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FREE PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES, UPPER CANADA.

We present, in this number of the *Journal*, an annual statement of the operations of the Educational Depository during the year 1866. From the accompanying tables it will be seen that the number and value of the books sent out for

libraries and prizes, as also the maps and apparatus, are largely in excess of any previous year. This increase is most gratifying, and shows the growing popularity and importance of this branch of our educational operations.

Number of volumes sent out during the years	Total volumes of Library Books.	History.	Zoology and Physiology.	Botany.	Phenomena.	Physical Science.	Geology.	Natural Philosophy and Manufactures.	Chemistry.	Agricultural Chemistry.	Practical Agriculture.	Literature.	Voyages.	Biography.	Tales and Sketches—Practical Life.	Teacher's Library.	Prize Books.	Grand total Library and Prize Books.
1853.....	21922	4158	1602	287	906	526	234	940	132	192	807	2694	1141	2917	5178	208	.....	21922
1854.....	66711	10633	5532	1030	2172	1351	636	4780	629	321	3235	5764	4350	6393	19807	578	.....	66711
1855.....	28659	5475	2053	318	558	663	200	1808	207	76	1452	3361	2926	3081	6049	432	.....	28659
1856.....	13669	2498	652	118	397	287	77	660	55	81	418	1523	1019	1844	3832	258	.....	13669
1857.....	29823	5295	1763	321	632	817	195	1729	134	67	1257	2391	2253	3516	9219	244	2557	32390
1858.....	7587	1567	508	86	152	98	61	276	27	2	185	713	843	744	2245	84	8045	15632
1859.....	9308	1670	551	136	208	192	130	432	87	18	300	1169	714	1127	2401	172	12089	21397
1860.....	9072	1561	475	144	223	200	100	526	61	17	339	852	797	1115	2520	142	20194	29266
1861.....	6488	1273	302	59	101	72	64	223	36	2	172	601	760	380	1826	117	26931	33419
1862.....	5599	927	244	45	99	43	75	211	45	24	165	412	661	830	1706	112	29760	35359
1863.....	6274	707	304	42	97	80	67	282	26	6	202	547	652	864	2286	112	32890	39164
1864.....	3381	552	140	11	47	38	28	134	7	.....	87	321	290	451	1198	57	33381	36742
1865.....	3882	611	168	20	62	53	26	131	3	.....	110	328	534	553	1225	58	44601	49482
1866.....	6856	1144	217	56	125	81	55	282	26	19	291	652	776	784	2200	148	58871	65727
Totals ...	219221	38071	14506	2678	5780	4501	1948	12414	1475	775	9021	21328	17716	25099	61192	2722	269319	485540
Deduct volumes returned for exchange, &c																		616
Volumes sent to Mechanics' Institutes, &c., not included in the above																		487924
Grand total Library Books, &c., despatched up to 31st December, 1866																		8340
																		496264

We also insert extracts from the school reports and documents received from Australia, Nova Scotia, Maryland, and other places, showing how far these countries have adopted the Upper Canada mode for supplying their schools with these

useful and necessary adjuncts to an efficient school system. The following extracts from the last report of the Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada will explain the mode adopted in this country:

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

I think it proper, at the same time, to repeat the following explanatory observations from a previous report:

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

2. PRIZES AND MERIT CARDS IN OUR SCHOOLS.

From the last report of the Chief Superintendent of Education, we make the following extracts on this important subject:—

School Prizes and Merit Cards.—The number of schools in which prize books, &c., are reported as having been distributed for the reward and encouragement of meritorious pupils is larger than last year. The importance of this comparatively new feature of the School System can hardly be over-estimated. A comprehensive

catalogue of carefully-selected and beautiful prize books has been prepared and furnished by the Department to Trustees and Municipalities applying for them; and, besides furnishing the books at cost prices, the Department adds one hundred per cent. to whatever amounts may be provided by Trustees and Municipal Councils to procure these prize books for the encouragement of children in their schools.

A series of merit cards, with appropriate illustrations and mottoes, has been prepared by the Department, and are supplied to Trustees and Teachers at a very small charge—half the cost—and these merit cards are to be awarded daily, or more generally weekly, to pupils meriting them. One class of cards is for *punctuality*; another for *good conduct*; a third for *diligence*; a fourth for *perfect recitations*. There are generally three or four prizes under each of these heads; and the pupil or pupils who get the largest number of merit cards under each head, will, at the end of the quarter or half year, be entitled to the prize books awarded. Thus an influence is exerted upon every part of a pupil's conduct, and during every day of his school career. If he cannot learn as fast as another pupil, he can be as *punctual*, as *diligent*, and maintain as *good conduct*; and to acquire distinction, and an entertaining and beautiful book, for *punctuality*, *diligence*, *good conduct*, or *perfect recitations*, or exercises, must be a just ground of satisfaction, not only to the pupil, but also to his or her parents and friends.

There are two peculiarities of this system of merit cards worthy of special notice. The one is, that it does not rest upon the comparative success of single examinations at the end of the term or half year, or year, but on the daily conduct and diligence of each pupil during the whole period, and that irrespective of what may be done or not done by any other pupil. The ill-feeling by rivalry and a single examination is avoided, and each pupil is judged and rewarded according to his merits, as exhibited in his every day school life. The second peculiarity is, that the standard of merit is founded on the *Holy Scriptures*, as the mottoes on each card are all taken from the sacred volume, and the illustrations on each card consist of a portrait of a character illustrative of the principle of the motto, and as worthy of imitation. The prize-book system, and especially in connection with that of *merit-cards*, has a most salutary influence upon the school discipline, upon both teachers and pupils, besides diffusing a large amount of entertaining and useful reading.

