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# JOURNAL OF



# EDUCATION,

Upper

Canada.

VOL. XV.

TORONTO: OCTOBER, 1862.

No. 10.

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## A PURE AND HEALTHY LITERATURE.

The following deeply interesting paper was read by Henry Roberts, Esq., F.S.A., before the Social Science Association:—In a report which, as the English Vice-President, I presented at the meeting of the Congress held in Frankfort in 1857, the progress of popular education, the special instruction of the industrial classes, and the various measures adopted in England for the promotion of sanitary and domiciliary reform, were briefly alluded to; I also noticed the efforts made in this country for the circulating amongst the laboring population of a pure and wholesome literature, calculated to instruct, and, at the same time, to elevate their minds, as well as to direct them towards the only true source of permanent happiness.

The importance of sanitary ameliorations, and the weighty obligation which rests on those who have the power of promoting them, can scarcely be over-estimated; but viewing man, either in his relation to society, or as a responsible and an immortal being, another field of labour has a still higher claim on those who earnestly desire his well-being here and hereafter; and this is the object aimed at by the circulation of a pure literature.

With the progress of popular education in this country, and the unrestricted liberty of circulating works of every description excepting such as openly outrage morality, the desire of gain was causing the production of a large amount of low literature most objectionable in its character, tending to foster the worst passions of human nature, and stimulating to the commission

of crime, as well as leading to the contempt of all laws, human and Divine.

In order to counteract an evil so insidious, and one productive of so poisonous a state of the moral atmosphere, it was found worse than useless to have recourse to the law, excepting in a very few instances, of its notorious violation. But much greater success has resulted from the various efforts made to supplant, and drive out of the field, the most injurious of the publications in question, by the introduction of such as are calculated to create a healthy state of the moral atmosphere, to cultivate the mind, inform the judgment, to improve and elevate the taste.

The notice which I propose to offer must necessarily, in the main, be restricted to the efforts made by leading societies, some of which, as their titles indicate, were formed originally for the exclusive circulation of strictly religious publications, but now combine with that object a more extensive range of wholesome and instructive literature.

The society first established is that for Promoting Christian Knowledge, which was founded in 1698 by members of the Established Church. It has three distinct objects, one of them being the preparation and circulation of books and tracts, including the Sacred Scriptures and prayer books, in various languages. The outlay on the Society's publications has averaged for the last twenty-five years about £16,000 per annum. Its issues in the year 1860, 1861 were—Bibles and New Testaments, 235,592; Common Prayer Books, 399,997; bound books, 1,952,873; tracts, etc., 4,105,611; total of publications in the year, 6,634,073; and from the year 1733, when its issues were first reported, it has circulated 148,932,287 copies of various publications.

The book Society for Promoting Religious Knowledge among the poor was established in 1750. Its objects are the gratuitous distribution and the sale of Bibles, Testaments, and books of established excellence, not exclusively religious, as well as the publication of original and standard works, adapted to promote religious and moral instruction. It is a rule of this Society that no books of a controversial nature shall be distributed.

The Religious Tract and Book Society of Scotland was instituted in 1793, and it sells none but religious books. The first society in Great Britain to employ colporteurs in the distribution of approved publications, it has now from 110 to 120 agents thus employed. The adaption of such means to the

circumstances of the country, is thus referred to by the Rev. Dr. Macleod, one of Her Majesty's chaplains: "The colportage system is admirably adapted to meet the wants of this country, especially where the population is scattered as in the Highlands; or migratory, as in our mining and manufacturing districts. Many a man will purchase a book or periodical, when they are offered for sale at his fireside, their prices stated, and their contents explained, who would never think of resolving to purchase a book, save some money to do so, and then dress himself in his Sunday clothes, and proceed to a bookseller's shop—there to expose his wants and ignorance! I am convinced that by colporteurs alone can the masses—even in our towns, much more in our scattered villages, hamlets and glens—be supplied with a fireside literature."

During the past year the sale of periodicals by this society has been above 700,000 copies, and of Bibles and Testaments, 20,000.

The Religious Tract Society was founded in 1799, to supply a lack of instructive religious books and treatises at such prices as would place them within reach of the poor. It has been estimated that there was at that period 20,000 hawkers engaged in selling indecent songs and polluting penny papers throughout all parts of the country. Since then a striking change has taken place; for although the issue of pernicious works is still lamentably large, multitudes of publications, well adapted to counteract the evil, have been issued, and find their way into almost every house in the land.

A statement was made in 1851 that there were circulated annually in Great Britain 29,000,000 of infidel and immoral publications, and this was represented to be a larger number than the whole circulation of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, the Religious Tract Society, the British and Foreign, and the Scottish and Trinitarian Bible Societies, together with some 70 religious magazines combined. The numbers were, however, in this instance, greatly exaggerated, even including newspapers, as well as other periodicals, and they are deemed to have been the mere guess-work of a pamphleteer. The numbers issued by the Religious Tract Society alone were then not much short of the total number assigned to immoral publications; and from that period the distribution from the Society's depot in London has increased at the rate of nearly two millions per annum, they having amounted in 1851 to 20,887,064; in 1856 to 31,529,185; and in 1861 to 41,883,921.

The agency for distributing this mass of good literature is all voluntary, excepting that employed on board of emigrant ships, and the sales made through the ordinary channels of trade for books and periodicals—a fact which tells well for the general interest felt in the mental and moral progress of the working classes.

The publication of tracts and books for children, with illustrations calculated to render them attractive, was commenced by this Society at an early period of its history, and they were followed by cheap editions of old authors or original works, written in a plain and popular style; to which were subsequently added educational works; and, lastly, it was deemed advisable to engage in the production of periodical literature, mostly illustrated and suited to various ages and classes.

The contributions of the public to this Society, and the profits arising from its publications, are, after the payment of all expenses, devoted to tract distribution at home and abroad. The annual receipts and expenditure of the Society now average £100,000, and since its establishment the total distribution of its publications has been about 959,000,000 copies.

The British and Foreign Bible Society was established in 1804, for the supply and the circulation of the Sacred Scriptures without note or comment. The Translating, printing, and distributing the Sacred Scriptures, in whole, or in part, has been promoted by this Society, directly or indirectly, into 160 languages or dialects. The number of versions, in whole or part, hitherto completed is 190, of which 140 are translations never before printed. The issues by the Society last year were upwards of one million and a half copies, and its total issues of the Scriptures, or portions of them, now amount to 40,910,474 copies. The total receipts of the Society for the past year were £168,443 15s. 5d., including £77,760 17s. 8d., for the sale of the Scriptures. And the total expenditure of the Society, from its establishment in 1804, has been £5,250,547 13s. 6d.

The Working Men's Educational Union was founded in 1842, for the purpose of "assisting all persons desirous of imparting interesting and popular literary and scientific information, imbued with a sound Christian spirit," whether by the delivery of lectures, the formation of libraries, or the promotion of mutual instruction, or other classes for adults. It interferes as little as possible with local agency, its object being to promote, encourage, and assist that of others, by the preparation and publication, in a cheap and popular form, of the diagrams, drawings, maps, etc., necessary for explaining to the uninformed; for fixing the attention of an auditory, and for rendering lectures of an improving character interesting as well as instructive. The average number of diagrams sold annually, in the nine years since the Society had been established, is 11,908.

From the Dublin Tract Repository, 10, D'Olier-street, there have been issued within the past eight years, 34,000,000 of publications, consisting of pamphlets, small books, tracts, etc.

The Pure Literature Society was established in 1855, for promoting the extensive circulation of periodicals, and of all such books, maps, prints, diagrams, and other publications, as the managing committee may deem really good and useful, whether they be issued by individuals or by societies. This Society abstains from the publication of any description of literature, but within the seven years of its existence it has been the means of distributing about 1,000,000 periodicals, and has issued 55,160 well-selected books, at half-price, in aid of 687 libraries.

The hawking or colportage of carefully selected books and well-chosen prints was systematically commenced in England in 1851, at the instigation of the present Bishop of Rochester; and within the last ten years much has been thus done to promote the circulation of pure literature in the rural districts, and to introduce into the cottages of the peasantry illustrated periodicals and decorative prints of an instructive and pleasing character. The clergy and laity of the Established Church have organized for this purpose sixty-two local associations, which are united with the "Church of England Book-Hawking Union," an association employing about eighty book-hawkers. Their aggregate sale now amounts to about £12,000 per annum. By the extensive circulation of well-chosen cheap periodical literature, these societies are, to a very considerable extent, driving out of the field publications of a highly objectionable character which had a large circulation; and in various other ways book-hawking and colportage wisely conducted is proving itself an educational agency of considerable power and usefulness.

The numerous publications used for special instruction in the schools of the poorer classes, are mostly issued by one or other of the school societies—the National, the British and Foreign, the Home and Colonial, the Sunday School Union, or the Ragged School Union; but those societies generally supply other publications as well as their own, and no accurate estimate as to the total numbers they issue can be given.

A class of publications intended to impart a general knowledge of sanitary science, in its applications to every-day life, has been introduced within the last few years, and it now forms an important branch of the instruction conveyed to the laboring classes by means of the various agencies under review. Many in the middle and upper ranks of society would doubtless derive much practical benefit from a perusal and circulation of the publication in question, the popular style in which they are written recommending a subject that concerns all classes of the community.

The production and circulation of such works is a main object of the Ladies' Sanitary Association, and since its establishment in 1857, it has been the means of distributing from its office in Prince-street, Caveudish-square, 468,500 copies of small publications, sold mostly at from one penny to twopence each, and at a reduced price to its subscribers.

Considering the immense influence which books and small publications exercise over the mind, as well as the great improvement in the general character of our cheap literature within the last fifteen or twenty years, and especially the extensive distribution of the Scriptures, we feel justified in attributing, in no small degree, to "the circulation of this pure and instructive literature," the striking change in the conduct of our manufacturing operatives, at the present time of severe privation and suffering, as compared with the riotous proceedings of former days; a remembrance of which, even now, causes us to shudder. The operatives then had our pity, but we now regard them with mingled feelings of admiration and sympathy. May their conduct prove instructive to some exalted in authority, who knowing not the value of moral influence in governing a people, fetter the human mind, and incarcerate those who, having experienced that the ways of true wisdom are pleasant, and her paths peace, would lead others to walk therein.

## 2. EVILS OF NOVEL READING.

The 'novel-reading mania' is alarmingly on the increase notwithstanding some sage philosophers, half a century ago, indulged in a belief, that at their resent time there would be a universal demand for the *real* and the *truthful*. But the love for the marvellous, the scandalous and the ludicrous seems yet to keep pace with civilisation and refinement, and the augmentation of works of fiction and romance in the same ratio. The reading world to-day demands more fiction than fact—more fancy than truth; and these vile scribblers and vain contributors well understood how to prepare the well 'spiced-up' poisonous draught for the palate of the reading millions. Nor are these 'filthy-lucres' publishers and corrupt vendors, when making a purchase, blind to the wants of this frivolous 'light-reading' age. They are well aware that, by mixing this veil

trash with a little profound matter, they can secure a larger class of readers, and thereby fill their secretaries with orders and their safes with gold.

A new religious work, if purchased at all, is left to lie on the centre-table without any one knowing the truths it contains; while the latest novel, which has its place by its side, is caught up with eagerness and read by daylight and by lamplight till perhaps past midnight, when its 'intoxicated devotee' lies down to dream over its odious and insipid matter. Nor does its baneful influence stop here. The book is lent from one to another until a score or more have breathed-in the immoral miasma of its pages before it reaches the centre-table again.

The tendency of novel-reading is such as might be expected. It creates a thirst which is only satisfied by obtaining each new novel when published, and thus spending time and money for nought but trash. It sows the seeds of vice; it taints the imagination and undermines the foundation of virtue and morality. It corrupts the heart, obscures the reason, paralyses the conscience, depraves the intellect, and perverts the judgment. The foul principles imbibed and the images gathered will abide in the memory and extend their pernicious influence to the close of life.

It instills into the mind a habit of reading merely for amusement instead of for instruction. And this habit becomes so fixed that science loses its power to charm, and history becomes dull and tedious, philosophy distasteful, and whatever requires thought and study is laid aside; even the Holy Bible is left to lie in its quiet resting-place undisturbed, and religious works of every nature become insipid, although glowing with eloquence; and nothing except the odious, fascinating novel can gratify the perverted mind. Thus it tends to sap the strength of the intellect, and, like the 'drunkard's cup,' it brings along in its train of evils the natural consequences of a disordered brain—*mental delirium tremens*. Our insane asylums could furnish us with many a blighted intellect, many a dark picture of insanity, caused by the direful effects of novel-reading. Beware, then, gentle reader, of these worthless novels. There are thousands of good books of real value, written with taste by authors of the highest reputation. What apology, then, can be offered for devoting a single hour to a book absolutely worthless, and one which will weaken the understanding and corrupt the heart? Would you aid in the benevolent work of stopping these 'literary dramshops' from diffusing their stale and unwholesome fermented beverage broadcast over the land? Then buy no more novels. Every such novel that is bought encourages the guilty author and publisher to make another; and thus it not only endangers your own morals but pays a premium on the means of ruining others.

Would you be an ornament to society and a blessing to your race? Buy and aid in circulating good books and above all the 'Book of Life;' but beware of the contaminating influence of novels, these books of death,—shun them as you would a serpent or the 'drunkard's cup.'

## II. Papers on Practical Education.

### 1. SIR JOHN B. ROBINSON ON LEGAL EDUCATION.

On the occasion of the presentation, by the law students, of an Address to the ex-Chief Justice of Upper Canada on his retirement from that office, the venerable Chief thus replied to them:—

You give me much pleasure by this expression of your respect and esteem.

I should have been wanting in a material part of my public duty if I had failed to treat with consideration and courtesy all persons, whether young or old, properly addressing themselves to me on any matter of business; and I should, besides, have been setting a bad example to a large class of young gentlemen out of whom our future Judges are to be taken.

Since I began the study of law, in 1807, there has been, as we must admit, time for many changes. I will notice a few which have taken place in the condition of law students.

In deference to the better opportunities of obtaining a superior education, and by way of inducements to youth to avail themselves of them, the period of pupilage, if I may so apply the term, has been shortened by two years in favor of graduates in Arts, or in Law—and students at the present day have the greater advantage of hearing lectures on the different branches of law, which encourages and enables them to study the science systematically, as other sciences are studied.

It is a great convenience to them also that they are saved both time and trouble by the manner in which our public Statutes have been consolidated and arranged, which was mainly the work of a late distinguished Judge, whose kind interest in the law students attracted in a particular manner their respect and regard.

