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# JOURNAL OF

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**FREE PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES, ONTARIO.**

We present, in this number of the *Journal*, an annual statement of the operations of the Educational Depository during the year 1867. From the accompanying tables it will be seen that the number and value of the books sent out for libraries and prizes, as also the maps and apparatus, are quite in excess of any previous year, although the number of volumes sent out in 1866 were forty per cent. in advance of those of any previous year. This increase is most gratifying, and shows the growing popularity and importance of this branch of our educational operations.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER AND CLASSIFICATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY AND PRIZE BOOKS, SENT OUT FROM THE DEPOSITORY OF THE ONTARIO EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT FROM 1853 TO 1867, INCLUSIVE.

Number of volumes sent out during the years:	Total Volumes of Library Books.	History.	Zoology and Physiology.	Botany.	Phenomena.	Physical Science.	Geology.	Natural Philosophy and Manufactures.	Chemistry.	Agricultural Chemistry.	Practical Agriculture.	Literature.	Voyages.	Biography.	Tales and Sketches. Practical Life.	Teacher's Library.	Prize Books.	Grand total Library and Prize Books.
1853.....	21,922	4,158	1,602	287	906	526	234	940	132	192	807	2,694	1,141	2,917	5,178	208	.....	21,922
1854.....	66,711	10,633	5,532	1,050	2,172	1,351	636	4,780	629	321	3,255	5,764	4,350	6,393	19,307	578	.....	66,711
1855.....	28,659	5,475	2,053	318	558	663	200	1,808	207	76	1,452	3,361	2,926	3,081	6,049	432	.....	28,659
1856.....	13,669	2,498	652	118	397	287	77	660	55	31	418	1,523	1,019	1,844	3,832	258	.....	13,669
1857.....	29,833	5,295	1,763	321	632	817	195	1,729	134	67	1,257	2,391	2,253	3,516	9,219	244	2,557	29,833
1858.....	7,587	1,537	503	86	152	98	61	276	27	2	186	713	843	744	2,245	84	8,045	7,587
1859.....	9,308	1,670	551	136	209	192	130	432	87	18	300	1,169	714	1,127	2,401	172	12,089	9,308
1860.....	9,072	1,561	475	144	223	200	100	526	61	17	339	851	797	1,115	2,520	142	20,194	9,072
1861.....	6,488	1,273	302	59	101	72	64	223	36	2	172	601	760	880	1,826	117	26,931	6,488
1862.....	5,599	927	244	45	99	43	75	211	45	24	165	412	661	830	1,706	112	29,760	5,599
1863.....	6,274	707	304	42	97	80	67	282	26	6	202	547	652	864	2,286	112	32,890	6,274
1864.....	3,361	552	140	11	47	38	28	134	7	.....	87	321	290	451	1,198	57	33,381	3,361
1865.....	3,832	611	168	20	62	53	26	131	8	.....	110	328	534	553	1,225	58	44,601	3,832
1866.....	6,856	1,144	217	56	125	81	55	282	26	19	291	632	776	784	2,200	148	58,871	6,856
1867.....	5,426	1,003	125	20	78	65	15	189	7	.....	118	524	595	650	1,971	66	64,103	5,426
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>224,647</b>	<b>39,074</b>	<b>14,631</b>	<b>2,693</b>	<b>5,858</b>	<b>4,566</b>	<b>1,963</b>	<b>12,603</b>	<b>1,482</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>9,139</b>	<b>21,852</b>	<b>18,311</b>	<b>25,749</b>	<b>63,163</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>33,342</b>	<b>558,060</b>

Deduct volumes returned for exchange, &c ..... 616

Volumes sent to Mechanics' Institutes, &c., not included in the above..... 8722

Grand total, Library and Prize Books despatched up to 31st December, 1867 ..... 566,175

We also insert several papers and extracts from various sources, all bearing upon this subject. By reference to the June number of the *Journal* for last year, it will be seen that in Australia, Nova Scotia, Maryland, and other places, the educational authorities have adopted the Upper Canada mode for supplying their schools with these useful and necessary adjuncts to an efficient school system.

## II. Papers on Library Prize Books, &c.

The following extracts from the last Report of the Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada will explain the mode adopted in this country :

### 2. FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND PRIZE-BOOKS.

These libraries are managed by the local Municipal Councils and School Trustees, under general regulations, established, according to law, by the Council of Public Instruction. The books are procured by the Educational Department, from publishers both in Europe and America, at as low prices as possible: and a carefully prepared classified catalogue of about four thousand works, (which, after examination, have been approved by the Council of Public Instruction) is sent to the Trustees of each School Section and the Council of each Municipality. From this select and comprehensive catalogue, the Municipal or School authorities desirous of establishing or increasing a library, select such books as they think proper and receive from the Department not only the books at cost price, but an apportionment of one hundred per cent. upon the amount which they provide for the purchase of such books. None of these books are provided by the Department for any private parties, except Teachers and the Local Superintendents for their professional use.

### MAPS, APPARATUS, PRIZE-BOOKS SUPPLIED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

Catalogues are gratuitously furnished to the Municipal and School authorities; but in every case the articles are supplied on the voluntary application of the local authorities, who provide and transmit one half the amount required for the purchase of the maps, apparatus and prize books.

I may here repeat the explanatory observations which I have heretofore given of this branch of the Department:—

"The maps, globes, and various school apparatus sent out of the Department, apportioning one hundred per cent. on whatever sum or sums are provided from local sources, are nearly all manufactured in Canada, and are better executed, and at lower prices, than imported articles of the same kind. The globes and maps manufactured (even in the material) in Canada, contain the latest discoveries of voyagers and travellers, and are executed in the best manner, as are tellurians, mechanical powers, numeral frames, geometrical forms, &c. All this has been done by employing competitive private skill and enterprise. The Department has furnished the manufacturers with the copies and the models, purchasing certain quantities of the articles when manufactured, at stipulated prices, then permitting and encouraging them to manufacture and dispose of these articles themselves, to any private parties desiring them, as the Department supplies them only to municipal and school authorities. It this way new domestic manufactures are introduced, and mechanical and artistic skill and enterprise are encouraged, and many aids to schools and domestic instruction, heretofore unknown among us, or only attainable in particular cases with difficulty, and at great expense, are now easily and cheaply accessible to private families, as well as to municipal and school authorities all over the country. It is also worthy of remark that this important branch of the Educational Department is self-supporting. All the expenses of it are reckoned in the cost of the articles and books procured, so that it does not cost either the public revenue or school fund a penny beyond what is apportioned to the Municipalities and School Sections providing a like sum or sums for the purchase of books, maps, globes, and various articles of school apparatus. I know of no other instance, in either the United States or in Europe, of a branch of a Public Department of this kind, conferring so great a benefit upon the public, and without adding to public expense."

TABLE SHEWING THE VALUE OF ARTICLES SENT OUT FROM THE EDUCATIONAL DEPOSITORY DURING THE YEARS 1851 TO 1867, INCLUSIVE.

YEAR.	Articles on which the 100 per cent. has been apportioned from the Legislative Grant.		Articles sold at Catalogue prices without any apportionment from the Legislative Grant.	Total value of Library, Prize, and School Books, Maps, and Apparatus despatched,
	Public School Library Books.	Maps, Apparatus and Prize Books.		
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1851.....			1,414	1,414
1852.....			2,981	2,981
1853.....			4,233	4,233
1854.....	51,376		5,514	56,890
1855.....	9,947	4,655	4,389	18,991
1856.....	7,205	9,320	5,726	22,251
1857.....	16,200	18,118	6,452	40,770
1858.....	8,982	11,810	6,972	22,764
1859.....	5,805	11,905	6,679	24,389
1860.....	5,289	16,832	5,416	27,537
1861.....	4,084	16,251	4,894	25,229
1862.....	3,273	16,194	4,844	24,311
1863.....	4,022	15,887	3,461	23,370
1864.....	1,981	17,260	4,454	23,645
1865.....	2,400	20,224	3,818	26,442
1866.....	4,375	27,114	4,172	35,661
1867.....	3,404	28,270	7,419	39,093

### BOOK IMPORTS INTO UPPER AND LOWER CANADA.

The following statistical table has been compiled from the "Trade and Navigation Returns" for the years specified, showing the gross value of books (not maps or school apparatus) imported into Canada.

YEAR.	Value of Books entered at Ports in the Province of Quebec	Value of Books entered at Ports in Province of Ontario.	Total value of Books imported into the two Provinces.	Proportion imported for the Educational Department of Ontario.
1850.....	\$101,880	\$141,700	\$243,580	\$ 84
1851.....	120,700	171,732	292,432	3,296
1852.....	141,176	159,268	300,444	1,288
1853.....	158,700	254,280	412,980	22,764
1854.....	171,452	307,808	479,260	44,060
1855.....	194,356	338,792	533,148	25,624
1856.....	208,636	427,992	636,628	10,208
1857.....	224,400	309,172	533,572	16,028
1858.....	171,255	191,942	363,197	10,692
1859.....	139,057	184,304	323,361	6,308
1860.....	155,604	252,504	408,108	8,846
1861.....	185,612	344,621	530,233	7,782
1862.....	188,987	249,234	438,221	7,800
1863.....	184,652	276,673	461,325	4,055
½ of 1864....	98,808	127,233	226,041	4,668
1864-5.....	189,386	200,304	389,690	9,522
1865-6.....	222,559	247,749	470,308	14,749
1866-7.....	233,837	273,615	507,452	20,743

N.B.—Up to 1854, the "Trade and Navigation Returns," give the value on books entered at every port in the two Provinces separately; after that year, the Reports give the names of the principal ports only, and the rest as "Other Ports." In 1854, the proportion entered in Quebec was within a fraction of the third part of the whole, and, accordingly, in compiling this table for the years 1855-60, the value entered in "Other Ports" is divided between Ontario and Quebec, in the proportion of two-thirds to the former and one-third to the latter.

### 3. SCHOOL PRIZES AND MERIT CARDS.

The number of schools in which prize books, &c., are reported as having been given for the reward and encouragement of meritorious pupils is 1,541—showing the large and gratifying increase of 220 schools, in which this stimulus to good conduct and diligence is employed by the intelligence and enterprise of Trustees and Teachers. On this subject I need but repeat my remarks of last year:—"The importance of this comparatively new feature of the School System

can hardly be over-estimated. A comprehensive catalogue of carefully selected and beautiful prize books has been prepared and furnished by the Department to Trustees and Municipalities applying for them; and, besides furnishing the books at cost price, the Department adds one hundred per cent. to whatever amounts may be provided by Trustees and Municipal Councils to procure these prize books for the encouragement of children in their schools. A series of merit cards, with approved illustrations and mottoes, has been prepared by the Department, and is supplied to Trustees and Teachers at a very small charge—half the cost—and these merit cards to be awarded daily, or more generally weekly, to pupils meriting them. One class of cards is for *punctuality*; another for *good conduct*; a third for *diligence*; a fourth for *perfect recitations*; There are generally three or four prizes under each of these heads; and the pupil or pupils who gets the largest number of merit cards under each head, will, at the end of the quarter or half year, be entitled to the prize books awarded. Thus an influence is exerted upon every part of a pupil's conduct, and during every day of his school career. If he cannot learn as fast as another pupil, he can be as *punctual*, as *diligent*, and maintain as *good conduct*; and to acquire distinction, and an entertaining and beautiful book, for *punctuality*, *diligence*, *good conduct*, or *perfect recitations*, or exercises, must be a just ground of satisfaction, not only to the pupil, but also to his or her parents and friends. There are two peculiarities of this system of merit cards worthy of special notice. The one is, that it does not rest upon the comparative success of single examinations at the end of the term or half year, or year, but on the daily conduct and diligence of each pupil during the whole period, and that irrespective of what may be done or not done by any other pupil. The ill-feeling by rivalry at a single examination is avoided, and each pupil is judged and rewarded according to his merits, as exhibited in his every day school life. The second peculiarity is, that the standard of merit is founded on the *Holy Scriptures*, as the mottoes on each card are all taken from the sacred volume, and the illustration on each card consist of a portrait of a character illustrative of the principal of the motto, and as worthy of imitation. The prize-book system, and especially in connection with that of *merit-cards*, has a most salutary influence upon the school discipline, upon both teachers and pupils, besides diffusing a large amount of entertaining and useful reading.

From letters received at the department, we make the following extracts, chiefly relating to the value of the merit cards in schools:—

**HULLET.**—In previous years we have had every reason to be pleased with the assortment sent from your Department, and merely forward you the above information for your guidance in selecting.

**KINCARDINE TOWNSHIP.**—I might state that the effect produced by these fine cards is charming. I consider them far superior to prize books.

**MOORE.**—The selection of books by the Department last year was excellent, and we intend to leave the choice to you again.

**FLAMBORO' WEST.**—I find that the merit cards are a great assistance to the teacher.

**NELSON.**—The selection of prize books made by the Department last year, gave great satisfaction; we therefore leave the selection on this occasion with it also.

**ADMASTON.**—Trustees and Teachers are beginning to see the benefits resulting from the merit and prize system, and to adopt it in their schools.

**NORMANBY.**—I should likewise take this opportunity of remarking that the Department, in the different selections which it has made for the Trustees requiring prizes, with whom I have been employed, has always given the greatest satisfaction.

**KEPPEL.**—At the annual meeting of our School Section, held last Wednesday, we passed a resolution appropriating a portion of the school fund to the purchase of some books for a section library from the Educational Department. It was well expressed by one man at the meeting—when we learn our youth to read, *if we do not give good books into their hands, they will find bad ones.*

**ST. THOMAS UNION SCHOOL.**—And have great pleasure in stating the selection Department of prize books is very satisfactory.

**FARMERSVILLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.**—During the year \$30 worth of new prizes were distributed with pleasing results, as far as can be judged. I deem it no inconsiderable thing to have the pleasure of distributing such an amount of sterling English reading among the youth of the country. The effects cannot be estimated, but are in the hand of Providence. With every prospect of increased success during the year, and every wish to advance the prosperity of the Educational system of the Province of Ontario,

#### 4. VALUE OF THE MERIT CARDS IN THE SCHOOLS.

From the report of the Board of Trustees in London, Ontario, we make the following extract on the use of merit cards in the Schools of that city:—

"The munificent gift of the Bishop of Huron has been, as designed by the donor, applied to the purchase of prize books. These will be mostly awarded to those who have succeeded in obtaining the requisite number of merit cards during last term. It may be interesting to the citizens to understand the nature of the workings of this system. The cards are of four different classes, viz., 'Good Conduct,' 'Diligence,' 'Perfect Recitation,' and 'Punctuality.' If, therefore, a child naturally slow cannot gain enough of cards to entitle him to a prize in that which requires a mental effort, still it must be his own fault if he do not obtain one in some of the other three. Though he cannot be brilliant, he may be good, diligent, and punctual. These cards are neatly prepared, under the direction of the Educational Department, at Toronto; they have each some choice Scriptural motto, and ornamented with appropriate devices. They are regularly graded in each class, from one to a hundred, in respect to value. When a boy obtains ten single merit cards of any class, he is supposed to bring them to the teacher and exchange them for a ten card of the same class; five of the ten grade for one of fifty; and two of the fifty for one of a hundred—the latter, if a holder have over thirty-five in each of the three other classes, is to be redeemed with a prize book or certificate. It is wonderful the impetus which this system, in the hands of a skillful and industrious teacher, gives to study; the change it effects in the outward demeanor of the children generally, and the spirit of honorable rivalry and emulation it excites among the members of the same class."

#### 5. PRIZES AND LIBRARIES IN THE SCHOOLS.

From the reports of the Local Superintendents sent in to the Educational Department, we make the following interesting extracts, showing the great value and usefulness of papers and libraries in the schools. In reference to these extracts, the Chief Superintendent thus remarks in his test and report:—

**PRIZES TO PUPILS IN THE SCHOOLS.**—I refer to these extracts from local Superintendents' Reports, for illustrations of the system of *libraries and prizes*. In some instances but little benefit appears to be derived from the libraries, while in the majority of cases the most salutary influence is exerted by them. In but two instances is objection expressed to the distribution of prize books as a reward of merit to pupils of the schools, and in but four instances is doubt expressed as to the beneficial influence of it. In these exceptional cases, the evil, if any has doubtless arisen from an exceptional mode of distributing the prizes—being the act of the teacher, or of persons equally liable to the suspicion of partiality. But where the examinations for the *prizes for proficiency* are so conducted as to give no room for the suspicion of favoritism, and where the record is so kept, and so adjudged in regard to for *prize punctuality and good conduct*, as to be equally above any reasonable suspicion of unfairness, the distribution of prizes as rewards to pupils for proficiency and good conduct must exert the most beneficial influence; and this, with the exceptions referred to, is the all but unanimous testimony of the local reports, as it is the universal experience of colleges and the best schools in both Europe and America. It is the order of Providence, in every day life, that while the slothful hand hath nothing, the diligent hand maketh rich; and *merit and attainments* are the professed grounds of all prizes and rewards and distinctions which are bestowed in civil and political life. For any person, therefore, to object to encouraging diligence and good conduct in schools, by the distribution of prizes (and these prizes consisting of good books, obtained at half price), as the rewards of successful diligence and good conduct, is to object to the principles of Holy Scripture, and the rule of Providence, and the universal practice of civilized mankind in all other matters of common life.

The distribution of prize-books in the schools is the means of diffusing a great deal of useful and entertaining knowledge among the young, while it exerts a powerful and wide-spread influence in favor of diligence and good conduct among the pupils of the schools. In some schools this influence may be more limited than others; but it will always be more or less felt for good, where the system is properly administered. There are, indeed, many murmurers and envious persons against the wisdom and even equity of the distributions of Divine Providence; and it would be surprising, indeed, if there were not some who would be dissatisfied and envious at distribution of rewards and distinctions among the pupils of schools; but this is no more an argument against the system of rewards and distinctions in the schools, than in the Divine and human government of mankind.

**HECTOR McRAE, Esq., CHARLOTTENBURGH.**—There were five schools in which prizes were distributed the past year, and both teachers and Trustees spoke very favorably of the influence derived from them.

**ANGUS McDONELL, Esq., KENYON.**—Prizes have been distributed in School Section No. 10, at two public examinations, during 1866, and I can safely say that the system introduced a spirit of emulation among the pupils of the school, from the lowest class to the more advanced; and I am certain that the system would produce similar results in other School Sections, should Trustees give it a fair trial.

**REV. DUNCAN CAMERON, LOCHILL.**—Prizes were distributed in a number of our schools to the most deserving scholars. On the 15th November last, there was a competitive examination, to which all the scholars of the township were invited. A large number of scholars and teachers, with a fair representation of the leading men and friends of education in the township, met and heard the scholars examined in the different branches taught in the schools. Prizes were given to the successful competitors. The examiners and friends of education were well satisfied with the manner in which the scholars acquitted themselves. The examination gave a powerful stimulus to the cause of education among us: it will have a more salutary influence upon the teachers and pupils, and it will be the means of arousing and bringing into vigorous play the talents and powers of mind of teachers. A teacher who has even an ordinary degree of the spirit of educational rivalry, self honour and respect, cannot observe the scholars of his fellow teachers to be always the successful competitors, without being stirred to make, if possible, his own pupils equal, if not superior, to all other competitors. Such examinations will be a powerful incentive to bring to light and cultivate the emerging and growing talents of the youthful mind to grasp at and fully master every branch of education in which it is exercised. Such examinations will be the means of raising the standard of education: of reaching the hearts and bringing forth the liberality of Trustees and School Sections. When Trustees of School Sections see a large number of scholars in another Section carrying off the prizes, and their own the last, or none at all, the principal of emulation and educational proficiency is struck as with an electric spark. Considering their own sons and daughters as clever, and possessing the same aptitude to learn as those who have been successful in obtaining the first prizes, they will at once resolve to be more liberal, and get as good teachers as they possibly can. I am glad we have the prospect of having another such examination. **D. A. McDonald, Esq.,** Member for the county of Glengarry, has given \$80, \$20 for each township in the county to purchase books for prizes.

**JAMES McCaul, Esq., CLARENCE.**—Prizes were distributed with good effect in some of the schools. The libraries in School Sections Nos. 1 and 2, have good effect. The books are well taken care of, and are covered and labelled; but an addition to the number of books is much needed.

**REV. JOHN MAY, M. A., MARCH AND TORBOLTON.**—We have but one Common School Library in March. The books are all numbered and have been extensively read, no doubt with good results. Prizes were given in the same section last summer.

**DAVID F. BOGART, Esq., KITLEY.**—In those sections where the Trustees take the greatest interest in the welfare of their schools, a system of giving prizes has been instituted with the happiest effects. Of course, as in all competitive examinations, some of the children are dissatisfied, and the teacher often wrongly blamed; but still one cannot fail to observe the good results which flow from the system, in an increased attention to study, a more earnest striving to excel, and a more systematic and orderly mode of working, both on the part of teacher and pupils.

**REV. JOHN McMORINE, D. D., RAMSAY.**—Prizes have been given in very few of our schools in the township of Ramsay; but they have a good effect in stimulating the children.

**EDWARD BYRNE, Esq., BURGESS NORTH.**—In School Section No. 2 prizes were given, and with flattering results—I might say great success; and I here speak, first, from personal knowledge, and secondly, from the unanimous testimony of several parents with whom I consulted, their answer invariably being, that their children made more progress during the six weeks they were contending for the prizes than they did for as many months before.

**GEORGE BROWN, Esq., ADMASTON.**—The books of the libraries are labelled and numbered, and the circulation of them, I am assured, has a most beneficial effect on the adult population. In our schools, where the merit ticket system and the distribution of prizes have been adopted, the very best results have followed. It is most astonishing to see the energy they infuse into the children; pro-

ducing early and regular attendance at school, and increased diligence while in it. I have pointed out to the Trustees and teachers the good results that would follow, if this system were adopted in all our schools, which I hope will ultimately become general.

**GEORGE BRETHERTON, Esq., ANGLENEA AND KALADAR.** The influence resulting from the distribution of prizes has been good, so far as respects exciting a spirit of emulation, and increasing industry in the prosecution of studies. The prize-books, of which \$48 worth were distributed, were awarded to successful competitors in the elementary branches, at a very well-attended public assemblage of five out of the six schools in these townships. The other school, Section No. 3, being very remote, I held a separate examination there, at which I distributed the apportionment of prizes due to this section. Although the school-house is situated, and the inhabitants of the Section reside, in the wildest and most sterile part of a somewhat barren region, yet, I must say, that the children stood the test of a careful examination, in a way that did credit to themselves, and teacher.

**AUGUSTUS EDGAR, Esq., FREDERICKSBURG NORTH.**—The library books are all properly covered and numbered, and a great deal of good has already been realized from this branch, and I hope to see a great advance made in this direction in the course of a few years. There have been prizes distributed in a few of the schools, which show already their good effect in the energy which stimulates the scholars, and a promise of further good results.

**JOHN O. SEXSMITH, Esq., RICHMOND.**—I am happy to be able to inform you that the schools are mostly in a prosperous condition, evincing a good deal of life and vitality. As you are aware, while in Toronto last September, I purchased \$80 worth of prize-books and \$20 worth of merit cards. Toward this amount the Hon. B. Flint contributed \$20, the Township Council \$20, and myself \$10. The merit cards I divided among the School Sections, to form a basis upon which I proposed distributing the prizes, having first called a meeting of the teachers, and submitted my plans. The time for awarding them being fixed for the 21st of December, the children went to work with a will, no weather preventing their attendance at school. I was informed by many of the teachers, they had not half the trouble in keeping order they previously had. I divided the books according to the average attendance, and then gave the first prize to the pupil of each school holding the greatest number of cards, as reported by the teachers. As the above is the principle upon which I acted, it appeared to give general satisfaction. It was an interesting sight to see the children coming from the various sections to the Town Hall to receive the reward of their toil and anxious solicitude. When the pupils were all arranged in proper order, the teachers at the head of their schools, and the books placed in packages before them on the table, corresponding with the number of the section for which they were intended, appropriate and interesting addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Chisholm and Kennedy, and E. Star, Esq. The prizes were then handed to the teachers, who gave them to those who were entitled to them, when was sung "God Save the Queen," and all were soon on the way home, as the day was very cold. It is in contemplation to take the same course this year also. **R. J. Cartwright, Esq., M. P.,** has placed in my hands ten dollars for this object, and I propose adding ten more out of my salary. I have reason to hope the Township Municipal Council will grant twenty, which will make eighty, when the 100 per cent. by the Department is added; this will bring us a nice lot of books for prizes. I would just remark it is my firm conviction, if our public men would appropriate a portion of their money in this way, it would be much better for the morals of the community, than to spend it in the manner many of them do, in gaining seats of honour which are not lasting.

**FREDERICK H. ROUS, Esq., SOUTH RIDING HASTINGS.**—Prizes are occasionally distributed in a few of our schools, and where this is done systematically, as proposed by the Department, in connection with their different series of Reward Cards, &c., I believe an advantageous result is generally obtained; such, at least, is the testimony of the teachers who have adopted this plan, and it is confirmed by my own observation of the state of discipline in their schools.

**REV. GEORGE BLAIR, M. A., SUPERINTENDENT COUNTY OF DURHAM.**—I propose now to direct my attention to two objects of primary importance:—(1st) To encourage the distribution of merit cards and prizes in every school, so as to create a healthful emulation, and (2nd) to procure, if possible, the establishment of public school libraries in every section.

**REV. FREDERICK BURT, LUTTERWORTH, &c.**—Through the noble incentive of the Honourable B. Flint, M. L. C., who gives \$10 whenever a Board of Trustees or Township Council gives that amount for the purchase of reward books, nearly all my schools had

rewards. Little ones had been gladdened with the possession of a beautiful book, looked for, worked for, and then valued the more because handed to them by the Local Superintendent before Schoolmasters, Parents, and Trustees, accompanied with a recital of their remarks and a kind remark into the bargain. These books are read at home, and lent sometimes, therefore we may hope for benefit from their distribution.

**REV. J. B. IRVINE, ELDON.**—The library books are mostly covered, all labelled and numbered, and are very useful in those sections where they are. I could wish, however, to see more interest taken in the library. The influence, however, which the school libraries of the sections have exerted, is of the most satisfactory and healthy character. I hope all the sections will avail themselves of the facilities afforded them by the Educational Department, of having libraries, and increasing the number of library books. With one exception, prizes are not given in the schools of this township. In the school where they are given, the scholars work hard, there is a healthy rivalry among them, and I hope the Trustees will, ere long, give prizes in every section, to every school.

**REV. JOHN VICARS, VERULAM.**—Prizes have been distributed in several of the schools, with, I believe, excellent effect; a more regular attendance has, in this way, been secured.

**F. OAKLEY, Esq., M. D., BROOK.**—Prizes were only given in one school in the township last year, and in that one school their distribution was attended with the most beneficial results.

**REV. JAMES FERGUSON, ORO.**—Prizes were distributed in four of the schools, and it is to be hoped, we will soon have them in all. There is no doubt they would, in the hands of able teachers, help to foster and maintain a spirit of general emulation and competition, so desirable and necessary for the furtherance of the cause of education. Well selected works to the value of eighty dollars have been added to the township library.

**REV. ALEXANDER MACLENNAN, TORONTO.**—There was an increase of attendance in all our schools this year. This very desirable change is the result of the active use of several means, some of which cannot be traced out or described; but there is not the least doubt, that the very liberal distribution of prizes which has been made in this township this year, is prominent among the most effectual. Prizes were distributed in each section, and at a township examination besides. The amount thus expended is very considerable, when the extent of the township, the number of its population and children under sixteen, and the attendance is taken into consideration. It was known to the teachers, and thus communicated to all the pupils of the different schools at a very early period in the year, that regular attendance, diligence and good conduct during 1867, would be acknowledged, encouraged and rewarded at the closing examination by awarding valuable prizes. The result was favourable, as some of the usual obstacles to attendance were thus removed.

**DANIEL McLEOD, Esq., NELSON.**—Five schools have had prizes distributed, and where I have had the opportunity of witnessing the distribution of prizes, it exerted a laudable spirit of emulation among the pupils, and a happy feeling among the parents and spectators.

**DAVID ROBERTSON, Esq., M. D., NASSAGAWHYA.**—Prizes are given in most of the schools, and seem to do good, by creating a healthful rivalry among the pupils, especially when distributed judiciously. They should be given to those only who have earned them during a certain time: that is, the result should depend on every day's study, dating from the last distribution. The township examination passed off quite satisfactorily, and the people all evinced a strong interest in it. This year another similar examination has been held. This is the third competitive examination for the township; the council seems determined to continue it.