3. TABLE SHEWING THE VALUE OF ARTICLES SENT OUT FROM THE EDUCATIONAL DEPOSITORY DURING THE YEARS 1851 TO 1866 INCLUSIVE.

YEAR.	Articles on which the 100 per cent. has been apportioned from the Legislative Grant.		Articles sold at Catalogue prices without any apportionment from the Legislative Grant.	Total value of Library, Prize, and School Books, Maps, and Apparatus despatched.
	Public School Library Books.	Maps, Apparatus and Prize Books.		
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1851			1414	1414
1852			2981	2981
1853			4233	4233
1854	51376		5514	56890
1855	9947	4655	4389	18991
1856	7205	9320	5726	22251
1857	16200	18118	6452	40770
1858	3982	11810	6972	22764
1859	5805	11905	6679	24339
1860	5289	16832	5416	27537
1861	4084	16251	4894	25229
1862	3273	16194	4844	24311
1863	4022	15887	3461	23370
1864	1931	17260	4454	23645
1865	2400	20224	3818	26442
1866	4375	27114	4172	35661

II. Papers on Canadian Book Trade.

1. BOOK IMPORTS INTO UPPER AND LOWER CANADA.

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

YEAR.	Value of Books entered at Ports in Lower Canada.	Value of Books entered at Ports in Upper Canada.	Total value of Books imported into the Province.	Proportion imported for the Educational Department of Upper Canada.
1850.....	\$101880	\$141700	\$243580	84
1851.....	120700	171732	292432	3296
1852.....	141176	159288	300444	1288
1853.....	158700	254280	412980	22764
1854.....	171452	307808	479260	44060
1855.....	194856	338792	533148	2562-
1856.....	208638	427992	636628	19208
1857.....	224400	309172	533572	16028
1858.....	171255	191942	363197	10692
1859.....	139067	184304	323361	5808
1860.....	155604	252504	408108	8846
1861.....	185612	344621	530233	7782
1862.....	188987	249234	438221	7800
1863.....	184652	276673	461325	4085
1 of 1864.....	93308	127233	220541	4668*
1864-5.....	189386	200304	389690	9522
1865-6.....				

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

2. BOOKS AND STATIONERY OF TORONTO, 1866.

The tendency, we noticed last year, to deal more exclusively in the English book market has been strengthened this year by the still increasing price of American publications and the utter impossibility of the publishers across the lakes, burdened as they are with taxes on every side, to compete with their transatlantic brethren. This fact added to the increased value of greenbacks, has almost stopped the sale of American books in this market, always excepting, of course, the cheap reprints of English novels, which will continue to find customers here so long as the original publishers are so blind to their own interests as to neglect issuing a colonial edition, which, if received here in time, would completely supersede the reprints. Our people prefer English editions, if they can be obtained as early and at a fair price. The total amount of books of all kinds, including Bibles, Testaments and devotional works, but exclusive of copyright works and advertising pamphlets, entered at the custom house here during 1866 was \$88,842. Of copyright works the amount entered was small, but we have not the exact figures, and of pamphlets, &c., \$4,964. These figures do not, however, represent the whole of the importations here. Many invoices are entered at Montreal, and in consequence of the cheap rate at which the English post-office carry all periodicals registered for transmission abroad—only 1d. per number from London to Toronto—great numbers of the magazines come through the post, some thousands each month.

In educational literature somewhat of a retrograde step has been taken, as we think, in the selection of the "Revised List of Text Books," just issued by the Council of Public Instruction; that list is composed principally, almost entirely, of American classical works. We do not doubt that they have given the subject full attention, and from the material before them selected the best; but we cannot help thinking that if they had as full a selection of English elementary classical works as of American, they would have been able to make a selection from the former. There is not, of course, the objections to American classical works which there are to historical and geographical from the same source; still it is desirable, if possible, to bring all our educational works under our own control as to their character, and not to be obliged to pay two prices as our contribution to the war taxes of our neighbors. We trust that in the English portion of the Revised List the character of the text books, whose use will be "enforced," will be more national.

In the Periodical trade there has been, we are informed by the principal importers a steady increase month by month on last year. For the English Magazines, notwithstanding the large number of new magazines launched lately and most of which have an excellent circulation here, the old ones maintain their ground, and do not appear to suffer in the least. We are still without a Canadian Literary Magazine, and are probably likely to be so for some time to come, our publishers have burnt their fingers too severely in such speculations to venture again at present.

* This item is for the whole year.