I will mention as another advantage, and one most material, that much that was formerly difficult and embarrassing in the mere

technicality of the law has by late changes been swept away, which gives more time to the student for acquiring what better recommends itself to his reason and judgment, as being really necessary to the solution of questions of right.

But, as is commonly the case, the changes wrought by time cannot in this instance be made the subject of unmixed congratulation. There is now in the altered state of Upper Canada—its business, its society, its pleasures—more to distract the attention of youth than there used to be in the primitive condition of things at the time to which I have alluded; and these circumstances tend strongly, I have no doubt, to increase the risky failure in a career in which there is little chance of success without great labor and perseverance.

Thus, when the student has prepared himself as best he can, for the practice of his profession, he finds now a multitude in the field ready to compete with him not only for the honors and prizes which follow a remarkable career, but also for the moderate share of practice that is necessary to secure even a comfortable support.

I remember that for more than twenty years after I came to the Bar, any young lawyer of sound understanding and obliging disposition, though he were but moderately learned in his profession, might go into any of our towns or villages, and if he were but attentive, and honorable in his conduct, and usually to be found in his office when he might reasonably be expected to be there, he was sure to be able not only to live in comfort by his profession, but to acquire a position of influence in the community.

I am aware that at the present day this is by no means so certain. I fear, indeed, that largely as the number of clients has increased, yet the number of those who are relying upon the practice of the law for advancement in the world, or at least for independence, is increasing in a greater proportion.

Still, after all, the door is never closed to genius, or to constant and well directed perseverance. The laborious study, the patience and self-denial of a Kenyon or an Eldon, cannot always be depended upon for leading in any country to such eminence as they attained; but it is seldom that they fail to advance to honor and independence those who resolutely rely upon them.

If I may be permitted to offer a few words of advice on this occasion, where they may seem rather out of place, I strongly recommend to you to cherish a laudable ambition, to aspire to excellence, and to hope for distinction from studious application, and after you shall be called to the Bar, you should not be discouraged by a few months, or even years, of hope deferred. You would do wisely too, I think, to make some one branch of the law an especial object of study—resolving to know, so far as it may be possible for you, everything that can be known in it, meaning and hoping to become in time an admitted authority in that particular department of the law, whether your inclination and judgment shall lead you to select the criminal law, the law of real property, commercial law, or pleading generally, or practice generally.

Such a course would, I believe, insure to the person who pursues it, the advantage of soon being generally and favourably known. He would acquire a reputation which must advance him in his profession, secure for him the confidence and respect of his legal brethren, and make his services sought after by those who have valuable interests to protect.

I can remember too well, how difficult it is in youth to govern ourselves by the maxims of which we shall assuredly feel the truth in our maturer years, whether we shall have conformed to them or not. Those are happy who consider at the outset of life that every individual has his appointed time on earth, that years speed swiftly away, and cannot be recalled, and that to leave behind us some honorable proofs that we have not lived in vain should be our aim, and is what we should, if possible accomplish.

"Stat sua cuique dies; breve et irreparabile tempus,  
Omnibus est vitæ; sed famam extendere factis  
Hic labor, hoc opus est."

### 2. VISITING SCHOOLS.

Parents will walk the streets for hours, to examine fashions, to find the cheapest tailor, or to purchase a suit of clothes for the child, by which to adorn the body; but to enter the school-room to see that the proper encouragement and aid is given to adorn the mind, is another question, and one in which parents generally have not seen anything worthy their notice. They are too much engrossed in business, or they cannot understand what is right or wrong. The child is already further advanced than his parents, and thus the chapter is commenced and finished.

It never occurs to their minds, that their presence is an encouragement, whether they understand the study or not; they forget that teachers are encouraged by these visits; that altogether the child is greatly benefitted, and thus the parent rewarded for the little time spent in school. We hope to see a reform in this matter. Parents

will soon discover the advantage, if they will only make the experiment. It will soon become a pleasure. There could be no more pleasant manner for a mother to spend an afternoon (and by far more creditable to many of our city mothers, than promenading our fashionable streets two or three afternoons of the week, merely to see and be seen.) Let your children see by the interest you take in education, that it is worth striving for, that they are now preparing for future usefulness by developing their reasoning faculties and cultivating correct and studious habits of life, which for years to come, will afford them many hours of pleasant reflections, combined with the satisfaction it will give them to know that they not only have reaped personal advantages, but that in society they are more capable of fulfilling their peculiar duties which Providence has placed in their sphere of life.—*Family and School Room.*

### 3. MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS.

Let us have music, singing, in all our schools. It is pleasant, healthful and ennobling. Let it commence and close every session. Let it accompany calisthenics and gymnastics. And if at any time the pupils become listless, or restless, suspend work and sing a song. Nothing equals it to "chase heavy hours away."—*Mass. Teacher.*

## III. Education in various Countries.

### 1. EDUCATION GRANT IN GREAT BRITAIN FOR 1862.

The vote for public education in Great Britain during the current year is the largest ever granted, amounting in all to more than £1,100,000, which is thus distributed:—£842,119 for England and Scotland, and the remainder for Ireland. The estimate is framed according to the old code, and every school admitted to aid before July next, will receive its next grant as if the system had remained unchanged; but schools admitted to aid after July, will fall under the revised code. This causes a charge of £13,500, which would, under the old code, have belonged to next year, because, while the grants to pupil-teachers were not payable at the time of their admission, the new grants obtainable for the examination of the scholars in reading, writing, and arithmetic, will have to be paid at once for the year ending at the date of inspection. In Great Britain, in 1861, the grants for building amounted to £99,506 to meet £207,043 voluntarily subscribed, and additional school accommodation was provided for 47,103 children. The pupil-teachers increased from 15,535 to 16,277, and the sum of £301,826 was paid to them, or for their being taught—a sum which brings the expenditure upon them since 1839 up to more than £2,000,000. The capitation grants, from 3s. to 6s. on children attending school 176 days, amounted in 1861 to £77,239, and the vote now to be taken is to be £86,000; the payment was made on 318,226 children, being 42.75 per cent. of the children attending 5,199 schools—an increase of 54,220 children that year. The sum of £1,177 was paid in respect of 5,686 scholars above twelve years old attending night schools (connected with day schools under inspection) on 50 nights. The number of certificated teachers in charge of schools at the end of 1861 was 8,698, an increase of 987 over the previous year; nearly £130,000 was paid in direct augmentation of their salaries, and the vote proposed this year is £142,000. The number of students in training colleges increased 21, and was 2,847 at the end of the year; the vote is £100,000, as before. Small grants are made (£1,600 will now be voted) for industrial departments of common elementary schools, having land, kitchens, laundries, or work-rooms attached to them. Uncertified ragged-schools are also aided, but the grant is to be reduced to £2,500. The total number of elementary day schools visited by her Majesty's Inspectors in 1861 was 7,705, and school-rooms under separate teachers, 10,900; and there were present 1,028,690 children—an increase of 65,758 over 1860. Adding 32,481 children inspected in 442 Poor Law Schools, and 5,226 in 57 industrial schools, the total number of children was 1,066,297. Of the £813,441 expended from the public purse upon the schools of Great Britain in 1861, £495,471 went to schools connected with the Church of England, £71,358 to those connected with the British and Foreign School Society, £37,775 to Wesleyan Schools, £32,787 to Roman Catholic schools in England and Wales, and £2,408 in Scotland, which latter country also received £53,398 for schools connected with its Established Church; £38,829 for Free Church Schools, and £6,052 for Episcopal Church Schools. The establishment in London, and the inspection, cost £67,185.—*Educa. Times.*

### 2. EDUCATIONAL SECTION OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.

The annual congress of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science was opened on Thursday, 5th June. In the

evening Lord Brougham, the President, delivered his inaugural address in Exeter Hall. The proceedings in the Educational section were inaugurated by an address from the Very Rev. Dr. Milman, Dean of St. Paul's. The opening address of the President of the Educational section, passed in review every phase of the subject to the consideration of which the labours of the section were to be devoted. After dwelling on the importance and necessity of national education, which he observed could not be too extensively afforded, he referred to the different systems of imparting instruction which are adopted throughout the various schools in the kingdom:—

With regard to the system of "cramming" for show purposes, he pointed out that the ostentatious exhibitions of schools, however necessary to keep up public interest—which, after all, was the most vigilant inspection—seemed to have a tendency to become mischievous. If a school examination was made a spectacle to the neighbourhood, which was to be excited and astonished in order that its support might be gained, it was too much to expect that the innate vanity of the best of men would not be sorely tempted to sacrifice to the brilliant proficiency of a few the less effective progress of the many. It inevitably became a kind of flower-show. The rare and beautiful plants would be selected for exhibition, put in the best light, and watered up to the highest perfection, while the rest were left to pine and dwindle, and grow downwards into skillfully-managed obscurity. There was, however, an education anterior to that of school—the education at the mother's breast; and as to that, they might depend upon it that the best educated female would in general be the best mother, and do her duty best to her infant children. But this, above all, should be recollected, that the first duty of national education was the health of the children. A sickly child might be very intelligent, over-intelligent, but in general, quickness of intelligence would be much affected by animal spirits, and animal spirits rested on healthfulness.

Touching the character of the education which ought to be imparted in the schools for the people, he urged that regard should be had for the future course of life which the children were likely to pursue, and that the facts impressed upon their memory should be facts which would be applicable to the whole course of that future life. Whether and how they could blend industrial with ordinary education might well occupy the thoughts of reflective men; but in the lower female schools this was especially worthy of consideration.

He was, also, well aware that many portions of teaching, in themselves appeared to teach little with regard to future usefulness, and which yet might be of great importance as exercises for the faculties; but he was at a loss to see why the two might not be combined. The memory might as well be stored with facts likely to be produced on future occasions, as with those for the application of which they might never stand in need. The subject of religion in combination with secular education, was next referred to, and here also the very rev. gentleman condemned the process of "cramming" in the matter of scriptural and controversial texts and scriptural history. He did not think that that was the way to imbue the mind with a true and deep sense of religion. Let the Bible be in their schools, but let them keep it in its proper place. Let them not make it at the same time a spelling-book and a prayer-book. They should try to make the child a Christian, not a theologian, and should remember that to repeat religious words by rote was not to become religious. In conclusion, the very rev. president congratulated the section on the decided progress which education had made and was making throughout the country.—*London Educational Times.*

### 2. ENGLISH AND AMERICAN SCHOOL GIRLS.

Anthony Trollope, in his new book on America, thus speaks of our schools girls:—"I do not know any contrast that would be more surprising to an Englishman, up to that moment ignorant of the matter, than that which he would find by visiting, first of all, a free school in London, and then a free school in New York. The female pupil at a free school in London, as a rule, is either a ragged pauper or a charity girl; if not degraded, at least stigmatized by the badges and dress of the charity. We Englishmen know well the type of each, and have a fairly correct idea of the amount of education which is imparted to them. We see the result afterwards when the same girls become our servants, and the wives of our grooms and porters. The female pupil at a free school in New York is neither a pauper nor a charity girl. She is dressed with utmost decency. She is perfectly cleanly. In speaking to her you cannot in any degree guess whether her father has a dollar a day or three thousand dollars a year. Nor will you be enabled to guess by the manner in which her associates treat her. As regards her own manner to you, it is always the same as though her father were, in all respects, your equal."



#### 4. DEFECTS IN AMERICAN SYSTEM OF EDUCATION.

The course of study in our schools is sadly wanting in determination and regularity. It would not do to insist upon making all the pupils of our schools use just so many days, at so many pages a day, in going through their books; but some system of study, having some sanction of public opinion or authority, to lift all pupils constantly toward a more and more thorough and extensive average or fixed quantum of attainments would necessarily be very useful. Oral instruction is a means which should be used more extensively than at present. The teacher's eye, the teacher's voice, hold and sway the pupils, precisely as the orator's eye and voice hold and sway his audience. When the instructor meets the scholar's eye and talks to him, living power passes over to the child. But a book is dead; and deadest of all to children. A real teacher needs no book. A real teacher cares very little which geography or which arithmetic his class uses. Especially with the younger classes, the common method should be exactly reversed, and instead of getting their knowledge out of the book—or trying to—and being helped (perhaps) by the teacher, the children should receive their knowledge from the teacher, while the book should be entirely subordinate. Thus only can the teacher fulfil his office; and if this be called laborious and exhausting, we answer, it is right, however!

And in order to enable the teacher to do this, we very exceedingly need a system of methodology; a system which shall furnish the teacher with correct knowledge how to teach; what, for instance, shall be his very first question to beginners in arithmetic; what their answer might probably be; what second question might follow; and so on. Not as an invariable set of catechisms, but as an instance of the right sort of conversation. And this instruction for the teacher should be in the same spirit, but with the proper variations, cover the ground of the whole course he is to teach, and more too—just as the company officers are commanded to be taught not only company drill but battalion drill also. Our schools for instructing teachers are advancing in this department; but it is still their greatest want, and they are extremely deficient in it. As a rule, the instruction given to teachers in this country is almost entirely in knowledge, not in the mode of communicating it. A startling error; for it is scarcely an exaggeration to say that it is less important how much the teacher knows, than how well he knows how to teach it.—*N. Y. Independent.*

#### 5. AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL REFORMS.

The present insurrection being a revolt of ignorance against knowledge as truly as of lawlessness against order and idleness against industry, it is truly gratifying to find that the interests of education in the loyal states have not as yet suffered in the least from its ravages. The people of the Empire State in 1861, as in 1860, contributed each his dollar on the average to the training of its youth in the public schools. A larger proportion of teachers than of any other profession, thinks Superintendent Keyes, have responded to the call of their country and gone forth to fight its battles; yet their places have been promptly filled by fresh recruits, who are emulous in more senses than one "to teach the young idea how to shoot." There is the usual increase of pupils attendant on those fountains of knowledge provided by the munificence of a free people; the aggregate is nearly seven-eighths of a million, or twenty-two per cent. of the whole population. What is better, the figures not only roll up to their ordinary amount, but the cause of education makes progress in improvements introduced. It is to these more particularly that we desire at this time to call attention.

One of the existing defects pointed out by the superintendent is a lack of accurate statistics furnished by a large number of teachers and district officers. The records of attendance are often made out on loose slips of paper, and then carelessly mislaid, so that nothing more than an approximation by guess can be made to the department at Albany. The present law, apportioning moneys according to population, not to actual attendance at school, properly returned, is obviously defective in this respect, since the authorities can exercise no compulsion in the matter. Fullness and accuracy as respects statistical information, are matters of prime necessity to the public; and the sooner the evil complained of can be remedied the better. Mr. Keyes recommends that suitable registry be furnished each district hereafter; and that all grants for school libraries be for the present withheld, as the large sums thus expended are squandered. In case it should be deemed advisable to continue such appropriations, they ought to be granted only when the districts severally co-operate in the object, by raising a certain quota of the funds, thus making sure that the books will be properly taken care of. In support of this view we would allude to the fact that while the schools in cities expended little more than one-fourth of those in the rural districts for libraries, payments for apparatus in the former were more than ten times greater than in the latter, last year.