**JOHN ASKIN, Esq., TRAFALGAR.**—We have had prizes and merit books awarded in many of our schools; this has been productive of good results; it has induced greater regularity of attendance, and more zeal in study on the part of the pupils.

**REV. JOHN PORTEOUS, BEVERLEY.**—I judge that prizes must be deemed advantageous from the fact of more schools having them distributed every year.

**REV. ROBERT GRANT, FLAMBOROUGH, EAST.**—Prizes were given in some of the schools, and from all parties interested, I learn that a good effect was produced. I am of opinion that the system of giving prizes is decidedly beneficial.

**REV. JOHN LEES, ANCASTER.**—There are school libraries in four sections, and in three of these the books are all covered, numbered and labelled; in four sections there are Sabbath School libraries, and there is reason to believe that they are exerting a favourable

influence upon the minds and actions both of parents and children where the books have been carefully read. Prizes procured from the Department in Toronto, have been given to the pupils in five sections, and there are grounds to believe with general satisfaction and good results.

**REV. JOHN ARMOUR, BURFORD.**—The library books are covered, labelled and numbered, and the regulations are strictly observed. The influence the library exerts must be good in proportion as the books are read; good books, if read, must produce a good effect. The influence of the distribution of prizes, there cannot be a doubt is both great and good. They not only impart edification to the recipient; but they have a great influence to call forth exertion and labor, to make progress, and to form character.

**ELI GREGORY, Esq., LOUTH.**—There is a splendid Township Library, the works in which are labelled, numbered and distributed in the different school sections. This has had a good influence on the young as well as the old. There was a resolution passed in the Council requiring all Librarians to return their books at least once a year. There have been prizes given in several schools, with good results.

**REV. JOHN WILKINSON, NORWICH SOUTH.**—I was present at the Otterville examination, when about eight dollars worth of prizes were being distributed in the presence of parents and guardians, with seeming satisfaction to all concerned. I am inclined to think the practice should be more generally observed, and the expense less regarded, for no doubt the effect would be profitable and happy.

**REV. JOHN FERGUSON, GREY, MORRIS, &c.**—In Grey, the schools are provided with a library, granted by the Municipal Council each Section has about 42 volumes, and they are frequently called for and read by both pupils and parents. The amount of good which would arise from each school being supplied with a proper library is incalculable, and is, moreover, a matter to which sufficient attention has not hitherto been paid.

**CYRUS CARROL, Esq., HOWICK.**—Prize-books have been distributed in some of the schools, and with very good results. I think I can induce more of the Trustees next year to provide prizes.

**REV. MATTHEW BARR, MCKILLOP, &c.**—The books in all the libraries are covered, numbered and labelled, and where the regulations in regard to libraries are strictly observed, the influence is beneficial and gratifying. In common School Section, No. 2, McKillop, the volumes are open to the whole section, whereas in Union School Section, No. 7, Tuckersmith, the volumes are open only to the pupils. Perhaps it may be owing to this difference that the separate applications for volumes during the year amounted, in the former Section to 418, nearly three times the number of separate applications for volumes in all three Sections having libraries in Tuckersmith, namely, 142. Prizes are distributed according to merit, in most of our schools, and with very beneficial and gratifying results.

**JOHN ECKFORD, Esq., BRANT, CARRICK, &c.**—The distribution of prizes, which has an excellent effect, is becoming more general; but we still continue, in almost every case, to give smaller books, cards, &c., to all the others, and cheer them onwards to a place in the prize list. This answers more than one good purpose.

**CHAS. HARDIE, Esq., MISSOURI WEST.**—I have always found under the old system of awarding prizes on the report or decision of the teachers, or by underhand preparatory exercises, dissatisfaction ensued (as too frequently occurred—the children of the teacher's patrons succeeded) therefore, if any method is unobjectionable, it must be founded on the principles recommended by yourself. On a recent occasion, when examining a school and finding the best scholar at the foot of the class, I inquired of the teacher what was the cause, to which he gave the following important information:—“He kept a book to record the marks of merit, good conduct, &c., from one period to another, so that any pupil on receiving the highest mark on any day, had to go to the foot of the class on the following, and no marks could be given to the same pupil until the head place was again attained, and no mark would be given to any pupil, however high the standing in the class, who would make infractions of the rules of the school, by which means the greatest order and improvement prevailed, and hope and every inducement to improve and excel were given to all.

**HARRISON THOMPSON, Esq., METCALFE.**—The Library appears to create a very good influence in the neighborhood, as all the books have been read by quite a number of persons. In the schools where prizes were distributed, they gave general satisfaction, stimulating a desire in the pupils to strive who would make the best progress in his studies. I am using my influence with the Trustees of every School Section in the Township of Metcalfe to get prize-books for all deserving pupils.

**REV. JAMES GORDON, DORCHESTER NORTH.**—Where prizes have been distributed (which has occurred in a few schools) the influence has been good. By seeing their children bring home nice books, parents are often led to take a greater interest in the education of their children, whilst in the pupils a healthful emulation is created, that incites to diligence and regular attendance.

**EDMUND B. HARRISON, ESQ., SUPERINTENDENT, COUNTY OF KENT.**—From the returns of the number of volumes taken out during the year, and from personal observation, I am led to believe that the libraries are not doing all that could be desired. This might be attributed to the want of a fresh supply of books. Many have received no additions for years; but where new books were procured, an immediate demand was made for them.

**ALEX. CRAIG, ESQ., TILBURY WEST.**—Prizes have been distributed in three sections during the past year, with satisfactory results, and especially when each pupil receives one, however small, the distribution is very acceptable, and stimulates to exertion.

**SAMUEL WOODS, ESQ., M. A., KINGSTON.**—The Library is a most popular institution. The books are all properly covered and numbered, and are most eagerly sought for. The taste thus acquired by the young for wholesome reading is continued during after years in a great many cases, as is evidenced by frequent application for books by former pupils. The system of giving prizes is not pursued in the schools; but instead, the Board distributes, for regularity of attendance and general efficiency in studies, merit cards. These are eagerly contested for, and however others may judge of the evil influence of prizes, I cannot permit myself to think that a wholesome distribution can ever cause any harm; and the Board in instituting merit cards are of the same opinion; for this is a prize, and one so dearly cherished that it is no unfrequent thing to see them framed, and conspicuous places, in oftentimes a humble abode possessed of no other decoration.

**REV. W. ORMISTON, D. D. HAMILTON.**—The books in the library, though not all covered, are properly kept, and generally well read by the pupils and their friends. The influence of the school library is silent, but effective, and aids not a little in the education of those who have passed beyond their school-boy days. A good, well-selected library should be attached to every Common School.

**REV. ALEXANDER MCGREGOR, BROCKVILLE.**—The mid-summer examinations are now looked forward to by the community with great pleasure; one good influence this, resulting from the distribution of prizes, which then takes place. Here, they say, that in the senior department alone, of the school, it is the intention to award prizes (which are now under competition) to the value of \$100, next June. The very best results to the pupils arise from the stimulus thus presented to diligence and perseverance.

**J. H. LAWRENCE, ESQ., COLLINGWOOD.**—The Common School library books are all neatly covered, labelled and numbered, and the regulations strictly observed. The Trustees have carefully watched the library, and the Teachers have exercised great care; a very few books have been injured, and a few lost. From the number of books taken out, and apparently read, a wholesome influence must be the result.

**A. PURSLOW, ESQ., SECRETARY BOARD SCHOOL TRUSTEES, PORT HOPE.**—The proceeds of an exhibition given by the pupils added 144 books to our library, which now numbers 757 volumes. Judging from the number of books taken out, and the eagerness with which they are read, the influence of the library on this town and neighbourhood, must be both extensive and beneficial, though I often regret that the principal demand is for books of an exciting character, rather than for books of real worth, that would elevate the moral nature and improve and strengthen the mind. The scheme of raising money for prizes, which I mentioned in my last, was carried out very successfully. Several gentlemen offered prizes for proficiency in subjects chosen by themselves; and the prizes, taking the name of the donor, were competed for at written examinations, and the award made by the donors. I found the plan had several advantages; it enlisted the interest of the gentlemen in the school, and in the recipients, and the award being made by them, prevented heart-burning and jealousy, and rendered charges of favoritism against the teachers impossible. In short, the experiment was entirely satisfactory, and the impulse to study that it gave was very marked.

**REV. JOHN THOMPSON, SARNIA.**—We have as yet no Public School Library, which I consider a great want, but hope that steps may soon be taken to secure one before another year, that the young may be provided with ample opportunities for general reading, and especially those who have recently left school; for at this season of the year there is a great temptation to throw up study altogether, and this would be a means of securing their attention, and stimulating them to continued diligence in the work of self-improvement.

We had, however, a large number of prizes distributed at the annual examination. This has been an established custom for many years, and I believe, on the whole, with gratifying results. I am favourable to the distribution of prizes, when judiciously done. They create a laudable ambition, and stimulate the minds of the young to effort, when at a time they are in danger of falling into lassitude—at least this has been my experience. Preparing for an annual examination is a good thing, and when the stimulus of a prize is added, greater good still yet may be effected—facts will bear this out.

**JAMES BOWIE, ESQ., M. D. MITCHELL.**—At the last school examination the prizes were awarded on the plan noticed in my last year's report. It appears a great improvement on the plan formerly in use, and gives entire satisfaction.

**JOHN A. SCOON, ESQ., STRATHROY.**—The merit cards issued by the Education Office have been used with advantage; one merit card for punctuality was given every day to each scholar present at the opening of school, both morning and afternoon; one for diligence, to all that prepared their lessons at home, and were industrious during school hours; one for perfect recitation, to those who recite their lessons correctly; and one for good conduct, to all that were guilty of no irregularity during the day. Though awarded for every day, the cards, in order to save time, are issued every Monday. At the close of the sessions, the prizes given to the scholars are proportioned in value to the number of merit tickets received by each during the sessions.

## 6. THE SCHOOL LIBRARY AT LONDON.

From the report of Mr. Principal Boyle to the Board of Trustees, we make the following extracts in regard to the School, &c. :—

"The sum of \$100 lately expended by the Board on a new supply of books for the Library, with the hundred per cent added by the Government, will purchase \$200 worth of books. To discuss at any length the advantages resulting from a well selected School Library would only be a waste of time, especially as the conclusive arguments of the Chief Superintendent in support of this branch of the general system have been so frequently laid before the people of Canada, and more particularly addressed through circulars to the various Boards of School Trustees. The School Library is already well stocked with a choice selection of the best works in almost every branch of science and literature. Therefore, the sum recently expended has been, with the assent of the Library Committee, mainly laid out on juvenile reading. There is always in stock at the depository in Toronto, a large and varied assortment of books, at once amusing and instructive. From these selections may be made equally adapted to the tastes of both sexes. Most of these books, while furnishing a moderate degree of excitement, such as young readers desire, are, as a general thing, calculated to enrich the mind with useful information, strengthen the moral and religious convictions, and impart a relish for higher kinds of literature, by cultivating the tastes of the readers. Perhaps there is no part of our admirable school system better adapted than this to form the national character of Canada, to foster a spirit of lofty patriotism among her people, and pave the way for her assuming, at some day not far distant, in her new Confederate existence, a prouder and a more influential position among the nations of the earth. It seems to me to be one of the highest duties imposed upon a Board of School Trustees to furnish, as a precautionary measure, to the youth of their municipality a judicious selection of reading matter. All must admit the fearful extent to which this country is flooded with the trashy literature of the neighboring States. These books are, many of them, pernicious in every point of view. Some are of a directly immoral tendency. Few of them are adapted to improve the taste—none of them to purify the heart. The exciting scenes portrayed in these cheap novels, though disgusting to a mature, well regulated mind, are yet greedily devoured by boys; while the low, vulgar style in which they are written, cannot fail to corrupt the taste and language of all who read them constantly. But, while the language, taste, and morals of the youth of our country suffer from the effusion of such a literature among us, these evils are not all. The sentiment of patriotism, British or Canadian, is to some extent impaired from the same cause. Take one hundred of these tales or novels for the million, and you will find ninety-nine of them representing British Institutions as something only worthy of derision. When they attempt to sketch a British subject they give it a vulgar caricature. It is difficult to tell in reading one of these books, whether want of honor, want of courage, or want of the refinement of a gentleman is the more conspicuous element in the composition of a British officer, and this is a character scarcely ever omitted. Our historical records are falsified, our national achievements depreciated, and the glory of the British nation misrepresented, in order to exact by comparison their own republic. A

course in such reading cannot fail in producing an evil influence on the minds of the young and unreflecting, in weakening their love for their own country, and creating a false prejudice in favor of a foreign State. It is wise, therefore, to exercise as far as possible a careful supervision over the character of the books furnished to the children attending our City Schools.

#### 7. FREE SCHOOLS AND FREE LIBRARIES FOR PICTON.

We are happy to observe that the question of doing away with the Rate Bill and making the Union School in this town free to all, is being discussed. We are greatly surprised that this change should not have been adopted long ago in such an intelligent and wealthy community as that of Picton. Instead of checking in any way the general diffusion of knowledge, our school authorities ought rather to offer inducements operating in the opposite direction. Especially would it be wise to procure public libraries in connection with the school at the earliest possible period. Too many youth of the town spend their leisure in such pernicious reading as the Dime Novels, Police Gazette, and other publications of that class; when if a supply of such interesting and useful books as are furnished at half their cost by our Educational Department, were accessible, good principles might be inculcated. Young persons *must* and *will* read something, and it rests with the guardians of our educational interests to say whether they will provide proper mental nourishment, or allow their tastes and principles to become vitiated by the sickly sentimentalism and indecent publications offered in the market. We hope some person will move in the matter at once, and if funds be low, a good beginning can be made by voluntary contributions. Who will act?—*Picton New Nation*.