The importations of stationery during the first six months of 1866, amounted to \$40,950, and during the second six months to \$26,639, making a total of \$67,589. This is principally English production; no heavy stationery can now be bought in the American market at prices which would admit of competition with English goods. A slight rise in the price of all papers in the home market, took place in the middle of the year which has contrary to expectation been sustained. The increase was greatest in super and extra super, but the quantity of these grades imported here is comparatively small, all kind of paper consumed by our newspapers together with the great bulk of commoner qualities of book and writing papers are made in the province. It would be interesting to give the figures of home manufacture, but we have no means of arriving at them.—*Leader Annual Review of Trade.*

3. BOOK AND STATIONERY TRADE, TORONTO.

The book trade of the Province is year by year assuming larger proportions, and it is a matter of no little congratulation that each year this important branch of commerce is rapidly extending itself, and more densely permeating and more widely enlarging its influence in our midst. The curious action of the American Congress with regard to the native and foreign book trade of the United States could hardly have been more advantageous in encouraging among ourselves the importation of British publications in room of American, and could not have been more calculated to extend the acquaintance of our importers and dealers with British houses. Like the withdrawal of the Reciprocity Treaty, which, far from doing us injury, as was anticipated, served to introduce our commerce to other and more profitable ports, the legislation of the American Congress in this matter of the book trade, while shutting us out from their markets, in consequence of the high taxes upon all the materials of book-making, has only turned our importers to the mother country, where the supply has been cheap, abundant and desirable. Indeed, this absurd and impolitic legislation has not only lost a large bulk of the trade to the American publishers, but has been a serious blow to their native enterprise, for British books can be imported, paying an exorbitant protective (?) duty in gold, cheaper than their own publishers can manufacture. And it is matter of fact that for the last year much of the importations of our own dealers have been resold here and shipped to the States, with advantage to both purchaser and seller.

The success which has been commanded and deserved by the leading British publishers in their extensive and varied issue of cheap publications, has been largely enjoyed by the trade in this country, and has induced large importations during the year, which have been rapidly turned over, and we are glad to find these publishers lose that old, stiff conservatism which has hitherto characterized their dealings with the colonial trade; and in view of colonial purchases being an important and increasing adjunct to their home trade, have more liberally met our importers, so as to enable them to give to our own public the full benefit of the cheapness in price of the English issues. We are gratified in noting at the same time the high character of these publications, and we sincerely trust that these works will be largely disseminated, and that year by year all classes of the community will become more and more of a reading people. The issues of serial literature is still becoming more extensive; but we find that this is not to the detriment of the sale of works of a more important and elaborate character, a goodly proportion of such works, together with importations of the higher professional text-books and works of practice, are to be found on our leading booksellers' shelves.

We are not, too, without our native literature and enterprise in book making; but with the exception of publications in education, law, &c., the trade find little encouragement from our people. We must see to it in the prospect of a confederation and a nationality for our country, that we have a distinctive literature, which will have a wider field and a higher aim than the local and provincial.

The stationery trade of the year keeps up to its average, the prices remaining steady. The reduction of the duty from 20 to 15 per cent. will probably, induce larger importations and sales in the coming year. A considerable trade is annually done in the Province in the way of paper manufacture; but it is still of the common qualities. We would like to see the manufacture of the better qualities of paper—writing and printing—in the country; and we doubt not it could be made so as to considerably supply the demand that has to seek the home markets.—*Globe Review of Trade.*

4. PRINTING AND PUBLISHING SCHOOL BOOKS.

The Common School System of Upper Canada has given encouragement to the business of printing and publishing books in Canada, by the market which that system has created for school books. Fortunately for the youth and parentage of the country, and for

the cause of education, the necessary school books of a common English education are to be obtained as cheaply in Canada as in any country. It is only the higher class educational works that have to be imported. Now, however, there is a probability that even these will be supplied in abundance at the cheapest rates. Under the law and by direction of the Council of Public Instruction, the text books used in Grammar Schools have been rendered uniform, so that for these, as in the case of the books used in common schools, a demand will be at once established. The market will be as readily supplied. The works are nearly all of them free of copyright in this country, the Latin and Greek grammars and reading-books being American revised editions of established English works. Competition is therefore free. Already a leading firm in Toronto announces the speedy publication at half the present prices of the works of the uniform series. It will become in consequence an easier matter for parents to send their promising boys to the Grammar School to finish their education, or as preparatory to the University. Academic education will flourish in Canada, and the rising generation will have the opportunity to grow up in culture and refinement. —*Kingston News.*

III. Papers on Departmental Book supply.

1. DEPARTMENTAL SUPPLY OF SCHOOL BOOKS, MAPS AND APPARATUS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

School requisites to the value of \$10,000 prime cost, were furnished, in accordance with the official notice of the Superintendent, to school trustees, during the months of November and December. The city of Halifax is not included in the above. Orders from sections in every county in the Province have been received, and the articles promptly despatched. It is impossible to over-estimate the benefits which must result from this generous provision of the school law. Teachers will soon have the satisfaction of seeing their schools well equipped with excellent books, and other necessary materials. Thus the effectiveness of their labours will be greatly increased.

Until the more common wants of the schools with respect to text-books, slates, maps, rulers, &c., are supplied, it has been deemed prudent to restrict the articles furnished at half cost to those in the list given in the official notice.

On account of the large number of orders which have been received, a few books are not in stock; but a further supply has been ordered.

