Croft, Dr. Craigie, Mr. J. E. Pell, Mr. Robert Edwards, Mr. Patrick Freeland, Mr. John Harrington, Mr. F. W. Cumberland, Colonel Beresford, Mr. William Hay.

The President said that at his suggestion a committee had been appointed on behalf of the Canadian Institute to confer with this Board as to the possibility of bringing about an union between them, so far as a museum and library were concerned. The formation of a museum was attended with a great deal of expense, and as the Canadian Institute possessed a very good library and had commenced an excellent museum, he thought that these might be made available for the use of the Board as well. A committee was also appointed to confer with the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Education, on the practicability of rendering the contents of the Educational Museum available for the purpose of Art Education, in connection with the Board.

— INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT WITH THE UNITED STATES.—The New York *Daily Times* says that there is some prospect of an International Copyright arrangement being come to between Great Britain and the United States, upon a basis proposed by Mr. Goderich, as follows:—

1. An Author, being a citizen of Great Britain, shall have copyright in the United States, for a period not exceeding fourteen years, on the following conditions:—

2. He shall give due notice in the United States of his intention to secure his copyright in this country three months before the publication of his book, and this shall be issued in the United States within thirty days after its publication in Great Britain.

3. His work shall be published by an American citizen, who shall lodge a certificate in the office of the Clerk of the Court of the District where he resides, stating in whose behalf the copyright is taken, and this shall be printed on the back of the title-page.

4. The work shall be printed on American paper, and the binding shall be wholly executed in the United States.

5. This privilege shall be extended only to books, and not to periodicals.

6. The arrangement thus made in behalf of the British authors in America to be extended to American authors in Great Britain, and upon similar conditions.

— ENGLISH COPYRIGHTS.—The *Illustrated London News* quotes from a very curious blue-book in English literature, a folio volume of some two hundred pages, containing the names of the existing proprietors of some of the most remarkable copyrights in English literature. It professes to give a list of works in respect to which notice has been given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs that a copyright exists, and that the introduction of pirated copies from abroad must be prohibited, under an act of the present reign by the officers of Her Majesty's Customs. This Custom-house blue-book dispels many popular beliefs current in society. Thus, the often-repeated story that Lord Macaulay had sold his Whig

history to the Messrs. Longman for an annuity is to be upset by the Custom-house fact that the old historian is the proprietor of his own copyright. "We could mention," says our contemporary, "other currently expressed opinions that will not stand the test of the book before us. These, however, we shall not at present seek to displace, but shall content ourselves with mentioning the more remarkable revelations to be gathered from a careful perusal of this guide for Custom-house officers at the seaports of England, Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man, and Berwick-upon-Tweed. Thus, though Lord Macaulay possesses the copyright of his 'History,' he is not, by the return made from the Row, the proprietor of his 'Essays' and his 'Lays.' The Messrs. Longman own the 'Essays' and the 'Lays.' Mr. Murray is the proprietor of Lord Mahon's 'History of England.' Lord Campbell has kept his 'Lives of the Chief Justices,' but has sold his 'Lives of the Lord Chancellors.' The Messrs. Blackwood are the fortunate proprietors of Sir Archibald Alison's History. Mr. Hallam retains his own copyright. Mr. Carlyle is the owner of the 'French Revolution,' but Messrs. Chapman and Hall are the proprietors of 'Cromwell's Speeches.' Mr. Dickens has a share in every one of his works; but has only one copyright entirely in his own hands—'Oliver Twist'—bought back from Mr. Bentley for, we believe, five times the sum Mr. Bentley gave first. Mr. Thackeray is a first shareholder with Bradbury and Evans in 'Vanity Fair' and 'Pendennis,' and joint shareholder with Smith and Elder in his 'History of Henry Esmond.' Sir William Napier's 'History of the Peninsular War' is part the author's and part the property of Messrs. Boone. Mr. Borrow holds 'The Bible in Spain,' but has sold 'Lavengro.' Mr. Cunningham is the proprietor of his 'Handbook of London,' and Mr. Ford has sold his 'Handbook of Spain' to the Tonson of Albemarle Street. Dr. William Smith has not a single share in any of his admirable Dictionaries. Bradbury and Evans possess the copyright of Mr. Forster's 'Life and Adventures of Oliver Goldsmith.' Dr. Layard is the proprietor of his three books about Nineveh. Mr. Ruskin holds all his own copyrights but one—'The Seven Lamps of Architecture'—and that is the property of Smith and Elder. Mrs. Jameson possesses her 'Legends of the Madonna,' and her 'Legends of the Monastic Orders.' Mr. Warren has no pecuniary interest in his 'Ten Thousand a Year,' or his 'Diary of a Late Physician.' Aytoun has sold his 'Lays,' and Barry Cornwall retains a half share in his 'Songs.' Sir Bulwer Lytton's copyrights we cannot understand. Mr. James owns some of his novels; so also does Mrs. Gore some of hers."