#### 8. HOW TO READ.

Teachers may ask, *How are we to read?* This question is also of great importance. It is not the amount read, but the intelligent reading that benefits. The book, if valuable, should be mastered. The slow process necessary to this will be amply repaid by the sure progress of acquisition. Patient application cannot fail to reap advantage. Some books deserve and will repay frequent perusal. Gibbon somewhere makes the remark, "that he usually read a book three times—he first read it, glancing through it to take in the general design of the book, and the structure of the argument; he read it again to observe how the work was conducted, to fix its general principles on the memory; and he read it a third time to notice the blemishes, or the beauties, and to criticise its bearing and character." Reading of this kind must produce a happy influence upon the mind. The book becomes personal knowledge, and available for use. Coleridge divides readers into four classes: the first like the hour-glass—their reading, like the sand, running in and then out, and leaving not a vestige behind; the second like the sponge, which imbibes everything, only to return it to the same state, or perhaps dirtier; the third, like the jelly-bag, allows the pure to pass away, and keeping only the refuse and the dregs; and the fourth, like the slaves in the mines of Golconda, casting aside all that is worthless, and retaining only the diamonds and gems. It is also a beneficial exercise in reading to extract short passages that strike the mind. Thus it was that Southey sought to utilize his own extensive reading, and the library of 13,000 volumes which he possessed. Some who have leisure, have made synopses or abridgments of the works they have read. It is recorded of Dr. Donne, by his quaint biographer, Izaak Walton, that, "he left the resolute of 1,400 authors, most of them abridged and analyzed by his own hand." When a book is not your own, extracting is the best means of keeping what you value; when it is your own, the *index rerum*, recommended by Todd, will be very useful, as it will show you at a glance where to find anything you have noted.

One of the best ways to retain what we have read is to endeavour to communicate it to others. Sunday School teachers, who read for the instruction of their scholars, have this rare advantage, and would do well to practise it.

"Thought, too, delivered, is the more possessed;  
Teaching, we learn, and giving we receive."

—*The Christian Teacher in Sunday Schools*. By Rev. R. Steel, M.A., Ph. D.

#### 9. SCHOOL TEACHERS' LIBRARIES.

When in Toronto a few weeks since, we paid a visit to the Educational Department, and while there the Deputy Superintendent kindly showed us a large supply of works suitable for teachers' libraries, and informed me that the law provides for the establishment of such libraries. Teachers' Associations, by sending orders through the County Council, will receive a bonus of one hundred per cent. on all sums remitted to the department for this object.

Teachers would do well to avail themselves in this way of the privilege of obtaining access to the best publications of the day, bearing directly on school organization, discipline, methods of instruction, &c., a more intimate knowledge of which would greatly facilitate their labors.—*Bruce Reporter*.

#### 10. FOUR KINDS OF LIBRARIES WHICH MAY BE ESTABLISHED UNDER THE DEPARTMENTAL REGULATIONS.

Under the regulations of the Department, each County Council can establish *four classes* of libraries in their Municipality, as follows. City, Town, Village, and Township Councils can establish the first three classes, and school trustees either of the first and third classes.

1. An ordinary *Common School Library* in each school house for the use of the children and rate payers.

2. A *General Public Lending Library*, available to all the rate payers of the Municipality.

3. A *Professional Library* of books on teaching, school organization, language and kindred subjects, available to teachers alone.

4. A Library in any *Public Institution*, under control of the Municipality, for the use of the inmates, or in the *County Jail* for the use of the prisoners.

We cannot too strongly urge upon School Trustees the importance and even necessity of providing, (especially during the autumn and winter months,) suitable reading books for the pupils in their school, either as prizes or in libraries. Having given the pupils a taste for reading and general knowledge, they should provide some agreeable and practical means of gratifying it.

#### 11. PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS, MAPS, APPARATUS, AND SCHOOL PRIZE BOOKS.

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

☞ Catalogues and forms of Application furnished to School authorities on their application.

\* \* \* If Library and Prize Books be ordered, in addition to Maps and Apparatus, it will be NECESSARY FOR THE TRUSTERS TO SEND NOT LESS THAN *five dollars additional* for each class of books, &c., with the proper forms of application for each class.

☞ The *one hundred per cent*. will not be allowed on any sum less than *five dollars*. Text books cannot be furnished on the terms mentioned above; they must be paid for at the net catalogue prices.

#### 12. PROFESSIONAL BOOKS SUPPLIED TO LOCAL SUPERINTENDENTS AND TEACHERS.

In this catalogue are given the net prices at which the books and school requisites enumerated therein may be obtained by the Public Educational Institutions of Upper Canada, from the Depository in connection with the Department. In each case, cash must accompany the order sent.

Text-books must be paid for at the full catalogue price. Colleges and private schools will be supplied with any of the articles mentioned in the catalogue at the prices stated. Local superintendents and teachers will also be supplied, on the same terms, with such educational works as relate to the duties of their profession.

#### 13. SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOKS AND REQUISITES.

Application having been frequently made to the Department for the supply from its Depository of Sunday School Library



and Prize Books, Maps and other requisites, it is deemed advisable to insert the following information on the subject.

1. The Department has no authority to grant the one hundred per cent. upon any remittance for Library or Prize Books, Maps or Requisites, except on such as are received from Municipal or Public School Corporations in Upper Canada. Books, Maps and other Requisites suitable for Sunday Schools, or for Library or other similar Associations, can however, on receipt of the necessary amount, be supplied from the Depository at the net prices, that is about twenty-five or thirty per cent. less than the usual current retail prices.

2. The admirable books published in England by the Society or Promoting Christian Knowledge, and by the London Religious Tract Society, are furnished from the Societies' catalogues at currency for sterling prices (i. e. a shilling sterling book is furnished for twenty cents Canadian currency, and so on in proportion.) These two catalogues will, as far as possible, be furnished to parties applying for them. Books suitable for Sunday Schools are received from the other large religious societies, Presbyterian and Methodist, and from the various extensive publishers in Britain and the United States, but the list would be too extensive to publish separately.

3. On receiving the necessary instructions, a suitable selection can be made at the Department, subject to the approval of the parties sending the order. Any books, maps, &c. not desired, which may be sent from the Depository, will be exchanged for others, if returned promptly and in good order.

#### 14. PRE-PAYMENT OF POSTAGE ON BOOKS.

According to the Postage Law, the postage on all books, printed circulars, &c., sent through the post, *must be pre-paid by the sender*, at the rate of one cent per ounce. Local Superintendents and teachers ordering books from the Educational Depository, will therefore please send such an additional sum for the payment of this postage, at the rate specified, and the Customs duty on copyright books, as may be necessary.

#### 15. THE BOOK TRADE OF TORONTO.

Looking about us, and casting over the classes that are likely to produce the demand for books, we fail to account for the great strides in the book trade of the Province. True, our imports consist largely of educational books, and these we know are for the consumption of our schools and colleges. Still, besides this proportion of the imports, there is a large importation of books, in miscellaneous literature, and in professional and other high classes, which evinces the great growth of the trade and speaks well for the reading predilections of the people. Large stocks are now kept by the trade, and the demand is largely supplied to hand, instead of, as in former years, having to be written for to order. When we speak of stock it is no meagre affair, when it is considered how wide is the field of literature in this age, and how books are multiplied in every department, on every subject, and from the varied classes of mind.

English books are sold in this Province, in general, at the publishers' prices, i. e. at the same equivalent in our own currency to the British price (25c. to the shilling sterling), without any advance for cost of importation, &c. This is more than can be said of any other class of importers whose goods pay no duty, and it is the best evidence of the extensive facilities of the trade and energy and ability of their managers, in making so advantageous terms with the home producing houses as enables them to give such a boon to the people.—*Globe*.

#### 16. CANADIAN LITERARY ITEMS.

Lieut. Col. G. T. Denison, jr., of Toronto, well known by his numerous military *brochures*, is preparing for early publication in London, a work on *Modern Cavalry, its organization, Armament and Employment in War, with illustration*.

Mr. Chas. Mair's new book is to be entitled: *Dreamland, and other Poems*. It will bear the imprint of Sampson, Low & Co., London; and Dawson Bros., Montreal. His friends speak of it as being a most creditable contribution to Canadian Literature.

General Early, of the late Confederate army, is living in Drummondville, Ont., where he is engaged in writing a history of the late American war.

Rev. A. McD. Dawson, of Ottawa, has now in the press of Mr. Desbarats two books, "Lenten Sermons, and lectures and addresses on public subjects.

Mr. Edgar, of Toronto, is preparing a new edition of the "Insolvent Act, with notes."

Prof. DeMill's novel "Cord and Creese," now running through *Harper's Bazaar*, is to be published in book form.

The new edition of Principal Dawson's "Acadian Geology" will be ready in May.

The last number of the *Atlantic Monthly* thus speaks of Morgan's *Bibliotheca Canadensis*:—"It is easy to see the great industry that goes to the completion of such a work as this, and all who, from taste or necessity, have to do with bibliography, must feel their indebtedness to Mr. Morgan. It has evidently been a labor of love and patriotism with him; and while it has made him acquainted with more worthless books, probably, than were known even to the not wisely but too well read friend of Charles Lamb, it is a real service rendered to Literature."

Mr. Montwetit, of the Educational Department, Quebec, is translating into French the late Mr. McGee's *History of Ireland*.

McMullen & Co., Brockville, announce a second edition of *The History of Canada from its first discovery to the present time*, by J. McMullen, Esq., editor of the *Brockville Monitor*.

Another historical work:—*Histoire de Cinqante ans, 1791, 1841, par M. F. P. Bedard*, will speedily be published in Quebec.

The last number of *Stewart's Quarterly* (New Brunswick) contains probably the last contribution made to periodical literature by the late much lamented Mr. McGee. The paper is entitled "The City of Colleges," and is a description of Oxford, which Mr. McGee visited 1864, at the time, we believe, when the University conferred the degree of D. C. L. upon Sir John A. McDonald.

The post Sangster has been appointed to the Post Office Department, Ottawa, thanks to Mr. Campbell.

Chief Justice Young in his late oration at the North British centenary in Halifax, thus discourses:—"As I have been speaking of literature, let me say a word upon that of Nova Scotia. A book (\*) was published six or eight weeks ago, by Dr. Forrester, which is one of the most comprehensive and judicious works ever written on the subject of which it treats: the art of teaching, and which deserves a higher fame than it is receiving. Another book (†) recently published by a professor in one of our colleges, has caused my interest and admiration—it contains a picture of Roman Society in the time of Nero. The characters are drawn with a skill which entitles the book to an extensive notice. If we do justice to ourselves and the community; if the men among us who have wealth have the spirit to advance such literature, and bring forward our young men and young women of talent, there is no doubt that Nova Scotia will stand independent and respected, and, whatever her political destiny may be, will take the high position for which God and nature intended her."

The following have lately been published:—"The First Bishop of Toronto;" A biography, by Rev. Dr. Scadding, Toronto. "Element de Chimie et de Physique Agricoles." Par Dr. F. A. H. Latoe, Quebec. "Manuel de l'Officier d'Accise." Par J. M. Le-moine, Quebec.

(\*) "The Teacher's Text Book."

(†) "Rome in the Olden Time," by Prof. De Mill.

#### 17. GIFT FROM THE QUEEN TO THE COLLEGES, &c.

A communication was lately received from the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, through the Governor General, by the various Universities in Canada, and by the Law Society of Osgoode Hall, accompanying the presentation from Her Gracious Majesty of two works—"The Early Life of the Prince Consort," and "Leaves from the Journal of our life in the Highlands," with a request from Her Majesty that these books might be received into, and form part of the library. Each of the books contains an autograph of Her Majesty, and are, as may be supposed, highly valued by the recipients. The volumes are beautifully bound, and will no doubt be very much appreciated by these institutions and the Bar, and form a great acquisition to their libraries. It will be remembered that the Prince of Wales was nobly entertained on his visit to Canada in 1868, by the Law Society, and on which occasion he was made a member of the Society.

#### 18. IMMORAL PUBLICATIONS.

We are glad to see that an order has been issued by the Customs Department prohibiting the importation of the *Police Gazette*, and other obscene publications, which are just now so abundant in the States. These filthy papers and pamphlets have lately become so numerous in the neighbouring Republic, that the matter has been brought up for consideration in some of the State Legislatures, and measures will probably be taken with a view to the suppression of such publications.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

## 19. HOW YOUNG CRIMINALS ARE MADE.

A Cleveland paper says that a number of young boys in that city have been in the habit of reading the "dime novels" to a great extent, gorging themselves with the exploits of burglars, highwaymen, smugglers, pirates, and murderers, which are the staple of these pernicious books, were filled with a morbid desire for similar adventures. Five or six of them, the oldest fourteen and the youngest ten years of age, organized themselves into a "band of robbers," with a capital of forty dollars to begin business with. They selected a wild cavern for their base of operations, in imitation of Dick Turpin and Jack Shepherd. They lived there for several days, practising all sorts of mischief, before their parents found out their hiding-place and took them home.