We are happy to find that views which we expressed in the

columns of this journal some time since, on the subject of military training, are warmly supported by the Superintendent, as conducing not only to the national defence, but to habits of prompt and concerted action, obedience to constituted authorities, emulation in excellence, &c., in the ordinary relations of life. In the ardour of his zeal for the promotion of this object one can overlook the irregular sallies which that officer makes into the ranks of insurrection. "A more damning record of black ingratitude will never be found inscribed on the pages of history," he observes, "than that which recounts the double-dyed treason of those pampered and petted ingrates (West Point graduates)." There is more truth than poetry in this; though it might have appeared to better advantage in a newspaper than in a report on *Education*.

What is termed "Object Teaching" receives a hearty approval at the hands of Superintendent Keyes. It proposes to address the pupil as far as possible through the senses, especially that of sight, rather than overload the memory by definitions, rules, or lessons got by rote. We do not understand the improvements made by Pestalozzi of being so much a new system—an educational *pathy*, so to speak. It is rather making more use of the senses as auxiliaries in impressing on the understanding the meaning of lessons which our forefathers were satisfied with merely committing to the memory. The great drift of modern educational reform, has fortunately, set in this direction. To show the processes of growth or decay in a plant, day by day, in connection with information on botany obtained from books, must render the latter tenfold more valuable than it otherwise would be. Aside from this, it trains the pupil to habits of close observation through life, as well as to more thoroughness in what he undertakes, and is found to have a most salutary effect in preserving order in school. At the same time it must be remembered that only a small portion of even the nouns in our language can be illustrated to the eye; while the difficulty is greater with other classes of words. But let us by all means make the best use of what is within our power.

The consolidation of schools in the larger villages is found to work very satisfactorily; but much remains to be done in this respect. "It needs little argument, with intelligent minds, to establish the proposition that in a neighborhood containing from three hundred to five hundred children, or more, a school organization that shall classify these \* \* \* must be far more efficient than one that suffers them to be gathered, helter skelter, into half a dozen or more schools; in each of which all grades of attainment are found." Accordingly the superintendent recommends the enactment of some measures to bring about this desirable consummation. Beyond a doubt there is much to be done—much time, labor, and money to be economized—in promoting such superior organization. The superintendent's plan has reference to only a portion of the rural districts; but we believe, after long consideration of the matter, that quite as much may be accomplished for our *city* schools. This can be done by a more perfect division of labor—that great modern doctrine which lies at the foundation of excellence in every sphere of duty. Strange that at this day it should hardly have found admission into the school-room.

A radical defect, we take it, in our otherwise magnificent educational machinery, has been that each teacher has been required to do pretty much everything—to excel in governing, which is an art in itself, as well as be able to impart instruction on every subject from the alphabet to the toughest of *ologies*. With the lapse of each year the difficulty becomes greater. Few men, indeed, are capable of acquiring such a degree of excellence in all branches as require to be taught in common schools, to say nothing of the art of government, in which diligent students are notoriously apt to be defective. How often are men found to excel in penmanship who are indifferent as mathematicians and positively wretched as readers? We are not exaggerating when we say that scarcely one teacher in a hundred succeeds in imparting a thoroughly practical knowledge of English grammar; indeed, the superintendent himself, while currying down pretty roughly a portion of the so-called instructors for their ignorance, has more than once set the rules of syntax as well as elegance in style at defiance. The reader will probably recollect the castigation administered by a leading morning paper a short time since, to one of our most distinguished teachers—a castigation which was deserved, however apt to outrage Murray and Brown may be the censor, which took that unfortunate instructor to task.

But the truth is that such defects must continue to exist so long as men are required to teach everything. Excellence cannot be reached in any department of giving instruction, any more than in making a steam engine, until a division of labor has taken place, each selecting that department for which he has a special taste or aptitude. When teachers shall have been as thoroughly classified as pupils are now; when the organization of labor in a school shall be as complete as in a cotton factory, then, and not till then, may equally happy results be expected.

Our space forbids a further elaboration of idea at present. Let it suffice to add that in our belief it will be found to combine with much higher excellence than now exists, the grand desideratum of greater economy in money, while affording the teacher equal or superior remuneration to that now given him. That such advantages may be derived from the plan we propose to prove at another time.

#### 6. THE FREE SCHOOLS OF NEW YORK.

The free schools which I visited in New York impressed me very favourably. The class-rooms are clean, convenient, and very plainly furnished. The instruction is entirely gratuitous—everything, down to the pens and ink, being provided by the State. Education is not compulsory; but the demand for it is so great that, practically, a very small proportion of the children in the city fail to receive regular instruction, and the school benches are always more than filled. Judging from the entry-books of the school I looked over, the social standing of the children's parents would embrace every class, from the professional man with limited means, to the common artisan. The sole practical qualification appeared to be that the child's parents must be able to afford it a decent dress; and, in a city where rags are so uncommon as in New York, this qualification is nothing like so severe a one as it would be with us. The dresses of the pupils varied from silks and broadcloth to the commonest stuffs and velveteen—but they were all scrupulously clean. There is no religious instruction given, so that children of all sects come equally; but, at the commencement of the day's work, a few verses of the Bible are read, and, I believe, the Lord's Prayer is repeated. The teachers in all the classes, except two or three of the highest boys' classes, are women. All of them struck me as intelligent, and many were very pretty and ladylike. Their salaries vary from about £50 to £100; and, as their work is finished by 3 P.M. the pay seems liberal enough. The average age of the girl-pupils is from seven to seventeen; that of the boys from seven to fifteen, after which the ablest boys are sent from the schools, to receive a classical education at the Free Academy. Reading, writing, ciphering, geography, grammar, history, book-keeping for the boys, and moral philosophy for the girls, were the staples of instruction; and I could not discover that any foreign language was ever attempted to be taught.

I came in to the classes as a casual visitor, and therefore saw the working of the system in its every-day aspect. The children apparently understood very well what they were taught. I know that I heard a number of those mysterious questions asked, about what the price of a silk dress would be, containing I am afraid to say how many yards and fractions of yards, supposing that three-elevenths and five-seventeenths of a foot of silk cost so much. I believe that the answer was given rightly, and I am sure that the children explained very distinctly why they gave the answer which they did give. What struck me most was the look of intelligence and the orderly behaviour of the children. In some classes there were nearly fifty children, and yet the one mistress appeared to have no difficulty in maintaining order, almost without punishment of any kind. The highest class of girls were engaged, when I was taken to their class-room, in the study of what was called intellectual philosophy, and were set, in my presence, to discuss the theme, whether the imagination can create, or only combine. I admit freely that they talked as much nonsense as any score of young ladies—or boys too, for that matter—always do, when they begin discussing the question of innate ideas; but they obviously knew and understood all the stock common-places and appropriate illustrations which it is proper to quote upon the subject. The teacher was obviously a strong abolitionist in her views, and propounded a question to her class, whether a New England minister, who preached pro-slavery doctrines, could be right subjectively. Nine-tenths of the class disposed of the question with more feeling than logic—by an enthusiastic negative. Indeed, the vote was unanimous, with the exception of one lazy, fat-looking girl, who had been amusing herself, during the discussion on innate ideas, by tickling her neighbour's neck with a pen, and who woke up at this question, with the remark, "Well, I guess he'd be about right anyhow." At these schools, by the way, coloured children are not admitted.

Besides the State schools, there are several free public schools, kept up by voluntary contributions. The Roman Catholics have large schools, to which they try very hard to attract the children of their own creed, as they look with great, and from their own point of view not unfounded, jealousy on the free schools. The "House of Industry" schools, too, at the Five Points, which I went over, are chiefly maintained by the Episcopalians, and seem to be a very useful institution. Situated in the very lowest quarter of New York, they are designed to educate children of a class too low to find admission elsewhere. They are, in truth, Ragged Schools; and, in order to induce the parents to let their children come, the school

feeds them during school hours. In the classes I went through, there was scarcely a child born of American parents. There were representatives of almost every foreign nation, but the majority were Germans, Irish, and Negroes; for the poor about the Five Points are too wretched to care for colour. Of course very little can be taught to such a class of children, but still they learn to read and write, and, for children, they sing beautifully. By these and similar schools, as far as I could learn, one-half of the "Arab" population in New York receive some kind of education, so that the proportion of the rising generation in this city which will grow up without any education is but small. In the other Free States, where there are not the great difficulties of an enormous city to contend with, the spread of education is even more universal than in New York.—"Three Weeks in New York," by "E. D." in *MacMillan's Magazine*.

#### 7. SCHOOLS IN CONNECTICUT, 1861.

The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, David N. Camp, Esq., is an interesting and useful document. It treats of the wants of the schools, methods of teaching, classification, etc. In answer to your question, "What in your opinion is needed to make our Common Schools more efficient?"—from sixty-three towns comes the reply, "better teachers" and from sixty, "greater parental interest." We are inclined to think these two combined would improve the schools of any State.

It appears from the report that the number of children between four and sixteen in the State is 109,042; number of pupils registered in winter 73,949; number in summer 67,982; number of male teachers in winter 970, in summer 171; of female teachers in winter 1,029, in summer 1,810; average wages of male teachers \$32.02, of female teachers \$16.14; school fund \$2,050,460.49.

#### 8. EDUCATION IN ITALY.

On the last night of 1861 a census of the Kingdom of Italy was taken. The results are not yet fully known; but it is stated in the *Evangelical Christendom* that the proportion of persons able to read is nearly as follows: in Lombardy, between 30 and 40 per cent; in Piedmont, from 20 to 30 per cent; in Tuscany, from 10 to 20 per cent; while in the region near Rome not one in a hundred can read. Settembrini, Inspector-General of Public Instruction, reports that in the province of Naples only one child in 1000 gets any school-training. The government is earnestly engaging in the establishment of schools.—*Illinois Teacher*.

#### 9. GARIBALDI ON EDUCATION.

This eminent man has been recently making a tour in Northern Italy. At Cremona a deputation of young men from the various educational institutions of the city waited on him, and he addressed them in the following memorable words, which the municipal and scholastic authorities of Cremona have decreed should be written in golden letters on the threshold of their gymnasium:—

"Youth should indulge in no vices, for vice is the disease of the soul; youth should love instruction, because an uneducated man is no better than a monkey. He who acquires most knowledge rises nearest to his Maker, from whom his soul springs. Instruction should be grounded on solid moral education, and on this the social edifice should rest. Do you care for honor? Honor can only be acquired by virtue and instruction; nations, like individuals, when weak are insulted and enslaved. Bear with other people's weakness; submit to no insults; love instruction; instruction is bread and independence; it availed me in foreign lands to place me above want. Love instruction; it was the want of it which prevented us from joining together in a single family. Had Italy been instructed she would long before this have known that her boundary was not the wall of a town or the hedge of a garden, but the high Alps and the broad sea; she would have swept from her all that defies her."

There is a world of mighty truth in the foregoing paragraph, and it would be well for young men in all parts of the world to study and act up to it. In this country, where education is open to all classes, there can be no excuse for not acquiring that instruction on which the hero of Italy lays so much stress.

#### 10. IMPROVEMENT AND INCREASE OF TRAINING SCHOOLS OF PRUSSIA.

The *Centralblatt* (official organ of the Ministry of Public Instruction) has the following:—"The question has again been lately raised in meetings of teachers, partly with reference to the law of public instruction at present under preparation, whether training-schools may be more advantageously established as *Internats*, institutions

within which the students are to live, or as *Externats*, merely day-schools. The Ministry of Instruction in Prussia, since the training of teachers in special seminaries was adopted in principle, has always been of the mind that training-schools should be established as Internats. Only where the necessary buildings were wanting, have Externats been permitted in whole or in part; and such exist at present in Angerburg, Marienburg, Berlin, and Petershagan. On the other hand, during the last ten years, every care has been taken to give the Internats, in all outward relations, a character corresponding to the aim and the requirements of social life in larger communities. With this view, altogether new edifices have been erected for training-schools in Münsterberg, Steinau, Eylau, Pölitz, Exin, Lubenthal, Peiskretschan; while the training-school in Neuwied is nearly completed, and that in Drossen is in process of erection. Further, the following royal castles have been transformed into training-schools:—Copenick, Oranienburg, Elsterweda, and Barby. The castle of Kozmin has been purchased with a similar view, and a new training-school has been established at Osterburg. Exertions have been used to give these new training-schools such an architectural arrangement as, while preserving simplicity, seemed most likely to promote the ends of health, and unassuming yet self-respecting habits of life. The principle accusation brought against the system of Internats by their opponents is, that a cloister-like or barrack-like nature is inseparable from them, and that the personal life of each student is watched with an oppressive anxiety and closeness. The Administration of Public Instruction in Prussia, has, from experience, formed the opinion that such a character is not necessarily connected with Internats, and that such accusations do not apply to the Prussian training-schools."—*Museum*.

#### 11. EDUCATIONAL REFORM IN RUSSIA.

The reform about to take place in education in Russia concern not only the Universities, but the entire system of public instruction, more especially the common schools. With regard to these, the term reform cannot, properly speaking, be used; for, so long as serfdom existed, popular education was nearly out of the question. The Ministry has resolved, in order that it may be able to proceed with all desirable certainty in making the requisite changes, to lay the drafts of the regulations for the common schools, etc., before the leading professional men and teachers of Germany, France, and Belgium. It is proposed, meanwhile, to lay down the principle, that in town and country, a school shall be established for every 1000 of the male population. Where the establishment of separate girls'-schools cannot be accomplished, girls would be taught along with boys up to the age of thirteen. The maintenance of the school would be the affair of the Commune; the children of ratepayers receiving instruction free, those of others paying a small fee. The ratepayers would choose curators of the schools, who, however, would only have charge of economic matters; in other respects the schools would be subject to a Government director.—*Allg. D. Lehrerzeitung*.

Diesterweg, reviewing an educational work published in St. Petersburg, in the *Rheinische Blätter*, remarks:—Generally speaking, Russian educationists and teachers have hitherto had recourse to foreign countries. Every year private individuals, and persons specially deputed by government, travelled through the countries of Europe most advanced in culture, Germany, France, and England, in order to make themselves acquainted with the prevailing systems of training and instruction, the schools and their methods, with a view of afterwards transplanting to their own soil what they found adapted for that end. The Russian book trade dealt mainly in foreign works, issued in the original or translated. For a number of years past a change has been to some extent taking place. Already several educational journals are published in Russia in the national language; and to these various German teachers are contributors, their articles being in German and translated into Russian.—*Museum*.