— LONDON PUBLISHERS.—I was desirous to compare the successors of Curi, Evans and Dodsley, with their famous predecessors in the trade. To us, accustomed to think of an English publisher's imprint as the sign manual prophetic of intellectual luxury, the establishments whence our favorite books have emanated, are quite different from the idea formed of them. Instead of the gay shelves and large, frequented and well stocked warehouse, familiar to the bibliopole in American cities, we usually find a dusky office with a meagre array of specimen copies, the autocrat of the famous press occupies a back or upper parlor, and looks more like an author than a bookseller; the Longmans, adepts in publishing enterprise; Murray with his celebrated portraits, and heritage of famous literary correspondence; Moxon in his retired sanctum, the author of a volume of sonnets; Bohn, a German scholar, surrounded by a multifarious and rare library; Bentley, by his cosy fireside, an acknowledged judge of style, originality and the wants of the literary public; Pickering in his suit of black, a lover of meditative genius, and a connoisseur in editions—all, by their environment and aspect, give one the idea of men of letters instead of traders; and so, to a greater or less extent they are.

Comparatively speaking, books in England are a luxury; and those who publish standard works abound in literary anecdote, cultivate especial tastes, and minister, with no little social *éclat*, or *dilettante* instinct at the altar of knowledge and mental enjoyment. There is little or no display in their place of business, which usually have a conservative and domestic, and seldom a busy look. Some devote their attention exclusively to the distribution of a few valuable works; others are identified with a single class of publications, and all, who have an established reputation, obviously depend upon the fame of their respective issues, and the certainty of demand, and not upon the allurements of conventional devices. I found these gentlemen, from their intimate relations with endeared authors, and practical knowledge of public taste, worthy purveyors in the field of literature; scarcely one but could relate a curious illustration of pen craft or character, that would have been seized upon by D'Israeli the elder; and in the way of success, failure, rival editions, and the latent facts of the book trade, their experience

furnished abundant material equally interesting to the amateur and the economist.

Cheap literature is yet a novelty in England; it properly began with the railway libraries; and one disadvantage under which our authors of the higher class labor, in the absence of an international copyright, is that of having their books printed in so shabby and imperfect a style that they rarely come under the eye of the cultivated readers for whom they were intended. A signal advantage which the English author enjoys, is that when once his ability is recognised, his publishers foster his genius. The successful career of many popular writers of the day is traceable, in no small degree, to the loyal and permanent encouragement they receive from the individual of the trade who becomes their medium with the public; a foothold once deservedly gained may thus be permanently lucrative; and what originated in a casual impulse or urgent necessity, lead to long and brilliant triumphs.

The days seem to have gone by when a new poem created a furor, and a fresh review a panic; but the dinner, that great central point of demonstration in all branches of social interest, literary, dramatic, and artistic, according to the very genius of English life, has the same hospitable significance as when Moore enlivened it with his songs, Hook with unique imitations, and Sydney Smith with humorous sallies.—*Tuckerman's Mouth in England.*

— ECLIPSES.—In the year 1858 there will be four eclipses—two of the sun and two of the moon. 1st. A partial eclipse of the moon, February 27th, only partly visible in this country. 2nd. An annular eclipse of the sun, March 15th. The sun will be centrally eclipsed on the meridian in longitude 8° 45' west of Greenwich, latitude 45° 44' north. 3rd. A partial eclipse of the moon, August 24th. At some places the first contact with the penumbra will not be visible, but to the principal portion of this continent north of the equator the whole eclipse will be visible. 4th. A total eclipse of the sun, September 7th. This eclipse will be total on the meridian. The sun will be centrally eclipsed in the southern hemisphere only.