Several Inspectors and Commissioners have suggested the establishment of county and district agencies for the sale of school books at reduced rates. This proposal, at first sight, would seem to be feasible, and well calculated to effect the end desired. But a careful examination of the whole subject, will, we believe, result in a preference for the present arrangement. Communication both by land and water is frequent and regular with the capital, and when the railroad shall be opened to Pictou on the north, and Annapolis on the west, there will be scarcely a school section in the province which cannot as readily procure books from Halifax as from the shire town. But it is not wholly nor chiefly a question of convenience. It is a question of books and materials at half the prime cost, or at three times that amount. It is impossible to supply school materials through twenty or thirty agencies without consuming the chief portion of the original grant in commissions, and expenses of supervision. This consideration is sufficient of itself to show the impracticability of supplying school books and apparatus at anything like the present low rates by means of numerous agencies throughout the province. One central agency has been found sufficient in Upper Canada, and after a little longer experience Trustees will find no difficulty in procuring for their schools the necessary materials from Halifax. In the more distant rural sections we would suggest that Boards of Trustees give their orders in the form prescribed, to the nearest merchant, and have their parcels transmitted to his care.

The official regulations are as follows:—WHEREAS, by the 20th Section of the Amended School Law, the ratepayers of each school section are empowered to assess themselves for the purchase of prescribed School Books, Maps, and Apparatus; and WHEREAS, by the 16th subdivision of the 6th section of the said law, an annual Provincial Grant is provided to enable the Superintendent of Education to furnish the above articles at half their cost, to School Trustees,—notice is hereby given, that the Superintendent of Education will furnish, as below, School Books, Maps, and Apparatus, to extent of the Provincial Grant in aid of the same.

Trustees must carefully comply with the following Regulations:—

The following are the regulations of the Council of Public Instruction with reference to all Books, Maps, and Apparatus fur-

nished to Trustees, under the operation of Sec. 6 (15) of the law concerning Public Schools:—

Reg. 1.—They shall be the property of the School Section, and not of private individuals (except as specified in Reg. 5.)

Reg. 2.—Any pupil shall be entitled, free of charge, to the use of such school books as the teacher may deem necessary.

Reg. 3.—Any pupil shall have the privilege of taking home with him any books, &c., which, in the opinion of the teacher, may be required for study or use out of school.

Reg. 4.—Pupils, or their parents or guardians, shall be responsible for any damage done to books beyond reasonable wear and tear.

Reg. 5.—Any pupil desiring it, may be allowed to purchase from the trustees the books required by him, provided the same be done without prejudice to the claims of other pupils; the price to be, in all cases, the same as advertised in the official notice published from time to time in the *Journal of Education*. No pupil who has been allowed to purchase a book shall have any claim on the trustees for the free use of another of the same kind.

Reg. 6.—Any section neglecting to provide a sufficient supply of books, maps, and apparatus, may be deprived of the public grants.

Reg. 7.—Trustees shall make such further regulations, agreeably to law, as may be necessary to ensure the careful use and preservation of books, maps, and apparatus belonging to the section.

Any section infringing in any way upon the above regulations will forfeit the privilege of purchasing books, &c., at half cost.

The amount expended by the Province in aid of books and apparatus was \$4,855.72, an increase of \$855.72 over last year. These indispensable articles of school work have been provided almost entirely within the past two years. Much, however, remains to be accomplished before the schools are properly supplied with all necessary materials. The arrangement adopted by the Legislature at its last session, for the supply of books and apparatus to School Trustees at half cost, came into operation at the beginning of the present school year. It is confidently anticipated that a large number of sections will early avail themselves of so advantageous a mode of securing the books and apparatus needed, so far as these have yet been provided; and when experience has furnished such data as are necessary to form accurate estimates of the probable demand for each article, it will be possible to ensure the speedy and full execution of every order received.—*Chief Superintendent's Report for 1866, p. xxi.*

2. SUPPLY OF LIBRARY AND SCHOOL BOOKS, (COLONY OF VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.)

From the report of the Board of Education for the Colony of Victoria, (Australia) for 1865, we select the following:—The Board say,

During the past year, the stock of school-books has been considerably increased, in order that a few months' supply may always be kept on hand.

The value of the book stock is estimated at £7,000. There is, in addition, a sum of £1,500 remitted to England for the purchase of books, which increases the total to £8,500.

The Library consists of a large number of specimens of new books, suitable for schools, the difficulty of selection having been much increased, in consequence of the very numerous school-books which have been published within the last few years.

In 1865 the number of applications for school requisites was 1,817, being an increase of 95 over the previous year.

The book sales realised £2,724 3s. 11d. during the same period, showing an increase over 1864 of £415 0s. 9d.

The actual value of the apparatus supplied is greater than the amount shown above, for the Board, besides supplying books at prime cost, have issued to schools during the year not less than 1,200 maps and black boards at half price.

The printed list of books sanctioned by the Board of Education will be found in the Appendix.

The Board will provide such books and school requisites as they may deem necessary or fit for the use of Common Schools, and these will be furnished at as low a rate as possible to Local Committees and teachers. Local Committees may require the scholars to pay for them, but not at prices higher than those charged by the Board, plus the cost of carriage.

The Board will publish from time to time a list of the books in stock, for the information of Local Committees and teachers.

APPLICATION FOR BOOKS AND REQUISITES.

Amount _____ } _____ School,
Forwarded _____ } _____ day of _____ 186 .

I have the honor to request that the Commissioners of Education

will be good enough to direct the undermentioned Books and Requisites, for the above School, to be forwarded*

Signature of Principal Teacher

The Secretary, Board of Education, Melbourne.

3. MODE OF SUPPLYING MICHIGAN SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

Official Regulations of the Michigan State Board of Education.