## 20. CHARACTERISTICS OF FICTION.

From a lecture lately delivered in Toronto, by the Rev. Geo. H. Bridgman, M. A., we make the following extract:—"None could deny the influence of reading upon character, and in view of the multiplication of works of fiction during recent years the question had assumed vast importance. The reading of works of fiction he considered advantageous under certain restrictions. There was, in his view, no objection to these works simply because fictitious. The works of Homer, Virgil, and Shakespeare carried us into the sublime and enchanting regions of imagination, and familiarized us with the grand and ennobling conceptions of those master minds. The 'Pilgrim's Progress' was a fiction, but its perusal had been productive of as much real benefit as any uninspired book. Cowper's poetry, while of a high order of fiction, could be read with no less profit than pleasure. Such fiction as inculcated right feelings and principles, as tending to cultivate the imagination and purify the heart could not rightly be condemned. The parables of Scripture were in a sense fictitious, so were the allegories often employed by religious writers to impress truth with greater force. Where, however, incident and plot form the staple of the narrative, the effect is evil, only evil, and that continually. The whole tone and spirit of the works of the most popular novel writers and romances was bad and unhealthy. Lord Byron, who 'touched his harp and nations heard entranced,' combined the most brilliant intellect with the deepest moral depravity; never was genius more closely allied to vice than with him. The world renowned novels of Sir Walter Scott were alike fascinating and instructive, and in many points excellent. In order, however, to gratify his partisan feelings, Scott had perverted the truth of history. He had whitewashed the House of Stuart, and ridiculed the heroic Covenanters, to whose stern refusal to bow the knee to tyranny we owed our liberties. Bulwer employed his great talent to exalt and glorify wickedness. His heroes were criminals and given to the practice of every vice. Dickens, it has been said, had accomplished by his writings more good than any five preachers and any five legislators together. He did not concur with this estimate. That popular author had prostituted his extraordinary abilities, and degraded his genius to the most unworthy purposes. He had clothed his vicious characters with the most amiable qualities and cast odium and contempt upon religion. In 'Little Dorrit,' while professing to contend for a relaxation of the stringency of Sabbath observance, he had aimed a blow at the citadel of the Sabbath itself. If such were the writings of the best fictionists, what must be the tendency of the host of lesser lights? Let not the young yield to the fascinations of these polluting books whose effect was to sap the foundations of morality and poison and corrupt the mind. What class of writers, taken as a whole, were so immoral as novelists? The perusal of light literature destroyed all relish for more solid reading matter. Those who were given to the baneful pursuit, as a general result, knew nothing of history, science, or other useful studies. False views of life were imbibed from novels. The young who indulged in the pernicious practice of reading highly wrought and sensational romances revelled in scenes that had no counterpart in anything that had ever transpired on earth. Life was a stern reality, as all such would find out to their cost when they awakened from this delusive dream. The glorification of criminals urged young men on to the commission of the most fearful deeds of crime. It was another reason why we as Britons should honor and venerate the name of Queen Victoria that she had encouraged a sound, healthy literature. (Applause.) If anything more than another threatens to dwarf the vigorous Anglo-Saxon intellect and prevent the attainment of its high and glorious destiny, it is the flood of trashy and impure literature which now circulates so freely. He did not object to fiction under the following restrictions: Let it be pure; let it be true to life if not to fact; let it be kept in its own place; and, finally, let it not be read by the young until their character and judgments are matured and their principles fixed.

## 21. EDUCATIONAL RESULTS OF CHEAP FICTION.

In a paper read at a meeting of the Educational Department of the Social Science Association, in London, England, Mr. W. C. Taylor said, that it is more difficult to estimate the results of fiction than those of other departments of literature is primarily evident from the nature of the subject. Its influence is not to be measured entirely by statistics, nor can its effects be put to any immediate tests such as could be applied to science, to art, to writings upon politics, economy, or morals. The results of a study of these are pretty sure to make themselves visibly known in the government and conduct of the nation; but the results of the study of fiction, though as certain, and perhaps as important, do not show themselves with the same openness, or, generally, with a like rapidity.

The fictions of Rousseau and his contemporaries hastened, if they did not altogether bring about, the first French revolution, but how difficult would it be to estimate the exact amount of influence which they had upon the general result! The writings of Adam Smith, upon the other hand, produced the great commercial revolution of modern times, and we have no difficulty in tracing the progress of events succeeding their appearance, for they were adopted as soon as understood, enforced as soon as they were adopted. The common antithesis of "fact and fiction" furnishes the grounds of the argument most commonly urged against it. "What is the use of cramming our heads with a lot of mere inventions," say its opponents; "one fact is worth all the fictions that ever were." "Telling a story," or "romancing," is commonly a mild way of putting it that one is not adhering strictly to the truth; and he who is entitled to a far more intelligible, though less polite title, may often be agreeably surprised by finding himself in possession of the honorable one of "story-teller."

But it is not fiction, but the abuse of fiction, which enlists condemnation, and this has been promoted by the cheapening of literature. Let us see if this is so. Fiction is abused when it is used to promote illegal, immoral, or irreligious ends. In a secondary sense, it is abused when its influence is given to lower the standard of taste and intelligence, and to spread a love of what is frivolous and meretricious, rather than that what is solid and valuable. There can be no doubt that most of the novels of the present day are to the last degree worthless.

The "sensational novels," with all their puerilities and absurdities, do but endeavor to enlist our feelings in startling and unusual events, the morality being generally unexceptionable, and are merely good or bad according as they do this artistically or inartistically, the latter being almost invariably the case. But the novels, without any strong situations, the novels of society, so called, introducing us to the worst side of human nature, deliberately seek to enlist our sympathies in favor of it, and consciously represent their mean conceptions as the inevitable order of things. But the real way to test the results of cheap fiction is by its influence on the poorer portions of society.

Previous to 1830-31 but few attempts had been made to place an acquaintance with literature of any kind within the reach of the masses. Books were still among the dearest of luxuries; and periodical literature, that greatest boon to the working classes, was yet in the infancy of its development. *Constable's Magazine* in 1827, "The Family Library," a little later, and the works of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge about the same time, had made ineffectual efforts to supply the gap, their object being, however, rather educational and entertaining than entertaining and educational. The *Edinburgh Review* in 1802, the *Quarterly* in 1809, the *Westminster* in 1814, *Blackwood* in 1817, and *Tait Fraser*, and a few others had all started on a career of success; but the subjects of these magazines were altogether political and critical, and the price was high. Taken altogether, their circulation did not amount to more than 125,000, according to the most correct estimate. Such cheap literature as was in existence was unlicensed, and wholly of a treasonable, immoral, or irreligious cast. Sedition and indecency, indeed, were then considered the only literary nourishment palatable to the humble, and a lower taste was supposed to be a necessary accompaniment of a lower class.

About 1830-31, attempts were made to cater for the instruction and amusement of the people, and to raise the character of their reading, but owing to the heavy taxes then imposed on publication, few of these existed for long, and only two survive to the present day—namely, *Chambers' Journal* and the *Mechanics' Magazine*. About the same time the passing of the reform bill, and the prolonged discussions on it during its progress through Parliament, introduced a taste for politics amongst the people, producing a demand for cheap newspapers. This was sought to be supplied by the unlicensed press, which issued their new sheets without the Government stamp in open defiance of the law, and which for three years maintained a contest with the executive, in the course of which 500 persons suffered imprisonment, and which culminated

when Henry Hethrington, the proprietor of the *Poor Man's Guardian*, was put upon his trial and triumphantly acquitted. Meanwhile the reform bill having passed, the battle of the stamps having been fought and won, and the public having no new facts of preponderating importance to occupy its attention, fiction became popular. The cheap market was now flooded with stories of horror, mystery, and crime, such, for instance, as are to be found in the various publications of Reynolds—the several series of “The Mysteries of London,” “The Mysteries of the Court, &c.,—the difference being that these disreputable publications had now to struggle with an ever-increasing number of others of the highest repute, and bit by bit to give way to them.

Of the state of literature in 1860 we have every ample statistics. Of monthly magazines more or less devoted to fiction there were 2,210,000 circulated annually; of journals published weekly, the chief features being novels, 700,000; of single romances issued weekly at a penny, 5,000; of immoral publications, 52,500; and of magazines at two-pence, 374,000. This is exclusive of sectarian literature, religious, temperance, educational, &c., and applies only to fiction. Total, in round numbers, 3,349,000. Comparing this with 1831, before the stamp tax or advertisement duty had been repealed, we already see the vast progress made; against the 125,000 of monthly magazines circulated then, we have over 2,000,000 now; and whereas there existed no cheap fiction there which was of a really wholesome kind, we have here a circulation of considerably over a million of journals at a penny and two-pence, containing stories not classed as immoral, against only 52,500 of a notoriously immoral kind. But the great impetus to the spread of cheap fiction and cheap literature of all kinds was to be given by the repeal of the paper duties in 1861. The results obtained by this great measure are positively startling. We learn by an article in the *Bookseller*, of May, 31st, 1861, the materials for which were supplied by Mr. Francis, the following facts concerning fiction:—There were then—three years after the repeal of the excise duty—in existence of journals containing novels, sketches, &c., thirteen publications at a penny and a half-penny, with an aggregate weekly issue of 1,053,000; of romantic tales published separately, eight publications, aggregate issue, 195,000; of immoral publications, 9,000; of higher class magazines, published monthly, 244,850. This is not including religious and other literature where fiction was a secondary object or written for a purpose. Thus we have a weekly and monthly issue of respectable publications almost equal to the entire annual issue of a few years previously, and of immoral publications we have 9,000 against 52,500 there! As regards sedition and irreligion, fiction was never the vehicle made use of in this country for preaching these. In 1864 the circulation of free-thinking literature was not more than 5,000 weekly. Compare with this the appalling number of weekly and monthly religious magazines, and he thought we might almost place irreligious liberty in the same category with immoral.

These are some of the results of cheap fiction, and their connection with education is manifest. It was the mistake of many good men of a former generation to seek to instruct the people without interesting them—to induce them to regard education as a duty rather than a privilege. This was the error of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge. Our modern educators, among whom stand pre-eminent the great publishing houses, have adopted a wiser course. It is indeed evident that the former was necessarily unsuitable. A man whose imagination has never been aroused knows nothing, nor can know anything, of the delights of knowledge. This must first be awakened before even the object of the other can be understood. “Of what use is knowledge?” says the wholly uneducated man; “Will it feed me when I am hungry, or clothe me when I am cold?” But give that man reading; let his imagination be aroused; let him find that he has another being besides a stomach and a body that requires sustenance and light, and soon even may he learn to find in the nourishment of the one a relief from the wants that prey upon the other. As a healthy literature spreads so also does education; as education spreads so does literature purify. Look at the ever increasing number of educational periodicals which find eager purchasers among the masses. Nor must we quite forget the refining and soothing influence which it has upon a man engaged for ever and ever in the hard and unrewarding toil which fall to, alas! so many—to escape awhile from these hard facts into the worlds of fiction and fact, and to live, at all events in imagination, a life less irksome and less thankless than his own.

## 22. FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

From a lecture by Mr. F. D. Torrance, of Montreal, on Free Public Libraries, we make the following selections:—

The desire of knowledge is one of the master passions of human nature. We desire to know whatever takes place in that busy world of which we form a part. And the thirst for the acquisition

of knowledge is increased by the pleasure of communicating to others what we have acquired ourselves. Nor does the knowledge of our contemporaries satisfy us. We seek the records of the past, and acquaint ourselves with them, in order that we may, through these records, shape our present. In considering our desire of knowledge, we must also not forget the pleasures of imagination.

To the poets are attributed in a peculiar degree the gifts of imagination, “the vision and the faculty divine.”

“The poet's eye in a fine frenzy rolling,  
Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven.”

But we must not forget that the faculty of imagination is in a greater or less degree the common inheritance of the whole human family, and the exercise of that faculty wonderfully stimulates the passion for knowledge of which I speak.

In naming the records of human knowledge, one is naturally led to speak of those great collections of books which the governments of civilized nations have always cherished—public or national libraries.

At the revival of letters in the 15th century—we see literature going hand in hand with commerce, when Cosmo de Medici, the merchant and prince of Florence lived, and employed his commercial correspondence in different parts of the civilized world, to collect at Florence the precious manuscripts of ancient literature, and so founded the still famous Laurentian Library of Florence.

### MODERN LIBRARIES.

When the invention of printing took place, an immense impetus was given to the multiplication of books; and it is remarkable that the typographical execution of the first printed books is little inferior to that of modern books. From that time the collecting of books in libraries by governments and individuals has gone on increasing. At first books were not circulated. If the public had access to them, it was only in the depositories where they were kept. The first circulating library, I am informed, was suggested, as might naturally have been anticipated, by the personal interest of a sagacious individual, Allan Ramsey, who, after being bred a wig-maker, had become a poet of the people, and set up a small bookseller's shop, was led to eke out an income, too inconsiderable for the wants of his family, by lending his books on hire to those who were not able or not willing to buy them of him. This is the oldest of all the numberless “circulating libraries;” and it sprang up naturally in Edinburgh, where, in proportion to its population, it is believed there were then more readers than in any other city in the world. This was in 1725. This example was speedily followed, and circulating libraries now abound in the large cities of Europe, and especially in Great Britain and Germany.

The corporations of the Bar in the large cities have had for many years their consulting law libraries; and other professions, it is believed, had also collected libraries for their own special purposes. The Medical Faculty of McGill College have at least 3,500 volumes of their library. The Advocates' Library here contains over 5,500 volumes; and the “Institut Canadien” over 6,500 volumes.

### OUR WANT OF LIBRARIES.

Our School Laws are intended to bring within the reach of almost all, the blessing of a knowledge of reading, writing, and arithmetic; and in Upper Canada it provides for popular school libraries. The school, and even the College and University, are, as all thoughtful persons are well aware, but the first stages in education. We are learners, or ought to be, so long as we live. “Education,” said Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, “rightly considered, is the work of a life, and libraries are the school-rooms of growing up men. If the school awakens a taste for reading, it should furnish to the public something to read. If it conducts our young men and young women to that point where they are qualified to acquire from books the varied knowledge in the arts and sciences which books contain; its managing should do something to put these within their reach.

There can be no doubt that such reading ought to be furnished to all, as a matter of public policy and duty, on the same principle on which we furnish cheap education, and in fact as a part, and a most important part, of the education of all.

We want these public libraries to be generally established, and the want is more imperative in a country like Canada, with its long winters. I am reminded here of a very seasonable letter addressed last Hallowe'en, by the Hon. Mr. McGee, to one of our national societies, in which letter he ably puts and answers the question, “What are we to do with our Winter evenings?” “We have,” writes Mr. McGee, “in our climate say five months of Winter evenings, averaging three hours unoccupied time, or 150 days, or in round numbers about twenty clear days, of 24 hours each. A busy man who gets three weeks recreation in Summer considers himself fortunate; but here is a three weeks winter vacation, concerning which the question is, “What are we to do with it?” He

answers, "These long winter vacations of ours ought to bring in their own harvest, sown in the minds and memories of men, there to blossom and bear fruit while life may last. John Milton found, as he told his nephew Phillip, that his views never flowed so freely as between September and March, and that in a latitude not farther South than ours. If for us also this should be a season favourable to the cultivation and growth of thought and knowledge, we cannot certainly plead want of leisure as an excuse for remaining at a stand still."

Mr. McGee proceeds to give some excellent advice with regard to what he calls family reading. If this advice is to be followed, and it should be, I need hardly ask how much more easily it could be followed if we had a free public library.

#### ADVANTAGES OF A FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

There are other reasons for advocating the foundation and support of free public libraries. The interests of general morality are thereby served. "We all know," said Lord Stanley, in a speech delivered at the opening of the Birmingham Free Library, "how much immorality may arise simply from persons of an excitable temperament being without sufficient mental occupation."

Let me add what those know well who have had to study questions in history, philosophy, or government or political economy, that access to a good library is indispensable for their researches.