#### 12. SCHOOLS IN KORDOFAN.

In Kordofan, the village schoolmaster seems to be acquainted with the *Simultaneous System*. In a central position of the village there is a *arkuba*, or hut, which is the school where the male children only are instructed in the Koran; this they must learn by heart; and when this is attained, and they can read and write, their education is completed. Very few, however, attain such proficiency as to be able to repeat the whole of the sacred book, or even to master the art of writing so far as to concoct a letter. A fakeer, one whose province it is to study the Koran, and to communicate its contents without comment to the people, is the schoolmaster, for which the parent of each boy pays him two piastres (5d.) a month. They attend school from 4 to 6 in the morning, and from 7 to 9 in the evening, in order that their instruction may interfere as little as possible with other pursuits. The twilight coming to an end soon after sunset, and the evenings, unless during moonlight, being dark,

every boy is expected to bring a log of wood wherewith to make a bonfire, around which they all sit in the evenings. The fakeer recites a sentence of the Koran from memory; this is repeated at the top of each boy's voice several times; and, having mastered it, another sentence is repeated, and so on. Every lesson is commenced by repetition of the whole of the verses and chapters which they may have previously learnt, by all the boys at the same time, in different keys, and as loud as they can; and to a stranger unaccustomed to such proceedings, it seems like Bedlam let loose. Each boy has to furnish himself with a piece of board, eight inches wide by one foot in length, on which, with a reed, a sentence of the Koran is written in ink. This is taken home and copied by the boy during his leisure hours, constituting his instruction in writing; no composition ever being expected of him. After two or three years' such instruction, they have finished their education; which, however, they generally contrive to forget in a yet shorter time, and, with the exception of a knowledge of straggling verses in the Koran, are pretty much in the same position as when they commenced their studies.

From the following fact, the teacher may gather an apt Scripture illustration; for instance, of the second chapter of Joel:—Shortly before our arrival at Helbé, our passage was literally stopped by the most extraordinary flight of locusts I ever witnessed. An immense quantity of these insects flew in so compact a mass across our path, that they appeared like a wall about twelve feet high, and of such density that not a ray of light was emitted through it. On the top of this dense column, individual specimens might be distinguished as they sportively elevated themselves; and the noise they made whilst rushing through the air was not unlike the roaring of the sea. The column appeared endless, and was attacked by the camel-men and Takroori pilgrims, with all sorts of missiles, without, however, effecting a breach, or producing the slightest deviation in their flight. As soon as they had passed, the damage became apparent by the great number of the killed and wounded, which, roasted on the spot, were greedily devoured. Curiosity tempting me, I partook of several of them; and were it not for the crispness imparted by the fire, the taste was not unlike that of vegetable marrow.—*Petherick's Egypt*.

### IV. Papers on Physical & Industrial Science.

#### 1. THE WAVES OF OCEAN.

Thus according to the joint testimony of the most eminent nautical authorities, the waves in the open sea never attain the mountain height ascribed to them by the exuberant fancy of poets and exaggeration-loving travellers. But when the tempest surge beats against steep crags or rocky coasts it rises to a much more considerable height. The lighthouse of Bell Rock, though 112 feet high, is literally buried in foam and spray to the very top during ground swells, even when there is no wind. On the 20th November, 1827, the spray rose to the height of 117 feet above the foundation or low water mark, which deducting 11 feet for the tide that day, leaves 106 feet for the height of the wave. The strength of that remarkable edifice may be estimated from the fact, that the power of such a giant billow is equivalent to a pressure of three tons per square foot. Speaking of the force of waves on coasts, Dr. Lyell mentions the transportation of a block of stone 90 feet from its bed, which was 8 feet 2 inches by 7 feet, and 5 feet 1 inch in its dimensions; and of another still larger one, up an acclivity, to a distance of 150 feet. Mr. Stephenson also tells us that a block of gneiss from Skerryvore, containing 504 cubic feet, and upwards of 40 tons in weight, was carried by the waves five feet from the place where it lay. Such are the elementary powers which man has to encounter in the erection of his harbors, his breakwaters, and his lighthouses, and over which his architectural skill achieves so many glorious triumphs. During the most violent gales the bottom of the sea is said, by different authors, to be disturbed to a depth of 300, 350, or even 500 feet, and Sir Henry de la Beche remarks that when the depth is 15 fathoms, the water is very evidently discolored by the action of the waves on the mud and sand of the bottom. But in the deep caves of ocean all is tranquil and still, and the most dreadful hurricanes that rage over the surface leave these mysterious recesses undisturbed.—*Hartwig's Sea and its Living Wonders*.

#### 2. CHARCOAL DUST A DISINFECTANT.

Charcoal dust proves to be even a greater disinfectant and preservative than had been supposed. Rev. Dr. Osgood has exhibited to the editors of the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican*, a cutlet taken from a ham which had been kept eight years completely imbedded in that preparation, and which seemed as sweet as if it had been cured only a single season. Such being the case, charcoal would be invaluable for packing provisions for long voyages in warm climates.



### 3. A NEW FIBRE PLANT SUITED TO THE CLIMATE OF CANADA.

His Excellency the Governor General has communicated to the Botanical Society of Canada, some valuable information respecting a fibre plant sent from the Rocky Mountains by Dr. Hart to Lord Lyons, which the Society's Secretary has determined to be an *Asclepias*, and which is now under experiment in the Botanic Garden at Kingston. Since the publication of the various details in the Society's "Annals," the following communication has been received from his Excellency's Secretary:—"The Governor General's Secretary is directed by his Excellency to transmit to the Secretary of the Botanical Society of Canada, the inclosed copy of a letter from Dr. F. W. Hart, of St. Louis, respecting the mode of treatment pursued in the culture of the Silk Plant from the Rocky Mountains.

To His Excellency Viscount Monk:—Simultaneously with a letter from Lord Lyons, one from the Secretary of Your Excellency (16th May) was received.

In answer to your request, relative to the treatment of the seeds of the Silk Weed.—The Silk Weed is adapted to rich, moist, bottom soil. I recommend the London district, Canada West, or anywhere along the country that the Welland Canal runs through, or on the banks of the St. Lawrence, Canada West. The ground for planting should be prepared as follows:—Plow up four furrows, throw together, then harrow down the ridge to pulverize it. Plant the seed about 12 inches apart in the centre drill made by the centre teeth of the harrow, cover lightly with the harrow or hoe; when the plant is three weeks old, hoe the weeds away from it, then, with a light one-horse Yankee plow, bar off on both sides of the ridge and about 6 inches from the plant, coming back immediately with the plow and throw a furrow back to the plant, thereby hilling it on both sides. If the season is dry, throw two furrows to the plant; the oftener the middles are plowed out, the more the plant will grow; it will not bear the dirt taken away from it, but will stand hilling; the larger the plant grows, the more dangerous to plow so close as to cut the plant; the side roots supply the branches and bulbs. After the 14th of August the plant must be cultivated no more; must be left untouched.

The pods are ripe when they change color from a pea-green to a dark green and yellow. On pressing a pod it will split when ripe; they ought to be gathered before they split open. Squeeze a pod open, and, with the thumb and forefinger of one hand, seize the silk where it joins the bottom of the pod, and the thumb and forefinger of the other hand, making a circular sweep; all the seeds are detached at one sweep, leaving the richest mass of satiney silk; the seeds to be thrown in one sack, the satin or silk in another. I have been precise in my directions, entertaining the most explicit confidence that the silk can entirely supersede the cotton plant. Its fibre or staple is longer and firmer and of a gloss no silk or satin can match. During ten years I have planted cotton in Yazoo, Mississippi Valley. My brand was sought by the Liverpool and Manchester speculator, and brought the highest prices; and on that practicable experience I ground my convictions with regard to the Silk Weed, and, as a Canadian, I feel a double interest toward its success for Her Majesty's Government. I shall be happy on all occasions to convey to your Excellency any further information that may be required, and inclose you a few more seeds, and remain your Excellency's most obedient servant,

(Signed), FREDERIC W. HART, M.D.

St. Louis Mission, May 1st.

\* \* \* Who knows but this fibre plant, Silk Weed or *Asclepias*, may, from its hardness, glossiness and fibrous texture, yet take the place of cotton, which could not grow in Canada, lying so far north as it does. But this plant, borne from the heights of the Rocky Mountains, may find a more congenial home in the less rigorous climate of Canada.—*Kingston Whig*.

### 4. AN IMPORTANT MEDICINAL PLANT.

The Librarian of the Literary and Historical Society of this city has received a pamphlet by G. D. Gibb, Esq., M.D., on the uses of one of our common wild plants, viz: the Blood-root or *Sanguinaria Canadensis*.

It appears that the Flora of Canada is likely to contribute essentially to the materia medica, providing new remedies for those ills which flesh is heir to. The Podophyllum or May-apple seems to have a good position as a remedial agent in the old country. The *Sarracina* or pitcher plant is now used as a remedy for small pox, and we hear that a large order has been received in Quebec to ship a quantity to France. The blood-root, some six years ago, was recommended as a sure cure for cancer, but failed as a sure remedy; whether it may be found of use in some cases perhaps deserves further trial. This time the blood-root is not introduced to the British public as a specific for any disease, but its general action on the

human system is studied, so that where the physician wishes to produce certain effects he has to consider whether the Canadian blood-root will not sometimes answer his purpose better than the remedies he has usually employed. The blood-root has been made to yield its chemical active principles called Sanguinarina, which, of course, forms the usual salts with sulphuric and other acids. We also notice in the pamphlet formula for powders, infusions, decoction, oils, extract, tincture, wine, syrup and ointment, on all of which we wish to make no comment, except that it indicates great attention to the medicinal properties of the wild flowers of Quebec, of which attention, we trust, a more extended trial will prove them worthy.

### 5. PAPER MADE FROM CORN LEAVES.

The London *Mechanics' Magazine* states that excellent paper is now made in Europe from the leaves of Indian corn. There is one paper-mill in operation in Switzerland, and another in Austria, in which paper is made from such leaves exclusively. The husks which envelop the ears of corn makes the best quality. As we are dependent upon Europe, in a great measure, for our supply of rags to make our paper, if we can obtain as good qualities from Indian corn leaves, we may yet become the manufacturers of paper for the whole world, as the greatest supply of cheap raw material is found in America. This is a subject worthy of deep attention, as we import rags to the value of about \$1,000,000 annually, and paper manufactures to the value of about \$1,000,000.

### 6. THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL.

Recent accounts of the gigantic tunnel through Mont Cenis, state that the works are progressing favourably. It is ascertained that the tunnel will exceed eight English miles in length, and will pass under the ridge of the mountain, at a depth of a full English mile below the surface. Shafts being out of the question, the tunnel will be ventilated by compressed air, driven into it by machinery worked by water-power, which, it is calculated, will drive about 51,000 cubic feet of compressed air into the tunnel daily. According to the present pace of working, the tunnel will not be finished under six years; but we believe it is intended to increase the power of the boring machines, and to make them work more expeditiously.

## V. Papers on Natural History.

### 1. COMMERCIAL VALUE OF INSECTS.

Who thinks of it? And yet in the economy of nature, of what immense importance they are in all seasons, every naturalist knows, while in commerce the amount derived from them is astounding. We have no figures to produce in regard to our own trade, for our statistics do not reach that high state of perfection which will admit of it; but Great Britain pays annually \$1,000,000 for the dried carcasses of that tiny insect known as the cochineal; while another, also peculiar to India, gum shellac, or rather its productions, is scarcely less valuable. More than 1,500,000 human beings derive their sole support from the culture and manufacture of the fibres spun by the silk-worm, of which the annual circulating medium is said to be \$200,000,000. In England alone, we say nothing of the other parts of Europe, \$500,000 are spent every year for the purchase of foreign honey, while the value of that which is native is not mentioned; and all this is the work of the bee; that makes no mention of the 10,000 pounds of wax imported every year. Besides all this, there are the gall-nuts, used for dyeing and making ink; the cantharides or Spanish fly, used in medicine. In fact, every insect is contributing, directly or indirectly, in swelling the amount of our commercial profits. Even those which, in some cases prove a plague and become destructive, have their place in the economy of nature, and prevent worse.

### 2. THE MEASURE WORM PLAGUE.

The good people of New York, are just now suffering from a worm plague, which is causing much annoyance and discomfort to the residents. A New York paper thus describes the nuisance:—

New York, in many respects the pleasantest city in the world for a permanent residence, is just now suffering under a pest which greatly mars the enjoyment of its citizens and visitors. It is the plague of the worm, the pest of the measurer, to speak more classically, the invasion of the *Anisopteryx*. The measure worm or *Anisopteryx* is one of those ancient nuisances which bothered our remotest ancestors as well as ourselves. In the book of Joel the prophet says (chap. i., 4) "What the locust hath left hath the canker worm eaten." At the present day it is not of the worm's glutony we complain, but of his very existence. How to get rid of

him is the question. A familiar but troublesome mode is to shake the branches, and kill the insects separately as they fall, and then tar the trunk; but this is never wholly effectual, without half ruining the tree.

Perhaps those timid ladies and gentlemen who shudder as they feel a canker-worm crawling about their necks, or creeping over their garments, have no idea that they are merely suffering the results of the wanton cruelty of their own fellow beings. Nature has decreed worms; but Nature provided them as food for birds, and provided the birds to eat them; while we shoot and snare the birds, the worms consequently flourish unharmed. They may be seen crawling on a lady's bonnet at the opera, and measuring the shoulders of the well dressed gallant who accompanies her. Perhaps the ladies, after all, like the worms; for it will be observed among the artificial flowers which, according to the latest fashions, adorn bonnets, there is usually an ugly little brown affair, something between a wilted flower-stem and a cigar stump, but more like a caterpillar than either. If ladies like those things, they ought not to object to the canker-worm, which is not a particle uglier, and vastly more active.

These worms will pass away in the course of the summer, to give place to swarms of white millers, which are only a degree less annoying. Yet both these worms and millers might be done away with if we would relax our fierce war against birds.