In conformity with the law for the establishment of School Libraries, the State Board of Education have selected the following list of books, and have contracted with a Bookseller, in Detroit, to furnish so many of the same as may be ordered by the Township School Inspectors, or by the District School Boards, for the Township or District Libraries, at the prices annexed.

The List contains more than 700 volumes, and embraces a large number of standard books, of the best literature in our language. As far as practicable, the books have been personally examined by the Board or some member thereof. A few books have been added on their general good reputation, or on the special recommendation of gentlemen of competent learning and judgment. Care has been taken to exclude every book not calculated to foster a correct taste and a pure morality. Several novels, valuable for their wholesome moral influence, or for the historical information they contain, and valuable also as specimen works of celebrated authors, have been admitted into the list. A considerable number of juvenile books has also been added, under the conviction that a main purpose of these libraries is to cultivate a taste for reading among the young. No District Library should be without a due proportion of books of such a character as may attract and interest the children of the district. The Board freely recommend the books in the list, to the People of the State, as good and valuable library books.

CAUTION.—*School Officers are especially cautioned against travelling book peddlers, who, pretending to be agents of the State contractors, or asserting that they will sell cheaper than the contract prices, palm on to the libraries inferior and cheap editions of the work selected, or of worthless books in their places, and in common and frail bindings. Every book on this list is contracted for at considerably less than the publisher's retail price for the same in common binding, while the binding provided for by the contract is a much more expensive as well as durable binding, than ordinary cloth or even sheep binding.*

No book peddler can furnish these books in equally good editions and in equal binding, for the prices given in this circular.

Binding.—All the books are to be bound especially for the libraries, in uniform, strong and handsome binding, thoroughly stitched, and spring backed, and lettered on the backs "Michigan School Libraries," to prevent their being easily mislaid and lost. For library use they will be twice as durable, and, of course, twice as valuable as the same books would be in any common binding.

Directions for ordering Books.—Books may be ordered under this contract at two periods in each year. The first period extends from the 1st day of February to the 15th day of March, and the second period extends from the 1st day of July to the 15th day of August. During these periods the District Boards, in case of District Libraries, and the Township School Inspectors, in case of Township Libraries, should select such books as they may desire, taking care not to exceed the amount of library money belonging to the district or township, and send their orders to the Contractor, Detroit. The orders should mention the stations on the railroads, or ports on navigable waters, to which the books are to be forwarded. The charges from Detroit to such point will be at the expense of the district. Care should be taken to send money bankable in Detroit, or drafts on Detroit or New York. A blank form for the orders will be found below.

The books ordered will be delivered at the places required *within ten weeks after the close of the period in which the order is made.*

The Contractor is under no obligation to fill any order unless such order is accompanied with the money. The books will be inspected by the Board of Education, or some one whom they shall appoint, before they are sent to the districts.

It is hoped that this simple and easy method of supplying the libraries with books, will commend itself to the good sense of the people, and will induce a more liberal support of these valuable agencies of popular education. It would be difficult to devise a more simple plan. It is like bringing a large book-store home to each district. A large list of good books—more than twice as large as any book-store in the State can show—has been carefully selected, with the aid of some of the best men in the State; an excellent style of binding has been agreed on, and the lowest contract prices obtained under a public bidding. The list of books is sent to each

Township or District having a library, and the school officers have only to sit down and select the books wanted, and mail their order with the money, to the Contractor, who is under heavy bonds to furnish the books as required.

4. SUPPLY OF TEXT BOOKS TO SCHOOLS AND REQUISITES IN MARYLAND.

(Extracts from the Official Regulations of the State Board of Education.)

It shall be the duty of the School Committee on books and stationery to report to the Local Board of School Commissioners, at the stated meeting in July of each year, the books and stationery fit for use in each School, and an estimate of the number of each kind of text books, and the quantity of stationery needed for the ensuing school year; from which report the board may make up its statement to the State Superintendent with the Schedule of books and stationery required for use in the country.

All books or stationery purchased or used by pupils attending any public school, shall be paid for in advance at the rate prescribed by each County Board.

The Commissioner may order the following articles for the comfort, convenience, and security of the school, viz:—Fuel, axes, saws, water-buckets, drinking-cups, wash basins, towels, soap, locks and fastenings, glass and glazing, brooms, dusting-brushes, and white-washing and cleaning once a year—all of which shall be paid for out of the book fees accruing to the school, and charged among incidental expenses.

Teachers must keep a correct account of the books and stationery procured for their schools, and must report to the Commissioner the books and stationery on hand at the end of each term, the number sold, and amount received from sales or for use of books.

When books are placed in the hands of pupils for use they shall have them neatly covered with muslin, calico, cloth or stout paper, and parents and guardians are required to see that this rule is always observed. Parents and guardians will be required to replace or pay for all books retained, destroyed or lost, and they will also be held responsible, and required to pay for all damages done by their children or wards to school houses, school furniture, trees, fences, &c.

All orders for books and stationery must be sent to the State Superintendent through the Secretary of the Board of School Commissioners, the Secretary keeping an account of the same, charging each order to the Commissioner District, and, if practicable, to the school for which the books were procured. In the State Superintendent's Office, books and school requisites, as issued, will be charged to the Board of School Commissioners.

Orders for books and stationery must be in form as follows:—

OFFICE OF BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS,
County 186 .