— FIRST HALF OF JANUARY, 1858—WATER OF 1857, AND LEVEL OF LAKE ONTARIO.—So far the month has been warm and pleasant, the weather being like that of October. There has been rain or snow on 8 days, but the only snow of five inches was on the 5th and 6th, making pleasant sleighing for three days, when all was melted. The fair, clear days and mornings, have been rich.

The mean temperature of this part of January, for twenty-seven years, was 26.5 deg. and for this half 32.9 deg. This is seven degrees above the mean, and 16 deg. above this period last year, and 12 deg. above that for the year before 1856. The coldest day was the 8th, and the thermometer was at 13 deg.

As the average of December was 6 deg. above the mean, the winter so far has been very warm.

The ground has been frozen a little, and the rain and melted snow have made the roads muddy for a week.

Note 1.—The quantity of water fallen in 1857 is here noticed. All know it to be great; but how great? The average water for 20 years is 31.5 inches; for 1856 it was 24.4 inches; and for 1857 was 42.6 inches; that is 18 inches more than last year, and 11 inches, or one-third more than the average. This is the most rain measured here since I began observations.

In consequence of so much rain here and to the source waters of the great Lakes, the level of Lake Ontario has been three inches higher than before measured, and has been high more than half of 1857. At the beginning of the year the Lake was very low, and in February an inch lower than before.

The range here for 1857 is 3 feet and 11 inches, four more than before. This range is far less than it is often reported, as I am frequently told it is 6 or 8 feet—a range not ever measured by any one. The range of 42 to 48 inches is found in Lake Erie, Michigan, Huron, &c., just what occurs in Lake Ontario.

The Lake shows no indication of any regular or periodical fall or rise of its waters. It rises when great rains take place, and falls on the failure of the adequate influx of the waters.

Note 2—The first half of January, 1838, was a degree warmer than that of this January, and of 1839, about 1 degree lower.

The average of December for 1847 and 1848 was the former a degree less, the latter a degree greater than that of December, 1857.

The first half of December, 1836, 1839, 1847 and 1848, were warm as in last December.—*Rochester Union.*

XII. Departmental Notices.

To Municipal and School Corporations in Upper Canada.

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

The Chief Superintendent of Education is prepared to apportion *one hundred per cent.* upon all sums which shall be raised from local sources by Municipal Councils and School Corporations, for the establishment or increase of Public Libraries in Upper Canada, under the regulations provided according to law. Remittances must not be in less sums than five dollars.

PRIZES IN SCHOOLS.

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

SCHOOL MAPS AND APPARATUS.

The Chief Superintendent will add 100 per cent. to any sum or sums, not less than five dollars, transmitted to the Department from Grammar and Common Schools; and forward Maps, Apparatus, Charts, and Diagrams to the value of the amount thus augmented, upon receiving a list of the articles required by the Trustees. In all cases it will be necessary for any person, acting on behalf of the Trustees, to enclose or present a written authority to do so, verified by the corporate seal of the Trustees. A selection of articles to be sent can always be made by the Department, when so desired.

SCHOOL REGISTERS.

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

PENSIONS—SPECIAL NOTICE TO TEACHERS.

Public notice is hereby given to all Teachers of Common Schools in Upper Canada, who may wish to avail themselves at any future time of the advantages of the Superannuated Common School Teachers' Fund, that it will be necessary for them to transmit to the Chief Superintendent, without delay, if they have not already done so, their annual subscription of \$4, commencing with 1854. The law authorizing the establishment of this fund provides, "that no teacher shall be entitled to share in the said fund who shall not contribute to such fund at least at the rate of one pound per annum." This proviso of the law will be strictly enforced in all cases; and intimation is thus early given to all Teachers, who have not yet sent in their subscriptions, to enable them to comply with the law, and so prevent future misunderstanding or disappointment, when application is made to be placed as a pensioner on the fund.

SCHOOL SECTION SEALS

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

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