### 3. THE EARTH WORM—ITS USE.

Reaumer calculated that the number of worms in the earth exceed the grains of all kinds of corn used by man, and as, perhaps, there is no other animal so preyed upon without any diminution in number as the earthworm, the calculation may not be far wrong. Hedgehogs, frogs, and moles devour it; beetles prey upon it and often cast their young upon it—and but for the earthworm a large portion of the bird family soon deteriorate or perish, for, with the exception of the finches, there is scarcely a bird, from the robin to the wild-goose, but eats, and many, during open weather, live almost solely upon it. After a summer shower, the farm-yard ducks actually race against each other along the road sides in search of it; and on wet days they each devour hundreds. All river fish feed to a great extent upon it; and wherever the river beds are of a clayey substance, worms are more plentiful than in *terra firma*. The river worms are darker in color and flatter as a whole than the earthworms, but so little do they differ in appearance that a novice could not tell the land from the waterworms. The worms in the waters live under the embedded stones, and trout are generally on the watch to gobble them whenever they leave their abode—they even move and turn over the stones in search of worms and the larvæ of water flies. When a flood comes the stones are generally displaced in great numbers, and at such a time (in a river such as the Tweed, for instance) the worms must be dislodged and carried along the river bottom in tens of thousands; and it is from this cause that trout are generally found so gorged with worms and larvæ when taken after a flood. It is for such food, too, that ducks are constantly gumping among river shallows; for, if watched, it will be seen that they insert their bills below, or move, mostly all the likely stones they pass. We have frequently turned up worms at a depth of about a foot in the rivers.

But though the worm yields a considerable amount of food to the birds and fishes that grace the dinner table, it is much more beneficial to man as a fertilizer of the land. Subsisting on the earth through which it burrows, with an occasional meal from a decaying tuber or leaf, its peculations from the husbandman are of the smallest nature; whereas it lightens "the earth's surface" by its burrowing, and thereby aids the spreading of the roots of all cereals and bulbs; and the burrows also carry down water after heavy rains, that, but for them, would gather in surface pools, and thereby injure the crops; they also admit the air to the soil to a depth which by natural means it could not reach. The earth ejected by them also tends to the improving of the soil; and instances are known whereby these droppings or "worm casts" caused in a few years, a considerable increase in the depth as well as the quality of the soil. Mr. Darwin, the naturalist, gives an account of a case of this kind which he tested, and from experiments he clearly proved, that in an old pasture, a layer of cinders and lime had been covered within a few years, to the depth of an inch, by the castings of worms.—*Scottish Farmer*.

THREE things to cultivate—Good Books, Good Friends, Good Humor.

THREE things to contend for—Honor, Country, Friends.

THREE things to govern—Temper, Impulse, the Tongue.

## VI. Biographical Sketches.

### No. 30.—SIR ALLAN N. MACNAB, BART.

It becomes our melancholy duty to record the sudden demise of one whom the country has been accustomed to regard for upwards of twenty years as the foremost amongst its most distinguished citizens. The first Commissioner of Canada is no more: he breathed his last at Dundurn, on the 8th of August, after a brief illness of little more than a week. Ten days ago he was in health and spirits, and had entered with renewed vigour upon the private labour he set apart for himself during the interval before the next meeting of parliament.

The Hon. Col. Sir Allan Napier MacNab, Bart., D.C.L., M.L.C., A.D.C., was born at Niagara, in the year 1798, of Scottish extraction. His grandfather, Major Robert MacNab, of the 42nd regiment (or "Black Watch"), was Royal Forester in Scotland, and resided on a small property called Dundurn, at the head of Loch Earn. His father entered the army in Her Majesty's 71st regiment, and was subsequently promoted to a dragoon regiment. He was attached to the staff of General Simcoe during the revolutionary war; and after its close he accompanied General Simcoe to this country. When the Americans attacked Toronto, Sir Allan, then a boy at school, was one of a number of boys selected as able to carry a musket; and after the authorities surrendered the city, he retreated with the army to Kingston, when, through the instrumentality of Sir Roger Sheaf, a friend of his father's, he was rated as midshipman on board Sir James Yeo's ship, and accompanied the expedition to Sackett's Harbour, Genesee, and other places on the American side of the lake. Finding promotions rather slow, he left the navy and joined the 100th regiment, under Colonel Murray, and was with that regiment when the Niagara frontier was re-occupied. He crossed with the advanced guard at the storming and taking of Fort Niagara. For his conduct in this affair he was honoured with an ensigncy in the 49th regiment. He was with General Ryall at Fort Erie, and crossed the river with him when Black Rock and Buffalo were burned, in retaliation for the destruction of Niagara a few months previous. After the termination of this campaign, Sir Allan joined his regiment in Montreal, and shortly after marched with them to the attack of Plattsburg. On the morning of the attack he had the honour of commanding the advanced guard at the Saranac Bridge. At the reduction of the army in 1816 or 1817, he was placed on half-pay. He then commenced the study of the law, and during this time was employed as copying clerk and Clerk of the Journals in the Legislative Assembly, and when the Parliament of Upper Canada was extinguished by the Act of Union, Sir Allan was Speaker. He was subsequently elected Speaker of the united Legislatures. He was called to the Bar in 1825, and commenced the practice of his profession in Hamilton, where he was for many years a successful practitioner, having all the most important business in the District. He was then appointed Queen's Counsel, the first appointment of the kind in Upper Canada. He was first elected to Parliament in 1828, we believe, with the Hon. John Wilson, for the County of Wentworth, and after serving in three parliaments was returned for the town of Hamilton, in opposition to Mr. Harrison, the government nominee.

Sir Allan was called into a field probably much more congenial to his tastes, by the rebellion of 1837. His early knowledge of military affairs, his perfect acquaintance with the country, and, more than all, his courage, activity and facility in commanding men, made him the most prominent figure amongst the loyalists who took part in the defence of the country. He marched to the defence of Toronto with the men of Gore, hastily summoned from their farms and workshops, and afterwards took an active part in the Navy Island operations, on the Niagara frontier. For these services, he received the honour of knighthood, the thanks of her Majesty, and of the Provincial Legislature. After the Union, Sir Allan was elected for Hamilton, several times in succession. In 1844 he was elected Speaker of Lord Metcalf's Parliament by a narrow majority, and did all that was in his power to assist his party, then under the leadership of Draper and Sherwood, to maintain office amidst very difficult circumstances. In 1848, when the Baldwin and Lafontaine Government came into office, Mr. Draper having retired to the bench, Sir Allan became the leader of the Conservative Opposition, and took a very active part in resisting the Rebellion Losses Bill, which led to the burning of the Parliament House in Montreal. Sir Allan MacNab was in years past recognized as the leader of the Conservative party, and when Mr. Hincks and his party were defeated in 1854, he was entrusted by Lord Elgin, then Governor General of this Province, with the formation of a new Cabinet. There were great and almost insurmountable obstacles to contend against, and Sir Allan saw that it would be impossible to form a party administration. His well known political tact was brought into

play, however, and a Coalition Ministry was shortly announced, Sir Allan representing the Upper, and Mr. Morin the Lower Canada section of the Cabinet. At the preceding general election, Sir Allan had declared his readiness to yield his opposition to the abolition of the Clergy Reserves, provided the voice of the country was found to be in favour of the long agitation. The result was as expected, and the new Premier had no difficulty in deciding to adopt the settlement of the vexed question as a part of the Government policy. If the now lamented baronet had never done anything more than effect the settlement of a question that had for thirty years been the great theme of agitation, and cause of ceaseless strife, he would have earned the gratitude and praise of the people of this country. As a politician he had few equals in tact, and no man knew better how to manage a party than he did. He was a hard hitter in debate, yet his manner won for him the respect of even his opponents. Shortly before the dissolution of Parliament 1857, he resigned his seat for the city of Hamilton, and left Canada for England, designing to make it his permanent residence. In 1859, having previously received the rank of Baronet, he became a candidate for the town of Brighton, but was defeated by a considerable majority; and his health being improved, he returned to Canada soon afterwards. On the retirement of Col. Prince from the Western Division in 1860, Sir Allan became a candidate for a seat in the Legislative Council for that constituency. Sir Allan's election for this Division was probably one of the most remarkable on record. The requisition requesting his acceptance of a nomination, although he was an entire stranger to the electors, reached him when he was prostrated by sickness. His wonted spirit returned; he speedily rallied with the prospect of an election contest before him; but he had to be carried from his bed, and, after travelling to Sandwich, he actually had to be supported on the hustings until he delivered his speech. His election was secured by a majority of 26 votes. After that event he became reconciled to Mr. J. A. Macdonald, the leader of the Upper Canada section of the Government, and at the opening of the late session, was chosen the first elective Speaker of the Legislative Council, by a small majority over Mr. Campbell, of Kingston. His energy and perseverance never forsook him while in public life, and he labored with an earnest zeal in whatever he undertook. Hamilton owed him much for what he did to raise it to its high position; he was instrumental in promoting every public improvement, and furthered the interests of the city in every way that he possibly could. Sir Allan was generous to a fault, and many a time his good nature has been imposed upon by worthless pretenders; but he never turned the deserving away without some token of his kindness. The poor of this city have lost a friend. As a militia officer, Sir Allan MacNab served his country faithfully and well. He was Colonel of Military District No. 7, and Lieut. Colonel of the First Battalion of Wentworth. His zeal and efficiency during the troubles of 1837-8 cannot have been forgotten, for they will live in the memories of all. The memorable and daring act of cutting out the *Caroline* was done under the instructions of Sir Allan. It was said of him by the Duke of Wellington that "he was the right arm of British power in America." When last in England he was consulted by the Imperial Government with regard to the defence of his native Province, and came home fully expecting to be called into the field. He did all that he could to infuse enthusiasm into the hearts of the militia, and only a few weeks since presided at a meeting which he did his utmost to convince it was essentially necessary to prepare for a probable emergency. He was no alarmist, but did all he could to inspire the people with the belief that, at no distant day, the services of a well organised militia would be needed to repel invasion.

No man in Canada has enjoyed similar honors to the late Sir Allan MacNab. First a Clerk in the Legislative Assembly, afterwards its Speaker; then a Knight, afterwards Premier, then a Baronet; next an Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, and attendant upon the Prince of Wales during his tour through this country, and finally Speaker of the Legislative Council. He was not what might be called an old man, not having reached the allotted span of three score years and ten, and in spite of his lameness was considered hale and hearty. He attended the funeral of the late Hon. Mr. Merritt, and the last public act he performed was to sign the writ for appointing a new election for the Niagara Division, which had become vacant by Mr. Merritt's death. His own demise causes two vacancies, that of Speaker of the Legislative Council, and the representation of the Western Division.

Sir Allan married first, on the 6th of May, 1821 Elizabeth, daughter of Lieut. Daniel Brooke, who died in 1825; by whom he had one son and one daughter. The former died 1834; the latter, (Ann Jane) married in 1849 Assistant Commissary General Davenport. Sir Allan MacNab married secondly in 1831, Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. Sheriff Stewart of the Johnstone District, who died in 1846; by whom he had two daughters, the eldest of whom (Sophia) married in November, 1855, Rt. Hon. Viscount Bury,

eldest son of Albemarle; now a member of the House of Commons, and an officer of Her Majesty's household. The younger married in 1861, a son of Sir Dominick Daly, Governor of South Australia.

The good and true old Baronet is gone, and his departure creates a sad blank in our midst. Like other men he had his faults and failings, yet it may be said of him that,

"Take him for all in all  
We ne'er shall look upon his like again."

—*Hamilton Spectator and Toronto Globe.*

#### No. 31.—WILLIAM GRANT SEWELL.

Died at Quebec on the 8th of August, William Grant Sewell. Mr. Sewell was born at Quebec, in 1829, and was educated for the bar. His grandfather, the late Jonathan Sewell, had been Chief Justice of Lower Canada. In the year 1853, he came to this city, and adopted journalism as his profession. He became translator and law reporter for the *Herald*, and discharged the duties of these posts with ability. Some six years since he left this paper and joined the editorial staff of the *Times*, remaining connected with that journal until January last, when his health compelled him to abandon work and go home to die. Four years ago he was attacked with tubercular consumption. Such was the strength of his constitution, and so vigorously did he struggle against the advances of the disease, that it was not until within a few months that his friends abandoned hope of his recovery. By the advice of his physician, he spent three winters in the west Indies, and beguiled his leisure by writing his "Orderly of Free Labour in the British West Indies," by far the best book which has appeared on the subject of emancipation—a work so dispassionately and honestly written, that both pro and anti-slavery partisans have claimed the author as an ally, and both have drawn largely from its pages for arguments in the slavery controversy. His death has deprived the New York press of an able, honest, and most industrious member; it has robbed a very large section of journalists of an affectionate, faithful, and whole-souled friend.—*New York Herald.*

We notice with deep regret the death of a young Canadian, who had already made his mark in literature, and who, had he been spared, would have risen very high in the scale of authorship. Of retiring habits, he felt himself unfitted for the rough-and-tumble of a lawyer's career, and his sound judgment, good taste, and excellent education, found apparently their appropriate employment in journalism, and in the more ambitious work which is noticed above. As the *Herald* says, Mr. Sewell's book on free-labour in the West Indies,—dedicated to Mr. Hincks, who shewed great kindness to the invalid author when in the Bahamas,—was written in an eminently philosophic and impartial spirit, but yet with the warmest sympathies for oppressed and down-trodden humanity. It was warmly greeted by the English press, and it is universally regarded as a book having authority—by none more so than those who knew the author and appreciated the soundness of his judgment and the purity of his aspirations. Mr. Sewell was a member of a family noted for its ability, and had he lived, none of them would have risen higher than he.—*Globe.*

#### No. 32.—EX-PRESIDENT VAN BUREN.

Martin Van Buren, the eighth President of the United States, was born at Kinderhook, Dec. 5, 1782. He was descended from an ancient Dutch family, his ancestors on both sides having been among the early emigrants from Holland to the colony of the New Netherlands. His father was a farmer in moderate circumstances, and unable to give his son the advantages of education, except to a very limited extent. After acquiring the common rudiments of learning, Martin became a Student in Kinderhook Academy, which he left at the age of fourteen, in order to commence the study of law. For this purpose, he entered the office of a lawyer in his native village, and soon attracted attention by his aptness for extemporaneous speaking and literary composition, and his keen interest in public affairs. The last year of his professional studies was spent in the city of New-York, in the office of Mr. William P. Van Ness, a distinguished member of the bar, and famous for his intimate friendship with Aaron Burr, at that time Vice-President of the United States.

Mr. Van Buren was thus introduced to the acquaintance of Col. Burr, and at once became a favorite with that wily and unscrupulous politician, by whom he was initiated into the system of party tactics of which he was a conspicuous and successful representative in subsequent life.

In November, 1803, Mr. Van Buren was admitted to the bar, and immediately commenced the practice of his profession in the village of Kinderhook. In 1807 he was admitted as a councillor in the Supreme Court, and in 1808 was appointed Surrogate of Columbia County, soon after which he removed to the City of Hudson, where he resided for the next seven years. In 1815 he was appointed

Attorney-General of the State, at which time he had attained an eminent rank in his profession and a large and lucrative practice.