To the State Superintendent of Public Instruction,

SIR:—Forward to at
for account of the Board of School Commissioners of
County, the following books, &c. Send via (here give the route as
definitely as possible). Write the name of each book in full and
the exact number—not the dozens.

(Signed),

Secretary of Board of School Commissioners.

5. BRITISH BOOK DISPLAY AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

There is no way in modern times in which a nation's history is more fully and elaborately dealt with than through its press. It was believed that to submit for exhibition the entire produce of the British press in the last year would be no inconsiderable contribution. To secure such a collection the several British publishers were addressed inviting their co-operation, not as a commercial scheme, but to further a national enterprise. The response though not general, was a liberal one. One hundred and eighty-four publishing houses sent in their contributions, which amounted in all to 4,752 volumes, valued at £1,500 sterling.

It will be understood that the object of the collection was not so much to make a typographical display in its merely mechanical and industrial sense as to present at one view the character of the works produced in a single year, from which a pretty correct inference could be had of the demand in this department in the course of a single year. The aim was to secure a copy of every work published, however trifling it might be as well as important, and it is believed that this end has been largely attained. The subjoined classification of the subjects of the exhibited volumes is of sufficient interest to be quoted here—

No. of Vols.	No. of Vols.
Architecture 25	Miscellaneous 185
Classical 44	Natural History 82
Commercial 114	Naval and military ; politics and social science 53
Directories, Dictionaries, Guides, &c. 101	Pastime 69
Education 657	Poetry 500
Essays and Didactic 71	Religion 932
Prose fiction 1,007	Science of Medicine, &c. 189
History, Memoirs, &c. 294	Tillage, Live-stock, &c. 95
Illustrated works 164	Voyages, Travels and Topo- graphy 100
Law 34	
Mechanical arts and engineer- ing 36	
	Total list for exhibition 4,752

In attempting to analyze any such statistics in connection with literary activity, it would, of course, be necessary to eliminate many of the works which are here classified. Educational works cover a wide range, and can with no more propriety be called literature than the text books and reports of law and physic can be called the actual practice and administration of those faculties. Still making all due allowance on this head, it is evident that the literary activity of the mother country, during the year 1866, must have been great. As to the proportion which reprints bear to new publications, it is difficult to get at the correct figures, but I give you the estimate which has been made by a trustworthy authority—

New publications 3399 | Reprints 1353

Prose fiction, you will see, stands at the head of the list immeasurably away beyond all competition. A thousand novels in a year! That is an immense brain product, and comes very near the estimate which I remember to have seen in the *Quarterly Review* some eight or ten months ago, that on an average two new novels were sent out of the publishers' hands every day in England. Poetry holds but a small place in the national productions. Of the 500 volumes published in 1866, 475 were reprints. The proportions of the reprints of deceased authors is not a little curious. At the head stands Shakspeare's plays; next to the "immortal bard" comes Cowper, then Scott, and then—despite the impression that his writings are not read now, as much as formerly, Byron; Milton, Wordsworth, Moore, Goldsmith, Pope, Thomson, Gray, Shelley, Chaucer and Butler following up in the order here indicated.

These are a few of the facts which the collection of English works in the exhibition here brings out. Few will doubt their interest. Although it was found impracticable to place the number of works supplied by each publisher by themselves, the means of indicating the particular house from which they have been received has not been lost sight of. A better arrangement is that of sorting according to subject, not sacrificing all propriety of appearance to the fancy of maintaining an unbroken fellowship and proximity for the production of the same press. The 4,752 volumes are placed in four good sized cases, and so situated as to make it hardly possible that they should escape notice.

Only of somewhat less interest is the exhibition of British newspapers. These are so arranged along the wall, one over the other, as to give you the names of nearly all the English, Irish and Scotch papers, with additional portions of the more important newspapers. First came the London dailies, then the London weeklies, then the newspapers for special classes—of which there are a great many—then the London local newspapers, and then the provincial. There are but very few from the colonies, although it would seem as if the intention was to have them exhibited here also.—*Leader*.

IV. Papers on Public Libraries.

1. THE BOOK WORLD.

When the dim presence of the awful night
Clasps in its jewelled arms the slumbering earth,
Alone I sit beside the lowly light
That like a dream-fire flickers on my hearth,
With some joy-teeming volume in my hand—
A peopled planet, opulent and grand.

It may be Shakspeare, with his endless train
Of sceptred thoughts, a glorious progeny
Borne on the whirlwind of his mighty strain
Through vision lands for ever far and free,
His great mind beaming through those phantom crowds,
Like evening sun from out a wealth of clouds.

It may be Milton, on his seraph wings,
Scaring to heights of grandeur yet untrod;
Now deep where horrid shapes of darkness cling,
Now lost in splendor at the feet of God;

Girt with the terror of avenging skies,
Or wrapt in dreams of infant Paradise.

It may be Spenser, with his misty shades,
Where forms of beauty wondrous tales rehearse,
With breezy vistas, and with cool arcades
Opening for ever in his antique verse.
It may be Chaucer, with his drink divine,
His Tabard old, and Pilgrims twenty-nine.

Perchance I linger with the mighty Three
Of glorious Greece, that morning land of sons,
Who bared the fearful front of Tragedy,
And soared to fame on pinions broad and strong;
Or watch beneath the Trojan ramparts proud
The dim hosts gathering like a thunder cloud.