Look at our present condition. If the young machinist, engineer, architect, chemist, engraver, painter, instrument-maker, musician, or student, or any branch of science or literature, should wish to consult a valuable and especially a rare and costly work, he must buy it, often import it at an expense he can ill afford, or he must be indebted for its use to the liberality of private corporations or individuals.

#### FREE LIBRARIES IN BRITAIN.

In Britain, the course of education as regards the masses has not made such progress as its earnest promoters would desire. Yet the Government there does spend money to about a million sterling annually on education; and some years ago the Imperial Parliament gave up a revenue of £1,500,000 sterling, in order that paper and newspapers, which performed so important a part in the thread of knowledge, might be free from taxation. Further in 1851 and 1855 that Parliament passed an Act under which free libraries and museums are established and flourish in 25 English towns. Among these towns, the most prominent, are Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham.

The establishment of these free libraries depends entirely on the will of the inhabitants. There, if two-thirds of the rate-payers agree that they will have such a library, an assessment not exceeding 1d in the £ per annum may be laid on the real property holders for the purpose. In Liverpool, the Reference Library has over 50,000 volumes, with an average issue every day of 1,600 books, and a yearly collection of 420,590 volumes.

#### LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND BOSTON.

But among our neighbours, in the city of Boston, Mass., is a free public library, which, so far as I know, the largest and noblest of the kind in the world. It is contained in a building which was erected for the purpose by the city authorities, and finished some eight years ago, at a cost, as regards the building, of \$360,000 of our money. On the 1st August last, it contained 133,016 volumes, and 32,558 pamphlets. During the previous year it had circulated over 197,000 volumes, or an average of over 707 per day.

#### NECESSITY FOR A FREE LIBRARY.

The strongest motives may be urged in support of this proposal. I need say nothing of the pleasures of the cultivation of polite letters—of their humanizing tendency. "Were I to pray for a taste," says Sir John Herschell, "which should stand me in stead under every variety of circumstances, and be a source of happiness and cheerfulness to me during life, and a shield against all ills, however, things might go amiss and the world frown upon me, it would be a taste for reading. Give a man this taste and the means of gratifying it, and you can hardly fail of making him a happy man, unless indeed you put into his hands a most perverse selection of books. You place him in contact with the best society in every period of history—with the wisest, the wittiest, the tenderest, the bravest, and the purest characters who have adorned humanity. You may make him a denizen of all nations, a contemporary of all ages—the world has been created for him. I by no means say that the literature should or could satisfy all the desires of the human heart for the heart hath depths which nothing human can reach, which can only be fathomed by the Great Creator himself. But of all human enjoyments, none more inspiring or elevating—none purer can be named than that of literature.

"Think what a book is," says Moncton Milnes, "what each volume in a library is. It is a portion of the eternal mind, caught in its progress through the world, stamped in an instant, and pre-

served through eternity. Think what it is: that enormous amount of human sympathy and intelligence that is contained in these volumes; and think what it is that this sympathy should be communicated to the masses of the people. Compare the state of the man who is really well acquainted with the whole part of literature upon the subject on which he is speaking, and with which his mind is imbued, with that of the solitary artisan upon whom the light of genius has dawned in some great truth, in some noble aspiration, in some high idea—resting there unable to accomplish itself, unable to realize its meaning, and probably ending in nothing but despair. Compare the state of that man, such as he would be without books, with what that man would be with books. So that it is only books that can save him from the most exaggerated conclusions, from the falsest doctrines, and all those evils which may damage and even destroy the masses of mankind. It is only, remember, what lies in those books that makes all the difference between the wildest socialism that ever passed into the mind of man, and the deductions and careful processes of the mind of the student who will learn humility by seeing what others have taught before him; and who will gain from the sympathy of ages intelligence and sense for himself." One would experience no extraordinary emotions in standing by the tombs which contain the ashes of a race of kings. I will also confess to no ordinary emotions when surrounded by the volumes which the departed great have bequeathed to posterity in "thoughts that breathe and words that burn." It is a solemn spirit-stirring thought that "literature is the immortality of speech—that it embalms for all ages the departed kings of learning, and watches over their repose in the eternal pyramids of fame." "Libraries," says Bacon, "are as the shrines where all the relics of the ancient saints, full of true virtue, and that without delusion or importance, are preserved and reposed." "What a happiness it is," says a good old Bishop of Norwich, "that without all offence of necromancy, I may here call upon any of the ancient worthies of learning, whether human or divine, and confer with them of all my doubt, that I can at pleasure summon up whole synods of reverend fathers and acute doctors from all the coasts of the earth, to give their well-studied judgments on all points and questions which I may propose." Let us remember that whatever be our material riches, these are as nothing compared with the spiritual and intellectual being called man, whom the Almighty has appointed as their possessor. Let us remember that in man there is nothing great but his spiritual and intellectual nature; that that nature remains unformed and undeveloped unless it is made familiar with all knowledge, not only of the fleeting present, but also of the hoary past; that if we would be strong in intellectual might, we must not slavishly derive our knowledge at second-hand from contemporaries of other lands,—we must learn and meditate and originate for ourselves by the mental processes of our own natures; we must gather knowledge for ourselves from our own intellectual wealth.

#### 23. READING AND WRITING IN FRANCE.

Two maps, just published in Paris, are entitled, "France that can read and France that can write." In the latter the districts in which persons married in 1866 could not sign the register—in a proportion varying from thirty to seventy-five per cent—are marked in black. Fifty-five departments are thus indicated, comprising all the south, centre and west of France. The ten departments where the largest number of newly married have been able to sign (the others being only from 1.44 to 6.77 per cent.) are the Lower Rhine, Meuse, Vosges, Haute Marne, Meurthe, Jura, and Manche. The average of the illiterate married in 1866 is thirty-three per cent. The *Siecle*, which sums up these statistics, is horrified: "One-third of France unable either to read or write! Fifty-five departments out of eighty-nine in which the number of illiterate persons is from thirty to seventy-five per cent. Is it not a shame? And we talk of a new military organization! Let us rather busy ourselves with the instruction of this black phalanx of ignorance; let us devote to this national work a tithe of the millions we uselessly squander. Let us begin by beating Prussia on this ground. As regards primary instruction we are in the lowest rank of the European powers, and we imagine ourselves to be marching at the head of civilization!"

#### 24. WRITERS OF THE NEW SCHOOL.

Men who aspire to write now are losing more and more the old-fashioned love of books and letters. They want to be thinkers, or to renovate history, or to promote some views on things in general. This may be an improvement on the old notion. In an age which, like our own, is or pretends to be penetrated with earnestness and practicality though we do not seem to get on much the faster for it all, one could not expect people to preserve the sentimental affection for mere literature which was so strong among writers of one and two generations ago. One evil result of this will be a loss of savor

in written style, only indicative of the graver loss to the mind of a fine and delicate artistic feeling, and of a generous sympathy with all the shades and subtleties of sentiment that is anything rather than practical. It does not follow that because a man has his fine and bright feeling—it is one of the last and most delightful results of wise culture—therefore he should be indifferent to the practical side of things or inactive in the current of public affairs.—*Saturday Review*.

#### IV. Biographical Sketches.

##### 1. SIR WILLIAM SHEA.

The death of this eminent jurist and magistrate might be made very properly, at home and in the Colonies, a text for some seasonable words, to those of Her Majesty's Irish Roman Catholic subjects who, in these days, are only too often reminded by false guides and foolish advisers of the enmities and errors of the past. Judge Shea was born, lived, and educated solely among his own religionists; from Kilkenny to the English bar, he took St. Cutbert's College in his way, entering on the practice of his profession in his 24th year, at the moment the Roman Catholic Relief Bill became law, in 1828. Before passed middle age, he became one of Her Majesty's Sergeants-at-law, and the recognized leader of the Home Circuit. From 1822 to '57 inclusive, he sat in the House of Commons for his native County, Kilkenny; in '58 he became Queen's Sergeant, and in '64, one of the Judges of the Queen's Bench. This life of distinguished professional successes this Irish Catholic gentleman led, in our own times, at the bar of England exclusively. Without any unworthy compromise of his creed or nationality, with no other influence than that created by his own talents, learning and industry, he rose by regular gradation, at an age not unusually protracted for professional success in England, to administer the laws of the land, in the country in which he was born disfranchised and proscribed. It was rather a novel sight, (the first time since the Reformation), to see in an English Assize town, one of the Queen's Justices, who during week days represented to all the lieges the awful majesty of the civil power, making his modest way on Sunday to some withdrawn and inconspicuous chapel of his own faith, there to acknowledge, as he habitually did, his dependence on that still more awful Majesty, before whose tribunal he has been now so suddenly summoned.—*Montreal Gazette*.

##### 2. SAMUEL CLARK, ESQ.

Our obituary column this week announces the death of Mr. Samuel Clark, at the age of 65 years. We know little of the early life of the departed. He first came under our notice while Warden of the District Council of the old Gore district, comprising the Counties of Brant, Wentworth and Halton. From a bound volume of the journal of the proceedings of that Council before us, we find that the deceased filled the office of Warden during the years 1847, '48 and '49. During his incumbency he succeeded in earning for himself the respect of the members of the Council then composed of the best and most talented men in the community. While Warden he was also a most energetic and faithful friend of the Common Schools, and in those days rendered the cause essential service. Subsequently Mr. Clark, in the County of Halton, entered the arena of politics as a journalist, and in the interest of John White, Esq., now M. P. for Halton. Inexperienced in the profession, he did not succeed financially, and after a time removed to this County, and settled on a farm adjoining Port Robinson, where he breathed his last on Thursday. He represented the Township of Crowland for several years in the County Council, and journals of the body to-day give evidence of the industry and energy with which he was possessed. Mr. Clark was highly respected, and while at times of political excitement he always took a firm and prominent stand, he succeeded in securing the personal friendship of his opponents.—*Welland Telegraph*.

##### 3. HENRY LORD BROUGHAM AND VAUX.

The venerable Lord Brougham has just died at his Villa near Cannes, in the South of France, in his 90th year. It is said he fell into a pleasant slumber, and died, quietly. The deceased, was certainly one of the most remarkable men that England has produced. In his early days Mr. Brougham was one of the most active of the staff of the *Edinburgh Review*, forming one of a brilliant group, for which Sidney Smith and Francis Jeffrey were members. His triumphs as an advocate were numerous: perhaps the greatest of them all was that achieved in the defence of Queen Caroline. He filled the offices of Attorney-General, Judge in Chancery, and Lord Chancellor. His speeches and labors in behalf of Reform, and on the question of Slavery, are well-known portions of English history and literature. In his latter days he presided over the deliberation of the Social Science Congress, and only eighteen months ago

delivered an address at Manchester as President of this Congress, which evidenced the vigour of his powers even then. Although Lord Brougham's death could not have been unexpected, it will cause universal grief in England, the scene of his many great triumphs in so many walks of life.—*Leader*.

#### V. Miscellaneous.

##### 1. ONLY THE CHILDREN.

Beneath an ancient, wide-spread tree,  
Which cast a pleasant shade,  
Five children, full of mirth and glee,  
One sunny morning played.  
Loud were the sounds of merriment  
Which o'er that daisied field they sent;  
For theirs were hearts untouched by care,  
And eyes that seldom owned a tear.  
"What are those sounds," asked one, "I hear?"  
'Only the children playing there.'

Only the children! Years have flown  
Since that bright summer day,  
And those hoive men and women grown,  
Who then were at their play.  
The eldest of that little band,  
Who threw the ball with skilful hand,  
And rolled the hoop by far the best,  
His country now attempts to guide,  
And fashions laws, which, when applied,  
Shall aid and succour the distress.

The next—a gay and laughing girl,  
With blue and sparkling eye,  
Whose hair was always out of curl,  
Whose frock was oft awry—  
Is now a lady full of grace.  
In whom you scarcely now can trace  
The want of care that marked her youth;  
And to whose gifted pen we owe  
Some sweet and simple tales, which show  
How lovely is the way of truth.

The youngest—gentle as a dove,  
As sweet as she was fair,  
Who gave her doll such words of love.  
And nursed it with such care,—  
Far from the scenes of early life,  
Is now a missionary's wife,  
And oft her wearied husband cheers.  
Together patiently they toil;  
And hope to reap, on Indian soil,  
The seed which they have sown in tears.

Only the children! Yes, they seem  
But ciphers unto some;  
But I, who often sit and dream  
Of things that are to come,  
In children full of healthful glee,  
Our future generations see,  
Mighty for good, or else for ill!  
God bless and guide them so that they  
May scatter blessings o'er life's way.  
And all His wise behests fulfil!

—*Edinburgh Christian Treasury*.

##### 2. BISHOP GREGG'S APPEAL TO MOTHERS.

"Mothers! what a glorious field of labor you now possess; sow good seed in the morning of life, and God will grant you corresponding results. Childhood is the spring-time of humanity, and it is very interesting to contemplate that at the time the birds and animals are with their young, then is the balmy and beautiful season, the flowers are budding and blowing, the woods and groves are vocal, the air is ringing with strains of melody and song. Does this not teach parents that everything pleasant and cheerful should be associated with the education and instruction of their children in their tender years? Take care of the spring-time of your children; the gorgeous summer of manhood will soon arrive, when you cannot do much; the mellow autumn will succeed, you can do still less; and the wild and wailing winds of their wintry age will follow, and then it will be too late to work. Labor diligently in the mild dawning of reason, in the morning of humanity, and you may expect that God will give you a lovely, perhaps a gorgeous day..... What a delightful thing would it be, on the morning of the resurrection, for a mother to be able to say, 'Oh! there is one son, and there is another; that is my daughter; all my children are safe!'"

VI. Paper on Meteorology.

I. ABSTRACT OF MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL RESULTS, compiled from the Returns of the daily observations at ten Grammar School Stations for MARCH, 1868.

Observations.—Barrie—Rev. W. F. Checkley, B.A.; Belleville—A. Burdon, Esq.; Cornwall—W. Taylor Briggs, Esq., B.A.; Goderich—John Haldan, Jr., Esq.; Hamilton—A. Macallum, Esq., M.A.; Pembroke—J. W. Connor, Esq., B.A.; Peterborough—Ivan O'Beirne, Esq.; Simcoe—Rev. J. G. Mulholland, M.A.; Stratford—C. J. Macgregor, Esq., M.A.; Windsor—A. McSween, Esq., M.A.