Mr. Van Buren was married in 1806 to Miss Hoes, a distant relative of the family, who died twelve years after of consumption, leaving four sons; since which time he remained a widower.

In 1812, Mr. Van Buren was for the first time the candidate for an office in the gift of the people having been nominated as Senator from the counties then comprising the middle district of the State. He was elected over his opponent. After taking his seat in the Senate he supported the electoral ticket which gave the vote of the State for President to De Witt Clinton. At the same time, he was a strenuous advocate of decided measures against Great Britain, during the session of Congress in 1811-'12, including the war, which was declared in June of the latter year. At the session of the Legislature which commenced in 1813, his political relations with Mr. Clinton dissolved, and never again resumed. In 1816, he was re-elected to the Senate for the further period of four years. During that year, the project of the Erie and Champlain canals, which was brought before the Legislature, received his cordial support.

In 1818, Mr. Van Buren engaged in the organization of that portion of the Democratic party who were hostile to the administration of De Witt Clinton as Governor of the State. From this arose the political association known as the "Albany Regency," with which the name of Mr. Van Buren has been identified, although his participation in its counsels has been sometimes denied by his friends.

In February, 1821, Mr. Van Buren was elected to the Senate of the United States, and during the same year, was chosen a member of the Convention to revise the Constitution of the State of New York. In this Convention, he took an active and prominent part. He was in favor of moderate changes in the Constitution, of the extension of the elective franchise, and the abolition of the freehold qualification for voters. On the proposition to restrict the right of suffrage to white citizens, he voted in the negative, but subsequently supported the provision requiring coloured voters to possess a freehold estate of the value of \$250. He opposed the election of Justices of the Peace by the people, and proposed a plan by which the appointments should be controlled by the Executive of the State, through the Judges of the County Courts.

He was re-elected to the United States Senate in February, 1827, for another term of six years, but having been chosen Governor of the State in November, 1828, he resigned his seat in that body. He entered upon the duties of his new office in January, 1829, and in his first Message directed the attention of the Legislature to the subject of banking and currency. Soon after, he proposed the celebrated safety-fund system, which was finally adopted by the Legislature. He remained but a short time in the Chief Magistracy, resigning the office in March, 1839, in consequence of his appointment by President Jackson as Secretary of State of the United States. In June, 1831, he retired from the Cabinet, was appointed Minister to Great Britain, was received at the Court of St. James in September; but his nomination was subsequently rejected by the Senate. In 1832 he was elected Vice-President, and in 1836 President of the United States.

In 1840 he was nominated for re-election by a convention of his political friends but was defeated by Gen. Harrison by an overwhelming majority in the electoral colleges. An attempt was made to effect Mr. Van Buren's nomination for the Presidential election in 1844, but without success; and in 1848 he was the candidate of the Free-Soil party and was defeated.

From that time Mr. Van Buren remained in private life, residing for the most part, on his estate called Lindenwold, in Kinkerhook. In the Spring of 1853 he visited Europe, and after an extensive tour in Great Britain and on the Continent, returned in July, 1855.

He died July 24th, at Lindenwold, in the 80th year of his age.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

#### No. 33.—THE LORD PRIMATE OF IRELAND.

The *Dublin Evening Post* publishes the following: "Belfast, Saturday, July 19.—It is with extreme sorrow we announce the death of the venerable and beloved Lord Primate of all Ireland. His Grace Lord John Beresford died this (Saturday) morning, at Wyburn, Donaghadee. His lordship, who was in his 89th year, died without the slightest struggle, having literally 'fallen asleep.' The deceased was the second son of the first Marquis of Waterford, and was born in 1773. He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated in 1793. After filling various minor offices in the church, he was nominated in 1806 to the Bishopric of Cork, and shortly afterwards was translated to the sees of Raphoe and Clogher. In 1820 he was appointed by Lord Liverpool's Government to the Archbishopric of Dublin, and by the same government in 1822 to the Archbishopric of Armagh and the Primacy of Ireland. He was Vice-Chancellor and Visitor of Trinity College, Dublin, from

1829 to 1851, when he became Chancellor. Connected with the Archbishopric are the officers of Lord Almoner of Ireland, Prelate of the Order of St. Patrick and the patronage of 56 livings. The province contains the dioceses of Meath, Derry, Down and Connor, Dromore, Tuam and Elphin. The Archbishopric is worth £15,000 a year. An account of Primate Beresford's last moments appears in the *Dublin Daily Express*, supplied by a clergyman who was by his bedside:—"With unremitting solicitude his nieces, Mrs. Henry Eden and Mrs. Edward Kenyon, watched by his bedside, along with his friend and constant companion, Mr. Dunbar. On the day of his decease his thoughts were occupied with only one matter of worldly business, the giving of directions as to the continuing for a year after his death the payment of the salaries and augmentations of salaries which he had given to more than thirty curates in his diocese. It is said that, with his failing voice, he particularly named many of them, and specified a sum of money to be allocated towards the building of the glebe-house for one of them. Thus, not the 'ruling passion,' but the ruling principle of benevolence which had actuated him through life was 'strong in death.' This matter, relating to the affairs of the present life and the benefit of others, having been arranged, he requested that the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper might be administered to him by the Rev. Mr. Irwin, his private secretary, who was in attendance on him, and he devoutly read in his Prayer-book the responses to the solemn services, and afterwards expressed the comfort he derived from it. Throughout the evening his faintly audible voice was heard repeatedly in private prayer, until at last he ceased to speak. The final hour of departure drawing near, his soul was commended to God by the attendant minister, and soon after, at ten minutes past ten o'clock, without any pain, without a struggle, and in perfect peace, this great and good man breathed his last."

#### No. 34.—REV. DR. LEIFCHILD.

The Rev. Dr. Leifchild, the eminent Independent minister, has just died in England, in his eighty-second year. He was the first settled minister of Craven Chapel, London, and an English paper says of him:—"For many years scarcely even standing room could be obtained in the spacious edifice, and probably every Sunday evening his congregation numbered, if it did not exceed, from eighteen hundred to two thousand persons. Over these he presided for more than twenty years. In such a position, and by his platform services, he became almost universally known to the religious communities, and the influence of his ministry has extended over an unusually wide area. The intelligence of his decease will therefore awaken a melancholy interest, not only at home and in the immediate circle of his friends, but amongst those who have listened to his voice, or perused his works, and are now in America, Canada, Australia, China, and India, from all of which countries he has, at various times, received intimations of undecaying affection and remembrance. A man so extensively known, and moving in so large a sphere during a public life of above half a century, naturally became acquainted with many eminent and excellent contemporaries, nearly every one of whom he himself survived. We understand that Dr. Leifchild has left behind him notices, recollections, and letters of several of those eminent men, some of whom, as the celebrated Robert Hall, and John Forster, the essayist, were long his attached friends."

#### No. 35.—HENRY THOMAS BUCKLE.

The author of "The History of Civilization in England," is dead. He died at Damascus, whither he had gone a short time previously for the benefit of his health, on the 31st ult. His death in the prime of life—he was but 40 years of age—is a cause of deep regret. How ever open to criticism his writings may be, no one has dared to deny the author's great learning, extensive reading, and originality of thought. Few books have, of late years, produced such a sensation as Mr. Buckle's first volume on the History of Civilization. His first volume was on Civilization in England; his second was on Spain and Scotland, and was not, perhaps, equal to the first, but it was a fitting successor to it. The third volume was to have been a review of the History of Civilization in Germany and the United States. In what state of forwardness it may have been at the time of his death, we are not aware. Few historical writers have gained by their first work so high a reputation as that obtained by Buckle by his History of Civilization, the first volume of which appeared in 1858, and the second in 1861. While his theory that the progress of civilization in Europe is entirely due to its intellectual activity, and still more, his views upon the relation of Christianity to civilization, have met with more opposition than approval, the remarkable talent of the author has been acknowledged on all sides. He also published an "Essay on Liberty," and another "On the Influence of Women," both of which appeared in *Frazer's Maga-*



zine; the latter was originally delivered as a lecture at the Royal Institution in 1858. From the *New York Tribune* we learn that Mr. Buckle was the son of a merchant in the city of London, and was born November, 1822. He received a good education, and entered a commercial house; but when his father died, in 1840, and left him a large fortune, he abandoned commercial and devoted himself to literary pursuits. Mr. Buckle, though a young man, has left a name in history which will long survive him.

## VII. Miscellaneous.

### THE PATTERN OF LITTLE FEET.

Up with the sun at morning,  
Away to the garden he hies,  
To see if the sleepy blossoms  
Have begun to open their eyes.  
Running a race with the wind,  
With a step as light and fleet,  
Under my window I hear  
The patter of little feet.

Now to the brook he wanders  
In swift and noiseless flight,  
Splashing the sparkling ripples  
Like a fairy water-sprite.  
No sand under fabled river  
Has gleams like his golden hair,  
No pearly sea shell is fairer  
Than his slender ancles bare:  
Nor the rosiest stem of coral  
That blushes in ocean's bed,  
Is sweet as the flush that follows  
Our darling's airy tread.

From a broad window my neighbour  
Looks down on our little cot,  
And watches the "poor man's blessing"  
—  
I cannot envy his lot.  
He has pictures, books, and music,  
Bright fountains and noble trees,  
Flowers that blossom in roses,  
Birds from beyond the seas:

But never does childish laughter  
His homeward footsteps greet,  
His stately halls ne'er echo  
To the tread of innocent feet.

This child is our speaking picture,  
A birdling that chatters and sings,  
Sometimes a sleeping cherub—  
(Our other one has wings).  
His heart is a charmed casket,  
Full of all that's cunning and sweet,  
And no harp strings hold such music  
As follows his twinkling feet.

When the sunset of glory opens  
The highway of angels trod,  
And seems to unbar the city  
Whose builder and maker is God.  
Close to the crystal portal,  
I see by the gates of pearl,  
The eyes of our other angel—  
A twin born little girl.

And I ask to be taught and directed  
To guide his footsteps aright,  
So that I be accounted worthy  
To walk in sandals of light,  
And hear amid songs of welcome  
From messengers trusty and fleet,  
On the starry floor of heaven,  
The patter of little feet.

### 2. PRINCE ALBERT'S MAUSOLEUM.

The Queen is building a superb mausoleum on the royal grounds at Frogmore. The spot upon which it is built is very beautiful and secluded. The mausoleum is thus described:—"It consists of a central cell with four transepts branching north, south, east and west, with a porch adjoining the western transept. The whole floor is supported by brick vaults of massive work, which at the same time form chambers, with loop-holes for the purpose of ventilation, and the prevention of damp rising to the superstructure. They are entered by a small flight of stone steps. The central cell will be lighted by three light semi-circular-headed windows in the clerestory, which will be externally decorated with Aberdeen granite shafts and heads. The copper roof of the central cell (which is octagonal on plan) rises from the wall-heads to the apex with a flat pinch in the manner of an Italian campanile, and will be surmounted with a gilt cross. Under this roof will be the sarcophagus for the remains of the Prince Consort. The reclining statue of the Prince will be executed by Baron Morachetti. The four transepts are square, and are lighted by windows similar to those in the clerestory of the central cell, and will have pedimented copper roofs. The porch, which will be entered by a handsome flight of stone steps, will be lighted with circular-headed three-light windows, with shafts and heads of Guernsey granite, and the front will be supported by monolithic granite columns, similar to those already finished in the mausoleum of the Duchess of Kent. The whole of the exterior will be decorated with Aberdeen and Guernsey granite, and with red Mansfield and various other stones. The interior will be in different coloured marbles and stone. The building is in the Italian style, reminding one of the campanili at Pisa. As the erection stands upon a base of concrete six feet in thickness, there is very little probability that the symmetry of the mausoleum will be marred by settlements. The erection, which is seventy feet in length and the same in height, will be adorned by several statues. The foundation stone, which was laid by her Majesty the Queen, bears the following inscription:—"The foundation stone of this building, erected by Queen Victoria in pious remembrance of her great and good husband, was laid by her on the 15th day of March, A. D. 1862. 'Blessed are they that sleep in the Lord.'"

### 3. THE PRINCE OF WALES IN THE HOLY LAND.

Ten days after the arrival of the Prince in the Holy City he met by appointment, at the Western wall of the temple, the Chief Rabbi and others of the heads of the Jewish community of Jerusalem. The Chief Rabbi appeared in his full robes, and with the insignia of his office as Hacham Bashi, which, being an appointment by the Sultan, confers upon him great civil powers and authority. The Prince received the deputation in a most gracious manner, and after the ordinary formalities entered freely into conversation with the Chief Rabbi; of whom he inquired if he believed the massive wall by which they stood to be a portion of the great master-work of King Solomon. The Chief Rabbi's explanatory remarks in answering this question in the affirmative evidently impressed the Prince, for he raised the covering from his head in token of the sincere veneration which he felt for the sacredness of the spot; and who can tell what associations of thought crowded on him at that moment, for he immediately requested the Chief Rabbi to offer up a prayer for his "mother, the Queen of England!" The Chief Rabbi then prayed aloud in Hebrew for the health of Queen Victoria, and with great fervency, that she might long continue to reign, and with wisdom like unto that of Solomon. At the conclusion, all the deputation ejaculated "Amen, Amen." The prayer being interpreted to the prince, he was greatly moved, and even more so when the Chief Rabbi followed up this prayer with an invocation to the King of Kings that the soul of the Prince Consort might rest in peace in the realms of eternal bliss. The prince, accompanied by the Chief Rabbi, then visited the synagogues, which were brilliantly lighted up and decorated as on a festival, and were crowded to excess. Prayers were there offered up for the Prince, Prince Alfred, and all the royal family. At the first synagogue which he visited, the Prince asked to see one of the scrolls of the law, and he examined the sacred volume with great earnestness. The Prince then went with the Chief Rabbi to view the two new synagogues and the Rothschild Hospital, and during this time they held almost uninterrupted conversation in the Italian language. The amiability of the Prince on this occasion was as conspicuous as the deep interest which he exhibited in all that took place; and his most courteous demeanor throughout toward the Chief Rabbi and the whole Jewish community is creditable alike to his heart and to his enlightened mind.

The Prince of Wales and his suite left Jerusalem on Thursday, April 19, at three A.M., encamping at Bethel, and proceeding the following day by Shiloh to Nablous, arriving on the eve of the Samaritan Passover. After visiting Jacob's Well in the morning, the whole party ascended Mount Gerizim in the evening, and there witnessed this ancient ceremony, the only direct vestige of the Jewish Passover. The whole Samaritan community were assembled on a terrace just short of the summit. About an hour before sunset the prayers began, and six sheep, tended by young men in white garments, appeared among the crowd. As the sun sunk behind the western ridge the young men burst into a wild chant, drew their long bright knives, and brandished them in the air. In a moment the sheep were thrown upon their backs and the knives drawn across their throats. In the stream of blood which poured from them the young men dipped their fingers, and marked the foreheads and noses of all the children. Next came the skinning and roasting—the first in a trough, the second in a hole prepared for the purpose. The Prince and most of his suite returned to the tents, one or two remaining through the night on the mountain-top to witness the "feast," which was eaten in haste in the early morning by the Samaritans, girded and shod, and with staves in their hands.