No rust of time can sully Quixote's mail,
In wonted rest his lance securely lies;
Still is the faithful Sancho stout and hale,
For ever wide his wonder stricken eyes;
And Rosinante, bare and spectral steed,
Still throws gaunt shadows o'er their every deed.

Still can I robe me in the old delights
Of Caliph splendid, and of Genii grim,
The star wealth of Arabia's thousand nights,
Shining till every other light grows dim;
Wander away in broad, voluptuous lands,
By streams of silver, and through golden sands.

Still hear the storms of Camoens burst and swell,
His seas of vengeance raging wild and wide;
Or wander by the glimmering fires of hell
With dreaming Dante and his spirit guide;
Loiter in Petrarch's green, melodious grove,
Or hang, with Tasso, o'er his hopeless love.

What then, to me, is all your sparkling dance,
Wine purpled banquet, or vain Fashion's blaze,
Thus roaming through the realms of rich Romance,
Old Book-world, and its wealth of royal days,
For ever with those brave and brilliant ones
That fill Time's channel like a stream of suns!
—*All the Year Round*.

2. FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN ENGLAND.

Books may justly be called the most wonderful of all human productions. "Read, and you will know," is said to have been the invariable reply which Sir William Jones, when a boy was accustomed to receive from his mother in answer to enquiries for information. And no better answer could be given. As Bacon observes, "Reading maketh a full man;" and though he adds, "Writing maketh an exact man," it is certain that those who read, even though they do not write, will possess more exact information than others who only talk about things.

There has been no age in which the inestimable value of books was not recognized by civilised nations, and vast storehouses have been erected to preserve this kind of national wealth for the use of future generations. Thus we find that libraries existed among the Assyrians, Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans, and throughout the dark ages these lamps of the human mind were preserved, though perhaps too much hidden, in the monastic libraries of Europe. In our own country we have now the British Museum, with its library of 700,000 volumes; the Bodleian Library at Oxford, containing about 280,000 volumes; the University Libraries of Cambridge and Dublin, and the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh, each containing a noble collection of books and manuscripts. But from these libraries no books can be lent out, and the hours during which they are open to readers are such as to prevent the possibility of their being used by artisans or men of business.

This state of things suggested the establishment of free local libraries, where books could be lent out as well as be used for purposes of reference. In 1850, and again in 1855, Acts of Parliament were passed empowering any municipal corporation, in a borough of more than 5000 inhabitants, to levy a rate not exceeding one penny in the pound, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining public libraries, museums, and galleries of art. The same powers were also conferred upon local boards of management in parishes, or local improvement districts having a similar population. In Scotland and Ireland the Act applies only to boroughs or districts of more than 10,000 inhabitants.

Manchester, which has long been remarkable for its public spirit

and enlightened philanthropy, as well as for its vast commercial energy, almost immediately availed itself of the powers entrusted to it by the former of these Acts. A free public library had been established by the munificence of Sir John Potter, and in 1852 this institution was handed over to the management of the town council, and since that time four branch lending libraries and reading rooms have been opened in the different outlying districts of the city.

During 1865-6 the parent institution and three of the branches were in operation. The fourth branch was opened in October last. In that year 80,852 volumes were made use of in the reference library, whose shelves contain 38,426 volumes; and during the same period the lending libraries, which contain 39,318 volumes, were the means of circulating 286,116 volumes among the families of artisans and others. The visitors to the newsrooms in connection with these libraries, the tables of which are amply supplied with daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly publications on science, literature, and politics, appear to have averaged about 3404 per day.

In Liverpool a free public library was also opened in 1852. In 1857 Sir W. Brown subscribed the princely sum of 30,000*l.* to be used for the purposes of the library, and the very handsome and commodious building in which the library is at present located owes its origin entirely to his generosity. The reference library contains 41,185 volumes, and during the year 1864-5 no fewer than 420,127 volumes were consulted, which gives an average of 1547 per day. There are now in operation two lending libraries, confining together 36,642 volumes, and during the same year 8569 persons borrowed from these libraries 444,242 volumes.

In connection with the library there is a good museum, and lectures and classes for instruction in science have been set on foot. It is also proposed to open a gallery for works of art.

The penny rate in this borough yields about 7000*l.* a year.

The free library of Birmingham is of more recent origin, but it appears to be working equally well. It has two establishments in different parts of the town, which contain 12,983 volumes, and they are classified as follows:—

Theology and Philosophy, 315; History, Biography, Voyages, and Travels, 2848; Law, Politics, and Commerce, 155; Arts and Sciences, 1005; Literature, including Poetry and the Drama, Periodicals, and Fiction, 8660.

The returns for the year 1864-5 show that during that time 130,908 volumes were lent for home perusal; while the average number of visitors to the library and newsrooms was 1395 per day. The number of persons who have been admitted to the benefits of the library since its foundation in 1861 is 11,146.

Attached to the library there is a museum, of which the people of Birmingham appear to make good use.

The rules for the Manchester and Birmingham libraries are very similar, and appear to be judiciously devised. Their principal provision is that those who wish to become borrowers, shall find two burgesses who will testify to their general character, and who will be responsible for any book that may be lost or seriously damaged.