Table with columns: STATION, North Latitude, West Longitude, Barometer at temperature of 32° Fahrenheit, RANGE, MONTHLY MEANS, DAILY RANGE, HIGHER EST., LOWEST, WARMEST DAY, COLD EST DAY, Tension of Vapour, MONTHLY MEANS, and MONTHLY MEANS.

Barometer at temperature of 32° Fahrenheit. e On Lake Simcoe. f Near Lake Ontario (on Bay of Quinte). g On Lake Huron. h On Lake Ontario. i On the Ottawa River. j Close to Lake Erie. k On the Detroit River. l Inland Towns.

Table with columns: STATION, Humidity of Air, SURFACE CURRENT, WINDS, MOTION OF CLOUDS, MONTHLY MEANS MONTHLY MEANS, RAIN, SNOW, and A U R O R A S.

Velocity is estimated, 0 denoting calm or light air; 10 denoting very heavy hurricane. e 10 denotes that the sky is covered with clouds; 0 denotes that the sky is quite clear of clouds. f Where the clouds have contrary motions, the higher current is entered here.

BELLEVILLE.—Fog on 16th; from about 9.30 to 10.30 a.m. lead thunder and occasional very vivid lightning with dark and gloomy sky and heavy rain. During this week the river Meira rose to an unusual height, occasioning unprecedented damage to bridges and dams from the moving ice. Snow 2nd and 4th. Rain on 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 20th. During the first week some low temperatures, i. e. 2nd, —15.° 3; 3rd, —18.° 8; 4th, —1.° 3; 5th, —1.° 6.

B E M A R K S .

Barrie.—On 21st, very bright aurora; a good many meteors observed at same time. 16th, thunder and lightning commenced 6.30 a.m.; heavy rain. 24th, very brilliant aurora. Storm of wind on 17th slight. Very violent wind during night of 18th. Snow on 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th, 15th, 16th, 18th, 23rd, 24th, 27th, 30th, 31st. Rain on 6th and 16th. Low temperatures during first week of this month: 1st, —10.° 1; 2nd, —11.° 1; 3rd, —25.° 1; 4th, —1.° 4; 5th, —8.° 1.

12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th. Minimum temperature on 2nd,—6.°5; 3rd,—8.°5; 4th,—6.°1; 5th,—6.°1.

**HAMILTON.**—On 1st, at night, high gales to 7 or 8 velocity. 8, crow first seen. 9th, woodpecker seen. 14th, robin red breast first seen; in afternoon, fog, followed by hail, thunder, lightning and rain at 4.40 p.m. 16th, fog, hail, lightning, thunder and rain, two rainbows afterwards appeared. 18th, aurora, low arch. 21st, wild pigeons announced in great numbers. 24th, ordinary light auroral low arch, with a few streamers moving from E. to W.; also on 30th. The only important storm of wind was on 6th and 7th, but high wind also on 2nd, 12th, 17th, 24th, 25th. Snow on 1st, 18th, 19th, 20th. Rain on 5th, 6th, 7th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th. Thermometer during first week (minimum) indicated, on 2nd,—11.°2; 3rd,—16.°5; 4th,—11.°2; 5th,—6.°9.

**PEMBROKE.**—On 5th, hail. 16th, slight mist. 17th, fog. 21st, storm of wind. Snow on 3rd, 6th, 20th. Rain on 7th, 8th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th. Minimum temperature on 2nd,—32.°0; 3rd,—14.°5; 4th,—2.°5; 5th,—5.°0. Month unusually mild, mean temperature being 30.°06, while that of 1867 and 1866 was 23.°1 and 22.°02 respectively. Main channel of Muskrat and Indian rivers open on 30th. Snow all gone except in shade.

**PETERBOROUGH.**—On 2nd, wide halo round sun. 3rd, large indistinct lunar halo. 4th, at 9.45 p.m. a mass of auroral light of a green colour, resembling a large depressed dome, appeared over N.H., the top about 22° high, and a few streamers of same color over N.E.H.; the dome disappeared in about 15 minutes, but the streamers lasted about 35 minutes. 9th, crows heard. 10th, strong reverberations in the air. 15th, sultry; birds singing in the woods; blue backed birds seen. 16th, thunder and lightning from 8.45 a.m. until 9.05 a.m.; robins first seen. 23rd, at midnight, auroral arc spanning the whole heavens from E horizon to a point about 22° N of W. 27th, large bodies of passenger pigeons first seen, flying westward. 30th, a narrow arched rim of bright auroral light from about N N E to N N W.; about 14° above it another broad belt of light; very dark below lower rim; cluster of light streamers occasionally disappearing. High winds on 2nd, night of 17th, and on 21st. The first four days the minimum temperature was, on 2nd,—23.°1; 3rd,—19.°0; 4th,—3.°1; 5th,—7.°4; but the rest of the month unusually warm and at the end occasionally sultry.

**SIMCOOK.**—On 1st and 2nd, most severe snow storm (depth ten inches) of the whole winter. 6th and 7th, great rain storm, 14th, lightning and thunder at 4 p.m.; robin first seen. 15th, lightning in evening. 16th, lightning and thunder with hail at 6 a.m., and lightning, thunder and rain at 1 p.m.; large flocks of wild pigeons passed this day to S.W. Solar prismatic halo on 5th, diameter 30°; 25th, 50°; 26th, 60°. Wind storms on 2nd, 6th, 7th, 18th, 21st, 25th. Fog 16th. Snow 1st, 2nd, 20th. Rain 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 23rd. Minimum temperature on 2nd,—6.°9; 3rd,—18.°6; 4th,—8.°1; 5th,—8.°1. The 3rd was the coldest day of winter. Latter part of month very fine.

**STRAFFORD.**—3rd, coldest day of the winter, 8th, crows first seen and heard. 10th, large lunar halo at 11 p.m. 13th spring birds seen. 15th, lightning; wild pigeons seen; 16th, lightning, thunder, and rain storm. 18th, mill pond free from ice. 29th, frogs heard. Wind storms on 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, 17th, 18th. Fogs on 3rd, 12th, 15th, 16th. Snow on 1st, 2nd, 5th. Rain on 6th, 7th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 23rd. Minimum temperature on 2nd,—7.°7; 3rd,—20.°0; 4th,—1.°0; 5th,—5.°1.

**WINSON.**—The severest snow storm of the season occurred on 1st and 2nd; chiefly from 6 p.m. 1st to 9 a.m. 2nd, continuing to drift till sunset, when the wind, which had been continuously N.E., fell suddenly; barometer rose from 28.811 (in morning), to 29.382, and thermometer indicated—5° by 9 p.m. First thunder and lightning occurred on 14th with rain, and again on 16th and 23rd; double rainbow after rain of 14th. Wind storms on 1st, 2nd, 17th, 26th. Fogs 4th, 23rd, 31st. Snow 1st, 2nd, 5th, 19th, 21st. Rain 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 23rd. Minimum temperature 2nd,—5.°1; 3rd,—12.°0; 4th,—11.°0; 5th,—1.°0. This intense cold was followed by 45 hours rain, and milder weather.

**N. JOHN, N.B.**—N. Lat. 45°.17. W. Long. 66°.4. Height above sea, 135 feet. For the month of March, the corrected mean readings of the *Barometer* were, at 8 a.m., 30.007, 2 p.m., 29.070, 10 p.m., 30.000. Mean 29.992; highest 30.446 on 12th, lowest 29.226 on 22nd; range 1.22, greatest range between two days 0.609. *Temperature*: Mean at 6 a.m., 23°.08, 10 a.m., 29°.42, 2 p.m., 32°.68, 6 p.m., 30°.08, 10 p.m., 27.38; highest 46° on 27th, lowest, —7° on 2nd; range 53°. Greatest daily range 26°, mean daily range 10°.8. Warmest day 17th, mean 38°.7; coldest, 2nd, mean 0°.3. Monthly mean 1°.81 above 1867, but slightly below average of 8 years. *Tension of vapour*: Mean at 8 a.m., .123, 2 p.m., .157, 10 p.m., .132, mean .137. *Humidity*: Mean at 8 a.m., .81, 2 p.m., .80, 10 p.m., .84, mean, .81.7. Wind E to SW 15 days, and W to NE 16 days, 5 days southerly weather; force 8 a.m., 1.8, 2 a.m., 2.1, 10 p.m., 1.6. *Rain and Snow*: 6 days, 3 nights, 13 inches snow 2.038 inches rain. *Sky*: Clear 14 days at 2 p.m., and wholly clouded 14 days; at 10 p.m., 15 nights clear, and 14 wholly clouded. At same hours, 4 days and 3 nights were foggy, and mean estimated clouding over 5. *Aurora* visible 5 nights.

## VII. Miscellaneous Readings.

### 1. KEEP THE BIRTHDAYS.

Keep the birth-days religiously. They belong exclusively to, and are treasured among, the sweetest memories at home. Do not let anything prevent some token, be it ever so light, to show

that it is remembered. Birthdays are great, even to children. For one day they feel that they are heroes. The special pudding is made expressly for them; a new jacket or trousers with pockets, or the first pair of boots, are donned; and big brothers and sisters sink into insignificance beside "six to-day," and is soon "going to be a man." Fathers who have half a dozen little ones to care for are apt to neglect birth-days: they come too often, sometimes when they are busy, and sometimes when they are "nervous;" but if they only know how much such souvenirs are cherished by the children, years after, they would never permit any cause to step between them and a parent's privilege.

### 2. SHOOTING AT PRINCE ALFRED AT SYDNEY.

Since his arrival in the Australian colonies Prince, Alfred in pursuance, probably, of instructions from home, has adopted a course of conduct singularly well fitted to win the attachment of the people. Instead of hedging himself round with courtly formalities, he has mingled in the freest possible manner with the colonists, and has behaved so very much like a man dependent wholly upon popular favor as to excite no little surprise. He has allowed himself to be approached by almost any one who was decently dressed. For some time efforts had been made to establish a permanent institution at Sydney, to be known as the Sailors' Home, for the benefit of distressed seamen. It was at length determined to endeavor to raise the necessary funds by a pic-nic, and the presence of the Prince was secured to lend *clat* and tone to the affair, and of course to enable the managers to dispose more readily of their tickets. Everything up to the time of the attempted assassination went off admirably; and the tickets sold like wildfire. The spot selected for the pic-nic was one of the most charming and lovely to be found in any part of Sydney harbor. The Prince arrived in a special steamer, and the people cheered lustily, while the Prince smiled and bowed his thanks, upon landing he was conducted to the luncheon tent, where he partook of some refreshments. Leaving the tent, the Prince led Lady Belmore to a special pavilion which had been erected for the ladies, and then sauntered away with Sir William Manning (an old resident of Sydney) to enjoy walk about the grounds. As he went along he met a gentleman named Allen, with whom he shook hands and chatted for a few moments, and then handed an envelope to Sir William Manning, saying that it contained a donation to the Sailor's Home.

Scarcely had he finished speaking, when O'Farrell, was observed to run quickly across to where he was standing and fired with a revolver, at the Prince, who immediately fell forward. Sir William Manning turning hastily round upon hearing the report of the revolver, and seeing that the man who had just fired had pointed his weapon towards him (Sir W. Manning), he stooped to get out of the line of fire and in doing so fell. This time the revolver snapped, and while O'Farrell was again levelling his pistol at the Prince, a gentleman named Vial, who had witnessed the whole occurrence, ran up and pinioned his arms to his body, thus changing the direction of the weapon, which however, exploded, the bullet hitting a Mr. Thorne in the foot.

Meanwhile the Prince had been raised from the ground and conveyed to his private tent. He was evidently in great pain, and once or twice asked the gentlemen who were bearing him along to carry him more slowly and gently. Although very weak from loss of blood he did not become unconscious, and noticing that the people crowded around the tent he desired a gentleman to assure them that "he was not much hurt and would be better presently."

Shortly afterwards the Prince was borne on a litter by the sailors to the *Morpeth*, a solemn silence being preserved by the people, who stood on either sides as the cortage passed. When the *Morpeth* arrived at Farm Core a barge from the *Galatea* came along side to bear the Royal sufferer to the shore. The Prince who was laying upon a stretcher, with a soft mattress under him, and his head supported by pillows, was lowered into his barge which was manned by his own sailors. He was then conveyed to the city and thence to the government house.

Immediately after the outrage meetings were held all over the Colony and addresses of condolence were sent to the Prince from the Municipal bodies Foreign Residents, (including the Chinese) &c. In these addresses the Prince returned the following reply:—March 19th.—"I have received with sincere satisfaction these numerous addresses, and desire to return my warm thanks for the expressions of sympathy which they contain. The cowardly act of one individual has not in any degree shaken my confidence in the loyalty of the people in this Colony towards the throne and person of Her Majesty, or in their affection for myself; and I shall gladly convey to the Queen the universal expression of horror and indignation which the attempt to assassinate me has called forth from Her Majesty's faithful subjects in Australia.

ALFRED."

At a large meeting held in Sydney, expressive of gratitude for

the recovery of His Royal Highness, it was proposed to erect a subscribed monument to the Prince, in the shape of a hospital, to be called after the Prince's name. Upwards of £7,000 stg. were subscribed at once.