The *Times* publishes a letter from one of the Prince of Wales' suite at Jerusalem, describing a visit to the Mosque of Hebron. After much negotiation, permission was given to the Prince of Wales and a limited number of his suite to visit the mosque; and to prevent the fanaticism of the populace from breaking out, the approach to the town was lined with soldiers, and guards stationed on the house tops. Within these sacred precincts for 600 years, excepting by stealth, no European has ever entered. The writer says:—"At the head of the staircase, which by its long ascent showed that the platform of the mosque was on the uppermost slope of the hill, and, therefore, above the level where, if anywhere, the sacred cave would be found, we entered the precincts of the mosque itself, and were received by one of its guardians, a descendant of one of the companions of Mohammed, with the utmost courtesy on his part, though not without deep groans from some of his attendants, redoubled as we moved from one sacred spot to another. We passed (without our shoes) through an open court into the mosque. \* \* \* This building occupies about one-third of the platform. I proceed to describe its relation to the sepulchres of the Patriarchs. It is the innermost of the outer porticoes which contain the two first. In the recess on the right is the alleged tomb of Abraham, on the left that of Sarah, each guarded by silver gates. The shrine containing the tomb of Sarah we were requested



not to enter, as being that of a woman. The shrine of Abraham, after a momentary hesitation and with a prayer offered to the patriarch for permission to enter, was thrown open. The chamber is cased in marble. The tomb consists of a coffin-like structure, like most Moslem tombs, built up with plastered stone or marble, and hung with carpets—green, embroidered with gold. The three which cover this tomb are said to have been presented by Mohammed II., Selim I., and the late Sultan, Abdul Medjid. I need hardly say that this tomb (and the same remark applies to all the others) does not profess to be more than a cenotaph, raised above the actual grave which lies beneath. But it was impossible not to feel a thrill of unusual emotion at standing in a relation so near to such a spot—an emotion, I may add, enhanced by the rare occasion which had opened the gates of that consecrated place, (as the guardian of the mosque expressed it) 'to no one less than the eldest son of the Queen of England.' Within the area of the church or mosque were shown, in like manner, the tombs of Isaac and Rebekah. They differed from the two others in being placed under separate chapels, and closed, not with silver, but iron gates. The tombs of Jacob and Leah were shown in recesses corresponding to those of Abraham and Sarah, but in a separate cloister, opposite the entrance to the mosque. Against Leah's tomb, as seen through the grate, two green banners are reclined, the origin and meaning of which were unknown. The gates of Jacob's shrine were opened without difficulty, but it calls for no special remark. Thus far the monuments of the mosque adhered strictly to the Biblical account, as given above. The variation which follows rests, as I am informed by Dr. Rosen, on the general tradition of the country (justified, perhaps by an ambiguous expression in Josephus,) that the body of Joseph, after having been deposited first at Sechem (Joshua xxiv., 32,) was subsequently transported to Hebron. But the peculiar situation of this alleged tomb agrees with the exceptional character of the tradition. It is in a chamber attached to the enclosure from the outside, and reached, therefore, by an aperture broken through the massive wall itself, and thus visible on the exterior of the southern side of the wall. It is less costly than the others, and it is remarkable that although the name of his wife (according to the Mussulman version, Zuleika), is inserted in the certificates given to pilgrims who have visited this mosque, no grave having that appellation is shewn.

"No other tombs were exhibited in the mosque. Two others, resembling those of Isaac and Rebekah, which were seen (by one of our party only) within an adjacent smaller mosque, were afterwards explained to us as merely ornamental. It will be seen that up to this point no mention has been made of the subject of the greatest interest to all of us—namely, the sacred cave itself in which one at least of the patriarchal family may still be believed to repose intact—the embalmed body of Jacob. It may well be supposed that to this object our inquiries were throughout directed. One indication alone of the cavern beneath was visible. In the interior of the mosque, at the corner of the shrine of Abraham, was a small circular hole, about eight inches across, of which one foot above the pavement was built of strong masonry, but of which the lower part, as far as we could see and feel, was of the living rock. This cavity appeared to open into a dark space beneath, and that space (which the guardians of the mosque believed to extend under the whole platform) can hardly be anything else than the ancient cavern of Macphelah."

The narrative, whence the above details are taken, notes further movements of the Royal party, including visits to Nablous, the plains of Esdraelon and Megiddo, the foot of Carmel, Acre, the hills of Galilee and Nazareth, which were reached on Good Friday. Here Divine service was held. Thence the Prince visited the coasts of the Galilean Sea, Tiberias, Safed, Kadesh Napthali, the valley of the lake of Merom, the hill of Dan, the plain of Abel Beth-maachah and Rasheya, finally reaching Damascus, where his Royal Highness received a visit from Abd-el-Kader. Between Damascus and Beyrout the Royal party halted at Baalbec, spending Sunday, May 4, among the ruins, in a portion of which Professor Stanley held the church service, and preached.

#### 4. THE FIJI ISLANDS.

Her Majesty's Government has declined to accept the proffered cession of the Fiji Islands. When the offer was made some time ago, Colonel Smythe, R. A., was commissioned to examine the islands as to their alleged capabilities for the growth of cotton, and that officer has reported that, "whether by natives, or by white planters with native laborers, the supply of cotton from the Fiji can never be otherwise than insignificant." The result of his inquiries relative to other matters was equally unsatisfactory, and the Government have determined to leave the Fiji islanders to themselves.

#### 5. CURIOUS CENSUS FACTS.

The census develops the curious fact that there are more Scottish descendants in London than in Edinburgh, more Irish than in Dublin, 109,000 more Romanists than in Rome, and more Jews than in Palestine. There are also in the same metropolis more than 50,000 Germans, 30,000 French, and 6,000 Italians; a very large number of Asiatics from all parts of the East, and many who still worship their idols.

#### 6. NERVOUSNESS IN GREAT ORATORS.

I doubt whether there has been any public speaker of the highest order of eloquence who has not felt an anxiety or apprehension, more or less actually painful, before rising to address an audience upon any very important subject on which he has meditated beforehand. This nervousness will, indeed, probably be proportioned to the amount of previous preparation, even though the necessities of the reply or the changeful temperament which characterizes public assemblies may compel the orator to modify, alter, perhaps wholly reject, what, in previous preparation, he had designed to say. The fact of preparation itself had impressed him with the dignity of the subject—with the responsibilities that devolve on an advocate from whom much is expected, on whose individual utterance results affecting the interests of many may depend. His imagination had been roused and warmed, and there is no imagination where there is no sensibility. Thus the orator had mentally surveyed, as it were, at a distance, the loftiest height of his argument; and now, when he is about to ascend to it, the awe of the attitude is felt.—*Sir E. B. Lytton, in Blackwood's Magazine, for April.*

### VIII. Short Critical Notices of Books.

—QUEEN'S COLLEGE, KINGSTON.—We have received a copy of the Calendar of the University of Queen's College for 1862-63. It contains a great deal of information in reference to the institution and appears to be compiled with great skill. The College, Preparatory School and Kingston County Grammar School, are now united and affiliated to the University.

—MCGILL UNIVERSITY CALENDAR AND EXAMINATION PAPERS.—Besides the usual yearly information concerning the courses of study, &c., to be pursued in the College High School, the addition is made this year of the examination papers on all the different branches of study that were used both in the College and High School at the last sessional examination. The addition is a very valuable one.

—THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF EDUCATION. New series, No. 2. Edited by Henry Barnard, LL.D.—The June number of this excellent quarterly has been received. To those acquainted with it, it will be enough to say that it contains the usual amount of valuable reading. A fine portrait of Dr. G. S. Howe precedes the title page. Its articles are: *The State and Education; Conversation on Objects; Specimen Lesson on Objects; M. Guizot's Ministry of Public Instruction in France; Memoir of Samuel Gridley Howe; The Study of German Language in German Schools; Physical Education; Thoughts on Education* (by John Locke); *Thoughts on Education* (by Herbert Spencer); *Military Exercises in Public Schools; New Gymnastics; School Architecture.*

### IX. Educational Intelligence.

#### CANADA.

—PARLIAMENTARY GRANTS FOR EDUCATION IN 1862:—

Statutory Grant to Common Schools .....	\$200,000
Additional sum for Common Schools, Upper and Lower Canada .	168,000
Do. do. Supplementary .....	16,000
Aid to Superior Education Income Fund, Upper and Lower Canada! .....	40,000

\$444,000

The aid to superior education in Upper Canada was distributed as follows:

Victoria College, Cobourg .....	\$5,000
Queen's College, Kingston .....	5,000
Regiopolis do. do. ....	3,000
St. Michael's College, Toronto .....	2,000
Bytown do. Ottawa .....	1,400
Grammar School Fund, U. C. ....	3,200
L'Assomption College, Sandwich .....	400

\$20,000

*Additional to various Literary and Scientific Institutions.*

Aid to Medical Faculty, McGill College, Montreal.....	\$1000
Aid to Medical Faculty, Victoria College, Cobourg.....	1000
Aid to School of Medicine, Montreal.....	1000
Aid to School of Medicine, Kingston.....	1000
Aid to School of Medicine, Toronto.....	1000
Aid to Canadian Institute, Toronto.....	1000
Aid to Natural History Society, Montreal.....	1000
Aid to Historical Society, Quebec.....	1000
Aid to Canadian Institute, Ottawa.....	400
Aid to Atheneum, Ottawa.....	400
Observatory, Quebec, to defray expenses of.....	2400
Do. Toronto, do. do.....	4800
Do. Kingston, do. do.....	500
Do. Isle Jesus, do. do.....	500
	\$17000

— SCHOOL LANDS IN UPPER CANADA.—From the Report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, for 1861, we make the following extracts:—  
**GRAMMAR SCHOOL LANDS.**—5,729 acres of the 60,412 acres disposable on the 1st of January, 1861, were sold for \$8,527.79, leaving a balance of 54,683 acres for future sale. The gross receipts of the year were \$22,050.74; the commission, \$4,372.13; and the net proceeds, \$17,678.61.  
**COMMON SCHOOL LANDS.**—The sales of these lands amounted to 4,498½ acres during the past year, leaving only 12,016½ acres of the million set apart, under the authority of the Act 12th Vic. cap. 200, on hand. The purchase money of the lands sold amounts to \$14,580.00; the gross collections to \$111,514.25; commission, refunds, and other disbursements, to \$22,380.47; leaving a net income of \$88,683.78. The total net amount realized from these lands, to 31st December, 1861, is \$744,640.44. The following is a statement of the number of acres sold, amount of sales, and amounts collected in Upper Canada, for the years 1860 and 1861:—

	Acres sold.		Amount of sales.		Amounts collected.	
	1860.	1861.	1860.	1861.	1860.	1861.
			\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Com. School Lands	3221½	4498½	10006.60	14580.00	115286.43	111514.25
Gram. School Lands	6900½	5729	11403.93	8527.79	30490.66	22050.74

— MORAL SUASION IN THE SCOTLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—To day we give the report of a celebration in the Scotland Grammar School—Brant County. The proceedings, which were of an interesting character, are a tribute not only to the literary standing of the master, but to the success of the moral suasion theory in schools.—On Thursday last, the United Grammar and Common School at Scotland held a Pic-Nic, Exhibition, and Concert in Squire Malcolm's Grove. A large procession, headed by the Scotland Brass Band, marched from the Grammar School to the grove. A large number of people from different localities was in attendance. This school celebration did honor to the village of Scotland. A table, one hundred and eight feet long, was heavily laden with the good things of life. The recitations and singing by the pupils were excellent. During the day a parting address was presented to the Head Master, in which the following passage occurs:—We wish, Dear Sir, to make an especial reference to one feature of your school government; viz. the total abolition of corporeal punishment. And we congratulate you on being the first to demonstrate in Scotland that schools can be governed without the rod: and that you have the pleasure of seeing other schools following your example. As a slight token of our esteem, we here present you a copy of the Holy Bible—a small remembrance of your pupils at Scotland. We pray that it may be “a lamp unto your feet, and a light unto your path.” In conclusion we sincerely wish that the same success that has attended you may still follow you in your laborious but good work.” Miss Eliza Fitzgerald, then presented a beautifully bound Bible. On the clasp was engraved “Presented to L. Younghusband, M. A., by the Pupils of the Union School at Scotland, C. W.” Mr. Younghusband delivered the following reply:—Dear Pupils,—This public expression of your esteem and respect is a source of much pleasure to me. I can assure you that I heartily thank you for your handsome gift. Your uniform kindness and obedience to me on all occasions, have made a deep impresson on my heart, and this parting token of your love is received with feelings of gratitude. I am pleased to learn that you so highly appreciate my humble efforts to govern my students by moral suasion. The use of the rod in schools is a dishonor to our noble profession. I view corporeal punishment

as a great evil. I long for the time when it shall be abolished. I frequently wonder why it has been so long tolerated in this land of christian light and liberty.” The parting between Mr. Younghusband and his many pupils was an affecting scene. The scholars wept bitterly when he bade them farewell. The Trustees very kindly presented Mr. Younghusband with a written testimonial.