### VIII. Educational Intelligence.

— **QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.**—A meeting of the Convocation of the Queen's University was held on the 6th inst., for the purpose of conferring degrees in Arts and Theology on the Graduates. The Chair was occupied by the Principal, the Very Rev. Dr. Snodgrass. After prayer the prizes were awarded, and upon conclusion the Principal addressed the Graduates, who were also addressed by Prof. Williamson. The election of Fellows was proceeded with in the usual manner, and upon its completion it was publicly announced that Mr. Wm. McLennan, M.A., Glengarry, was elected Fellow in Arts; John McMillan, B.A., Nova Scotia, Fellow in Theology, and Sir John A. Madonald, Fellow in the Faculty of Law. The following are the graduates:—*Doctor of Laws*—Peter McLaren, Rector of the Grammar School, Renfrew, Scotland. *Doctor of Divinity*—Rev. Peter Grant, Dundee, Scotland. *Master of Arts*—(Alphabetical list)—Rev. Charles J. Cameron, Bombay; N. F. Dupuis, Kingston; Thomas Hart, Perth; Rev. Kenneth McLennan, Whitby; Rev. Duncan Morrison, Owen Sound; John R. Thompson, Prince Edward Island. *Bachelor of Arts*—(Order of Merit)—1. James E. Burgess, Kingston; 2. John C. Cattinach, Cornwall; 3. John M. Macdonnell, Fergus. *Honor List*—Arts—3rd year—1. Robert Crawford, first class in classics, first class in Metaphysics, and second class in chemistry. 2. William Mullock, second class in Chemistry. 3. P. S. Livingston, second class in Chemistry. *Second Year*—1. T. H. McGuire, first class in Classics, first class in Mathematics, first class in Logic. 2. E. D. McLaren, first class in Logic, second class in Classics. 3. M. H. Rowse, second class in Classics, second class in Logic. 4. D. McTavish, second class in Mathematics. The Trustees' Scholarship, open to all students of the first year in Arts, was gained by Frederick Welch. The other scholarships are awarded at the matriculation examination. The following University Prizes, to be awarded in Session 1868-9, were announced:—1. The Prince of Wales Prize, value \$60; for the best papers at the examination for B. A. 2. Montreal Prize, value \$20, for the best translation of the Choral Odes of the Medea of Euripides and Essay on the beauty and defects of the Tragedy as a work of dramatic art, open to all students. 3. Montreal prize, value \$20, for the best essay, expository and critical, on Spenser's "Faerie Queene." Open to all students. 4. Lewis Prize—value \$25; for the best lecture on John II, 1-11. Open to all students of Theology. 5. Church Agents' prize—value \$25; for the best sermon on I John ii, 2.

— **VICTORIA UNIVERSITY.**—The Annual Convocation at Cobourg, last week, was the most imposing and successful that has ever been held. The prospect of listening, for the first time, to a Baccalaureate sermon from the eloquent preacher who has come from England to take a leading part in the affairs of the Wesleyan Church of Canada, awakened the liveliest expectations in Cobourg, and drew many visitors from distant parts of the Province. Mr. Punshon's text was 2 Tim. 1, 5:—*For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.* That sermon will be long remembered. Instead of the usual annual address to the Alumni, Monday evening was occupied with a concert of Sacred Music in the Wesleyan Church. The excellent choir delighted the assembled company with a large variety of admirable pieces. The members of the Medical Alumni Association had a meeting on Monday afternoon, and an adjourned meeting on Wednesday, relating chiefly to certain unprofessional practices of some physicians. On Tuesday afternoon a general meeting of the Alumni Association took place. B. M. Britton, Esq., M.A., of Kingston, occupied the Chair. The following officers were elected for the next year:—Rev. A. Carman, President of the Albert College, Belleville, President. W. Beatty, Esq., M. P. P., of Welland, 1st Vice-President. Wm. Canniff, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S., of Belleville, 2nd Vice-President. A. Hough, M.A., Secretary. Rev. Professor Burwash, M.A., Treasurer. Graduates residing in Cobourg compose the Managing Committee. After choosing the officers, the attention of the meeting was called to the general interests of the University, and especially to the position resulting from the threatened withdrawal of the government grants to the colleges. The Alumni present were of one mind on this question. Decided and strong resolutions were passed, pledging the Association, whose members reside in every part of the Province, to sustain the college, and claiming

its right to continued legislative aid. The graduates and former students of Victoria College are thoroughly in earnest on the subject; they simply insist on the right thing being done; and we doubt not that they, with the other friends of denominational colleges, will, if it should become necessary, make it manifest at the next elections that secularism must not enjoy a monotony of public aid. On Tuesday Evening the Annual Dinner of the Association was given, at which the Chair was occupied by the President, the Rev. A. Carman, M.A. Animated speeches were made by the Rev. W. M. Punshon, M.A., Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Rev. Dr. Nelles, Rev. A. Carman, M.A., W. Beatty, Esq., M.P.P., Dr. Boulter, M.P.P., Professor Wilson, Wm. Kerr, Esq., M.A., B. M. Britton, Esq., M.A., W. W. Dean, Esq., M.A., W. H. Kerr, Esq., of Montreal, Ashton Fletcher, M.A., Dr. Peltier, Dr. Canniff, Dr. Lavell, Dr. Potts, H. Hough, Esq., M.A., G. Young, Esq., J. Mills, B.A., Dr. Diamond, Dr. Fielding, and Dr. O'Rielly. It was exceedingly encouraging to observe the earnest devotion to the interests of the University manifested by all present.

The Annual Convocation is every year regarded with increasing interest. To the students the conferring of degrees is much more than a mere ceremony, to the graduates and their friends it is one of unmingled pleasure; the friends of our denominational college see, in the annually increasing number of graduates, the importance of the work it is doing in the country; while the crowd of visitors and distinguished strangers from a distance, and the eloquent addresses delivered, heighten the prestige from year to year, of this important occasion. The Convocation last Wednesday was the best and the most encouraging that has ever been held. The proceedings were opened by an impressive prayer by the Rev. Jas. Elliot, President of the Conference. Then followed the Latin Oration, by Mr. Edward Charleton, of Ilderton; the Greek Oration, by Mr. James Mills, of Penville; and the Valedictory address, a very excellent oration on "Cowper," by Mr. James Roy, of Cobourg. Mr. Roy's oration was exquisitely tender and beautiful, and the elocution was very superior. The degrees were conferred by the Rev. S. S. Nelles, D.D., President of the University. The following degrees were conferred:—B.A.'s.—James Mills, Gold Medallist; Edward Charleton, Silver Medallist; James E. Blair, Henry Blecker, William Wilkinson, Jonathan B. Dixon, Thomas E. Morden, James Roy, W. H. Rowson, John Scott, Henry H. Shaler.

M. A.—Ashton Fletcher, B. A., L. L. D., Alfred McClatchie, B. A., Andrew Milne, B. A., Byron M. Britton, B. A., Cyrus A. Neville, B. A., David Kennedy, B. A., E. B. Ryckman, B. A., J. C. Wimot, B. A., J. R. Youmans, B. A., Osborne Lambly, B. A., W. F. Morrison, B. A., W. C. Washington, B. A., W. H. McOlive, B. A., L. L. B., W. C. Henderson, B. A., Wm. R. Parker, B. A., Jacob E. Howell, B. A.

L. L. B.—J. J. McClaren, M.A., B. C. L., (*ad uendam*) J. B. Doutre.

M. D.—Thomas Adams, B. A., R. P. Aikman, T. Brunskill, R. Garneau, J. Sylvester, A. Marotte, C. H. Brereton, J. S. Diamond, J. Fielding, P. D. Goldsmith, W. A. Hughson, F. King, R. C. Lloyd, C. Luiz, G. D. Loughead, A. MacLay, L. McAllister, A. N. McBrien, D. Newkirk, J. B. Oliver, M. O'Rielly, F. H. Pope, F. S. Spraul, B. Vigneau, J. Gingras, J. Drainville, A. Laferrere, S. A. Longtin, J. Robitaille, J. Archambault, C. S. Stoker, C. Williams, B. Walden, P. Valois, L. Bodeur, H. Choquette, E. Valcourt, J. Demer., A. Beliveau, N. Richard, S. McHenry, D. Martel.

D. D.—Rev. J. H. James, Governor Sheffield College, England.

Professor Geikie then addressed the Graduates in Medicine, with wise and impressive counsels. *The Prince of Wales Gold Medal* was presented to Mr. James Mill, by the Rev. W. M. Punshon, M.A. *The Prince of Wales Silver Medal* was presented to Mr. Edward Charleton, by the Rev. L. Taylor, D.D. *The Ryerson Prize* to Mr. A. G. Knight, by the Rev. Dr. Ormiston. *The Webster Prize* to Mr. W. H. Rowson, presented by Dr. Browse. *The Hodgins Prize*, to Mr. James Roy, by Wm. Kerr, Esq., M.A. *The Cooly Prize* to Mr. J. W. Sparling, presented by Rev. Dr. Jeffers. *Literary Association Prize*, for the best English Essay, to Mr. Jas. Roy, presented by W. W. Dean, Esq., M.A. *Literary Association Prize*, for Elocution, to Mr. John Scott, by Rev. A. B. Carman, M.A. *Literary Association Prize* for English Essay, to Mr. D. Robson, by Dr. Caniff. *Literary Association Prize* for Elocution, to Mr. James Allan, by Wm. Beatty, Esq., M.P.P. *The Punshon Prize* for Elocution and composition was founded at this Convocation by W. Kerr, Esq., M.A. It was presented to Mr. James Roy, by Rev. Dr. Ryerson. Each of these presentations was accompanied by suitable remarks, addressed to the successful competitor, and the variety of speakers and subjects sustained the interest of the meeting throughout. Rev. Dr. Ormiston was in one of his happiest moods. He was proud of being the first living Graduate of Victoria College, and



he cordially and earnestly bore testimony to the noble service the College had rendered to the cause of education. No description can do justice to the address of Mr. Punshon. Brilliant, strong, conclusive, practical, wise, he contributed greatly to the success and influence of this most important Convocation—important at this critical time,—and effectually rallying the friends of "Old Vic." to the support of our educational standard. His remarks on the relation between Revelations and Science put the subject in its true light, and with remarkable vividness and force. Great as is his eloquence, the simple hearted earnestness of his soul is, to us, the chief charm of his magical speaking. The *Conversazione* on Wednesday evening, is a kind of farewell Soiree. There the friends of Victoria College renew delightful recognitions and intercourse, and graduates, as well as others, bid an affectionate good-bye. Choice music, promenading socialities, and occasional short addresses—with refreshments, keep aloof all feelings of tediousness or ennui. The inimitable tact of the Rev. Dr. Ormiston, who presided, and the mesmeric efficacy of his occasional short speeches, provided the needed intellectual and social stimulus. It was midnight before the great crowd could consent to the reluctant farewell shaking of hands. The music and singlug was, we are told, of unusual excellence. Miss Hatlie Stephens and Miss Jennie Bull, as usual were often ecored. We were not present, but we are told that it was a "complete success." We confidently call upon all the friends of our College, whose very name calls up a thousand associations, to be faithful in bringing their powerful influence to bear, when the opportunity comes, in its behalf.

The Senate consists of the members of the College Board, and of the Professors in the faculties of Arts, Medicine and Law. There was a full attendance of the members of the Board, which consisted of twelve ministers and twelve laymen; and there were professors of the Medical Department from Toronto, and of the Law and Medical Departments from Montreal. Last week's interchange of views, especially in relation to the present position of the College question, made it evident that the several faculties, and the numerous graduates and former students, were of one mind. There is one common feeling of indignant protest, against the preposterous design of giving a monopoly of legislative patronage to the one exclusively secular college at Toronto. It is an attempted violent interference with the Christian conscience of the country, a denial of equal rights, and a tyrannical injustice. The friends of the University insist upon simple justice, in this free country; and they are prepared if it must come to that, and if they are compelled to wait till then, to make it a test question at the next elections. Assuredly no more important question, of provincial politics, is now before the country.—*Christian Guardian*.

—LITERARY PENSIONS IN ENGLAND.—Lady Ellis is set down for sixty pounds sterling, 'in consideration of the services of her husband the late Sir Samuel Ellis, a lieutenant-general in the Royal Marines. A grant of sixty pounds sterling a year is made to the widow of the late Captain Maconochie, in acknowledgment of his services in connection with the improvement of prison discipline. Captain Maconochie, the deviser of the 'mark' system at Norfolk Island, and afterwards Governor of Birmingham jail, was an officer in the navy. Dr. Francis Muir is to have £70 in recognition of his useful contributions to general knowledge. The four daughters of the late Dr. Kitto have a collective pension of £100. The three daughters of the late Dr. Hincks, the Oriental scholar, are also to enjoy £100 a year; and the like annuity is awarded to the widow of the late Dr. Robertson, 'in consideration of his services to literature generally, and especially in the illustration of the ancient history of Scotland.' The daughter of the late Dr. Southwood Smith is to receive a modest allowance of £60. £150 a year to the widow and the niece of the illustrious Farady.

—IRISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—The students of the Irish Catholic University have had a meeting to discuss the proposal of the government to give that body a charter. They were unanimous in expressing a desire that this proposal may be carried out, and a committee was named to draw up a memorial on the subject. Similar memorials are being prepared in various parts of Ireland. On the other hand, at a "preliminary meeting" in Belfast, it has been determined to hold an early assembly, "to protest against the proposal as made by Lord Mayo, and to claim the opening up of Trinity College. It is stated that the question of the Catholic University charter has been settled between the negotiators "in principle." The details will not cause, the writer thinks, any long discussion. "There are several precedents which must be satisfactory to both the high

contracting parties notably the character to the Canadian Catholic University of Laval." It is added that Cardinal Cullen will be the first Chancellor, and that parliament will be asked for £10,000, to meet the expenses of the Catholic University College."

## IX. Departmental Notices.

### MEMORIAL TO THE LATE T. J. ROBERTSON, ESQ.

We desire again to call attention to the Robertson Memorial Circular, recently issued by the Teachers of this Province by the Committee of the Teachers' Association of Upper Canada.

In addition to its publication in this Journal for March, a copy of it was sent to each County and Township Branch of the Association; but, thus far, the response has not been what was expected. In the reasonable expectation that the appeal would ere this have been most heartily responded to by the hundreds of teachers who had so long enjoyed the advantages of Mr. Robertson's experienced counsels and instruction, the Committee have incurred responsibilities to much more than double the amount of subscriptions received. When the Committee issued the circular, they decided that, to meet the wishes of the teachers generally, the memorial to the late Mr. Robertson should be of a two-fold character; that it should embrace in the first place, a portrait of the Head Master to be placed over the master's chair, which he had so worthily filled for twenty years in the Normal School; and, secondly, that it should include a suitable railing around the enclosure at his grave, and an appropriate monument over his remains. The former has been procured and is well executed; and plans and estimates of the latter are in course of preparation. We most earnestly commend the matter to the teachers of the Province, and would say that in honouring the memory of Mr. Robertson, they are but worthily honouring their own profession in the person of so distinguished a member of it, as the first Head Master of the Normal School for Upper Canada.

### 2. TRUSTEES' BLANK FORMS OF REPORTS.

The blank forms for Local Superintendent and School Trustees' reports are now being sent out to County Clerks for distribution to the local Superintendents.

### 3. COMMON SCHOOL MANUAL FOR UPPER CANADA.

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