— MILITARY DRILL IN PETERBORO' SCHOOL.—The Board of School Trustees have engaged the services of Mr. Lince to instruct the boys of the school in drill and the girls in calisthenics.—*Review.*

— LORETTO CONVENT SCHOOL, TORONTO.—The annual examination of the young ladies attending the Loretto Convent School took place yesterday, in the class-rooms of the institution, Bond Street. The exercises, especially those in the afternoon, were exceedingly interesting, and showed in a very prominent manner the great advantages enjoyed by the pupils. In the afternoon there was a large number of visitors, the rooms being crowded with ladies and gentlemen, relatives and friends of the pupils. After the music and dramatic representations the pupils, numbering about fifty, assembled on the platform, for the purpose of receiving the prizes which had been awarded to them. Vicar General Walsh before distributing the prizes, briefly addressed the young ladies, congratulating them upon the progress they had evidently made in their studies, and complimenting them upon the very creditable examination through which they had that day passed, which he said was but a just and appropriate conclusion to the year of literary toil and labour they had undergone. He felt convinced that he but uttered the sentiments of all present when he assured them that their examination had been eminently successful and satisfactory, and that it reflected the greatest credit upon all concerned. This was as it should be. One of the highest duties of rational beings was to improve the intellectual faculties with which a beneficent Providence had endowed them. They were told by Clement that ignorance was the famine of the soul, but knowledge its best food; and of this they seem to have been convinced because of the great effort made during the past year to advance themselves in their education. (Applause.) Of the various and many branches of learning pursued in that institution he felt that he spoke but the truth when he said that in all they had manifested application and industry as well as talent. In history, geography, French, Italian, and other branches, they had shown much proficiency; but there was one department in which they had given the greatest possible satisfaction and pleasure, and that was their splendid examination in music. It should be to every refined mind a source of gratification to see the attention which had evidently been paid to this fine accomplishment. He remarked that in all ages and among all people music was considered as something divine. Even in those ages in which the light of christianity had not broken forth and illuminated the world, it had its charms. Ovid said it bent the forest trees to its sweet sounds, and Strabo believed there was something divine in its influence, while Pythagoras was a passionate lover of it, and interrupted his philosophical pursuits to play both in the morning and in the evening. Even in Holy Scripture they found Paul calling upon the shepherd boy to still the tempest in his soul by the soft and gentle tones of his lute. And their own poet, Moore, had enshrined these thoughts in immortal verse in the well-known and beautiful song, “When through life unblest we roam.” He (the Rev. gentleman) was sure they all wished the pupils the greatest amount of rational enjoyment during their long-looked for holidays. Might they be so spent as to form in after days cherished thoughts, happy associations and sweet remembrances that would never be forgotten. (Loud Applause.) A large number of handsomely bound books, with many pretty garlands or “crowns,” were then distributed as prizes to the pupils. The exercises terminated with the singing in the chorus of “God save the Queen,” the entire company, as usual, standing. The whole affair passed off very pleasantly and must have given much satisfaction to all present.—*Leader.*

— LAVAL UNIVERSITY.—The monies spent by the Quebec Seminary in the establishment of the Laval University, are thus given by the *Canadien*:

Cost of buildings.....	\$208,421 90
Expenditure on the Library.....	13,106 06
“ Medical Museum.....	8,120 00
“ Cabinet of Natural Philosophy.....	6,264 20
Visits of Professors to Europe, and journeys in connection with the University.....	19,066 25
Monies paid to Professors.....	41,346 10
	\$296,363 81

The current expenses and receipts for 1860-61 are as follows:—

EXPENSES.	
Paid to Law Professors,.....	\$3,600 00
“ Medical “ .....	5,233 33
“ Arts “ .....	873 33
“ Interest on sums borrowed, .....	2,365 20
“ Employees, Servants, .....	600 00
“ Insurance, .....	138 00
“ Water Tax, .....	400 00
“ Heating, .....	1,181 97
“ Lighting, .....	224 98
Receipts, .....	\$14,626 81
Students' fees, .....	2,693 33
Deficit, .....	\$11,933 48

“Divide this” says the author of the article in *Le Canadien*, “between the 71 students who have attended the University during 1860-1, and it will be found that each one cost the Seminary the sum of \$168 07.—*Three Rivers Inquirer*.”

— **LENNOXVILLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.**—The village of Lennoxville is pleasantly and picturesquely situated in the Eastern Townships, at the confluence of the Rivers Massiwappi and St. Francis, on the Grand Trunk Railway—100 miles from Montreal, and 123 from Quebec, and 200 from Portland. The School House is an extremely handsome and commodious brick building comprising a lofty, spacious, well ventilated, school-room, class-room, cloak room, &c., &c.; with bed rooms in the upper stories for the accommodation of about 60 boys, who are in charge of a Resident Master, and attended by a Matron, under the superintendence of the Rector, for whom a separate house, close to the School House, is being built; where, by the permission of the authorities, he receives into his own family a limited number of pupils, having thus the entire department under his eye. The Grammar School is contiguous to, and forms the Junior Department of Bishop's College, which stands at about a quarter of a mile from the village. The college was constituted a University, with powers to grant degrees, by royal charter in 1853. The system employed comprises the principal features, in which the English Public Schools (such as Rugby, Eton, &c.) have been so eminently successful, adapted especially to the circumstances of this country. The object of the institution is to provide a sound practical education, classical or commercial, or both, as may be required, at the lowest possible charge, compatible with the effective carrying out of the requisite provision for the moral and physical health of the pupils.—*Ontario Gazette*.

### COLONIAL.

— **ACADIA COLLEGE, NOVA SCOTIA.**—We see by the *Christian Messenger*, of Halifax, that the friends and supporters of Acadia College are anxious to place its finances on a more sure footing than they are at present, to elevate its literary standard, and to create four Professorships. With this object it is proposed to raise £15,000 in all, as an endowment fund. The amount already invested, pledged, and to be collected, is £5000, which leaves £10,000 still to be provided; half of that sum (£5000) a gentlemen interested in the matter proposes to raise by appealing to the generosity, wealth, and intelligence of the Baptist body of the three Provinces, and calling on fifty persons to subscribe £100 each. The duty of collecting the other £5000 to devolve on the Governors and friends of the College. The proposer of the scheme is sanguine of success.

— **PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, TRURO, NOVA SCOTIA.**—This institution was first opened at Truro, in the year 1858. The building is situated in the central part of the village, and adds greatly to the beauty of Truro. When the grounds in front of the college are ornamented with trees and flowers it will appear more beautiful. There are three Professors at this institution. The Rev. James Ross, (son of the late Rev. Duncan Ross,) is the Principal and Professor of Greek, Logic, Chemistry (and Chemistry and Rhetoric. Mr. Ross performs the duties of each of these classes in an able and energetic manner. The Rev. William Lyall is Professor of Latin, Greek and Moral Philosophy. As a Metaphysician, Professor Lyall greatly excels. Mr. Thomas McCulloch, (son of the late Dr. McCulloch,) is Professor of Latin, Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy; Professor McCulloch labors ardently and diligently, and under his supervision the students make rapid progress. There is also a preparatory school in connection with the institution, over which Mr. Edward Blanchard presides. Students deficient

in the languages attend here. There are upwards of forty students in attendance at the college this session. Seven of these also attend the preparatory school. The apparatus connected with the natural philosophy course is very good, yet the chemical apparatus is rather imperfect; and the library requires a good many valuable works to meet the wants of the students. On the last two a good deal of money might yet be expended. There is also in connection with the institution a museum which reflects great credit on the indefatigable labors of Professor McCulloch. In this museum there is a large collection of Nova Scotia birds, shells, &c., and also various articles from the South Sea Islands. This college is now in a prosperous condition, and will compare favorably with any in the British Provinces (not excepting McGill College). The college at Truro receives no allowance from Government, but is voluntarily supported by the people.—*C. in Montreal Witness, 1st May.*

### UNITED STATES.

— **JUVENILE ASYLUM IN NEW YORK.**—About 8,000 children have been received at the Juvenile Asylum during the past ten years at New York, a large number of whom have been indentured to farmers in the West, and are all doing well. Fifty boys and girls, out of the 500 now in the Institution, were sent to Illinois, and will have carefully selected homes secured for them.

— **FREE COLORED SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**—A bill has been introduced in the U. S. Senate, establishing free colored schools in the District of Columbia. It appears that free colored property holders pay \$3,000 school tax per year, which goes with the school funds of other property holders, and yet debar them from receiving any benefit therefrom. This bill sets aside the tax they pay for their own schools.

— **EDUCATION IN NEW JERSEY.**—The annual report of the Superintendent of Public Schools shows that the number of these in operation last year was 1869, which were attended by 137,578 pupils, or 58,264 on an average. In forty-two cities and townships the schools are free. The amount of money raised and expended in 1861, was \$549,123, an increase of \$17,388, as compared with 1860. Of this sum \$80,000 was appropriated by the State for the support of public schools, \$10,000 for the Normal School, and \$1200 for the Farnum Preparatory Institute. The remainder was mostly raised by local taxation, \$40,440 having been derived from “other sources.”

### X. Literary and Scientific Intelligence.

— **THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.**—The *Kingston Whig* contains a long account of the proceedings of a meeting of this Society held in the Convocation Hall of Queen's College, for the purpose of electing His Excellency the Governor General as Patron. The Very Revd. Principal Leitch, LL.D., was in the chair, and Professor Lawson acted as Secretary. Principal Leitch announced to the meeting the object for which they were assembled, viz.: the formal election of Lord Monck as Patron of the Society, a resolution having been previously passed by the Society to elect him. Professor Lawson, Secretary, had communicated with His Excellency on the subject, to which His Excellency had replied that he would with pleasure accept the honor of Patron to the Society. The Society formally elected him Patron. Letters and other communications from Governor Mactavish of Assiniboia, and Dr. Schultz, Secretary of the Institute, Rupert's Land, Red River, were then presented to the meeting. They expressed their high sense of the importance of geological and botanical societies for the diffusion of useful knowledge, and said that even in the far-off wilds of the Red River settlement their beneficial influence was beginning to be felt.

— **THE NEW WESTMINSTER BRIDGE** crossing the Thames, near the British House of Parliament, is at last completed. It is 1810 feet long, 85 feet broad, and has several arches, the two largest with spans of 115 feet.

— **SALARY OF A MAGAZINE EDITOR.**—The salary of Mr. Wilkie Collins, the new editor of the *Cornhill Magazine*, is \$10,000 a year.

— **MEMOIR OF MACAULAY.**—Messrs. Longman & Co. have just reprinted, from the Papers of the Royal Society, a memoir of the late Lord Macaulay, by the Very Rev. the Dean of St. Paul's. It is a small pamphlet of twenty-eight pages, and is preceded by a fine engraving, by Holl, from a portrait drawn by George Richmond, A. R. A., when the lamented author and statesman was forty-nine years of age.

— THE MACAULAY STATUE.—Mr. Woolner has been selected to execute the Statue of Lord Macaulay, which is to be placed in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge.

— STATUES TO CELEBRITIES IN ENGLISH COUNTRY TOWNS.—Our country towns are rapidly doing honor to their illustrious townsmen by erecting monuments to them. The other day we recorded that a statue of Sir H. Davy is to be erected at Penzance—and now Paisely purposes perpetuating the memory of her townsman, Wilson, by putting up a statue of that eminent ornithologist in his native town. It will be in bronze, a little larger than life, and will represent him examining a bird that he has just shot. The statue, which is designed by Mr. Mossman, of Glasgow, will rest on a pedestal of Aberdeen granite, nine feet in height.

**XI. Departmental Notices.**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS, SCHOOL MAPS, APPARATUS, AND 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.

**FORM OF APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS, MAPS, APPARATUS, SCHOOL PRIZE BOOKS, ETC.**

[Insert Post Office address here.]

SIR,—The [Trustees, or Board of Trustees, if in Towns, &c.] of the ..... School being anxious to provide [Maps, Library Books, or Prize Books, &c.] for the Public Schools in the [Section, Town, or Village, &c.] hereby make application for the ....., &c., enumerated in the accompanying list, in terms of the Departmental Notice relating to ..... for Public Schools. The ..... selected are *bona fide* for the .....; and the CORPORATION HEREBY PLEDGES ITSELF not to give or dispose of them, nor permit them to be given or disposed of, to the teacher or to any private party, OR FOR ANY PRIVATE PURPOSE WHATSOEVER, but to apply them solely to the purposes above specified in the Schools of the ....., in terms of the Departmental Regulations granting one hundred per cent. on the present remittance. The parcel is to be sent to the ..... Station of the ..... Railway, addressed to .....

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Corporation above-named, hereto affixes its corporate seal to this application, by the hand of .....\*, this ..... day of ....., 186-.

Amount remitted, \$.....

Trustees must sign their own names. } ..... } Corporate seal to be placed here.

To the Chief Superintendent of Education, Toronto.

NOTE.—Before the trustees can be supplied, it will be necessary for them to have filled up, signed and sealed WITH A PROPER CORPORATE SEAL, as directed, a copy of the foregoing Form of Application. On its receipt at the Education Office, the *one hundred per cent.* will be added to the remittance, and the order, so far as the stock in the Depository will permit made up and despatched. Should the Trustees have no proper corporate seal, the Department will, on the receipt of *two dollars* additional, have one engraved and sent with the articles ordered.

\* \* \* If Library and Prize Books be ordered, in addition to Maps and Apparatus, it will be NECESSARY 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 in all, at the net catalogue prices.

**ASSORTED PRIZE BOOKS IN PACKAGES,**

Selected by the Department, for Grammar or Common Schools, from the Catalogue, in assorted packages, as follows:

Package No. 1.	Books and Cards,	5cts. to 70cts each	\$10
" No. 2.	Ditto ditto	5cts. to \$1.00 each	\$16
" No. 3.	Ditto ditto	5cts. to \$1.25 each	\$20
" No. 4.	Ditto ditto	10cts. to \$1.50 each	\$26
" No. 5.	Ditto ditto	10cts. to \$1.75 each	\$30
" No. 6.	Ditto ditto	10cts. to \$2.00 each	\$36
" No. 7.	Ditto ditto	15cts. to \$2.25 each	\$40
" No. 8.	Ditto ditto	15cts. to \$2.50 each	\$46
" No. 9.	Ditto ditto	15cts. to \$2.75 each	\$50
" No. 10.	Ditto ditto	20cts. to \$3.00 each	\$56
" No. 11.	Ditto ditto	20cts. to \$3.25 each	\$60
" No. 12.	Ditto ditto	20cts. to \$3.50 each	\$66
" No. 13.	Ditto ditto	25cts. to \$3.75 each	\$70
" No. 14.	Ditto ditto	55cts. to \$4.00 each	\$76
" No. 15.	Ditto ditto	25cts. to \$4.25 each	\$80
" No. 16.	Ditto ditto	30cts. to \$4.50 each	\$86
" No. 17.	Ditto ditto	30cts. to \$4.75 each	\$90
" No. 18.	Ditto ditto	30cts. to \$5.00 each	\$90
" No. 19.	Ditto ditto	35cts. to \$5.25 each	\$100
" No. 20.	Ditto ditto	35cts. to \$5.50 each	\$120

☞ *Special Prizes*, in handsomely bound books, singly at from \$1.05 to \$5.50. In sets of from two to six volumes of Standard Literature, at from \$3.00 to \$10.00 per set.

\* \* \* Trustees are requested to send in their orders for prizes at as early a date as possible, so as to ensure the due despatch of their parcels in time for the examinations, and thus prevent disappointment.

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MR. T. J. WIGGINS proposes giving exhibitions of the Magic Lantern to Schools in various parts of Upper Canada, and desires to add the following certificate by way of introduction to them:—

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Sin. pd.

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

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