With regard to the loss or damage of books, the returns reflect very great credit upon the general care and integrity of the borrowers. For out of the 417,024 volumes lent at Manchester and Birmingham during the years 1865-6 and 1864-5 respectively, only 90 were lost or irreparably injured, of which 52 were made good by the borrowers and 27 by the guarantors, thus leaving only 11 really lost to the libraries.

The character of the works demanded by the readers indicates upon the whole a very healthy taste. The classified returns are:—

Manchester: Theology and Philosophy, 2296; History, Biography, Voyages, and Travels, 17,648; Politics and Commerce, 1238; Science and Arts, 5229; other Literature, 75,318.

Birmingham: Theology and Philosophy, 1171; History, Biography, Voyages, and Travels, 29,283; Law, Politics, and Commerce, 588; Arts and Sciences, 6278; Literature, including Poetry and the Drama, Fiction and the Periodical Literature, 93,581.

Liverpool: higher classes of Literature, eleven-twelfths of the volumes issued; Fiction, the remaining one-twelfth.

These results would, we believe, if compared with those of Mudie's or any other subscription library, be greatly in favour of the substantial taste of the borrowers from the free public libraries, who are for the most part artisans, small tradesmen, clerks, and warehousemen.

3. PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN ENGLAND.

During the last session of Parliament an Act was passed to authorize the formation of free Public Libraries. Its passage through Parliament met with no opposition. Since it has become law it has received no further attention; no municipality has availed itself of the powers which it grants, and no public journal has yet enforced its claims and its importance. Yet we are disposed to think that

the Act, whose preamble modestly states that "it is expedient to grant facilities for the establishment of Free Public Libraries," has far higher claims than many a measure of more ostentatious pretensions. It is one of the evils of a country where constitutional government exists and great political power is enjoyed by the people, to attach too great importance to political action, and too little to personal and moral effort for moral and social progress. But no political reform will ever do that for the social and intellectual elevation and consequent general improvement and happiness of a people which the unostentatious and silent work of books and education effect. The best thing a free government can do for the people is to endow them with power to reform and advance themselves. But where popular intelligence does not keep pace with popular power, it invariably ends in political corruption and licentiousness—corruption and mismanagement in the statesman, licentiousness and lawlessness in the people. It is in this light that education pays whatever be its cost—because ignorance is always more costly, and the more institutions tend to democracy—the characteristic of ours—the deeper the necessity to extend the sources of intelligence—to elevate and make more extensive the education of the people. It is the only hope of freedom—the only safety from licentiousness and anarchy. It is in this faith that we establish Common Schools. But that is only the beginning of the work. The taste for knowledge is awakened there, and the elements for its pursuit supplied; but it is a taste that must be cultivated, expanded and deepened until it becomes a passion so strong as to expel or curb all viler passions. It is a passion as high and as boundless as the universe that supplies its demands, and as elevating and pure as the Truth, which is its aim and end. It only needs means to strengthen and spread it, and amongst those means none commend themselves with greater force than public libraries and reading rooms. They have a civilizing and social value in their tendency to bring together and unite all classes in one ennobling pleasure and pursuit. They have a moral value in gratifying and cultivating tastes antagonistic to those of vice and sensual attractions. They have, above all, a high educational value in the abundant means they afford for mental culture.

It was originally intended by their benevolent founders that mechanics' institutes should accomplish these important ends. But in this regard mechanics' institutes have proved a failure. They are too costly, and as they are only supported—especially in this country—by the subscriptions of members, either they have died for want of support, or their terms have been too high for the classes whose name they assumed. Hence the necessity for free public libraries. That necessity has long since been admitted in other civilized countries, and has been met in the most liberal spirit both by public and private efforts. Many towns in England of less pretensions than Toronto have voluntarily taxed themselves under the provisions of the Act of Parliament similar to that now established in Canada. Some of these have been greatly advanced by liberal private donations. Probably in this respect Liverpool stands first, the late Sir William Brown having donated a gift of land, valued at £20,000 sterling, for this object. France possesses more than 100 public libraries, open freely to all comers without distinction of person, rank, or country. Austria and Prussia together have nearly 90; Bavaria has 17; Belgium 14, and other European kingdoms have their proportion. New York again can boast her splendid Astor library with 100,000 volumes open freely to the public. Besides this there are numerous other public libraries both in New York and other cities of the States, all free to the public. Boston, by a special act of the Massachusetts Legislature, 1848, was provided with a public library, and had granted from the city funds five thousand dollars. Liberal and generous citizens also contributed largely in books and money, and Mr. Joshua Bates, a citizen of London, presented £10,000 for the purchase of books.

This is the public spirit which truly exalts a country and ennobles its citizens. No patriotism can excel that of a people who voluntarily tax themselves to establish institutions for the elevation of all classes without exception or exclusion, and no philanthropy shines brighter than that displayed in munificent gifts bestowed by wealthy men to aid such noble enterprises. Canada hitherto has taken no steps in this good work, and it is due to the sagacity of the member for North Wentworth that at length a legislative enactment authorizes our people to follow the example of other countries in this regard. We trust that early and energetic steps will be taken by our leading citizens, and that Toronto, with her wealth, her public spirit, and the just claims which her mechanics and her industrial classes have upon her liberality, will be the first to inaugurate a free public library for her citizens.

The following is a summary of the bill to which we have referred: The Mayor or two justices of the peace, may call a public meeting of the owners of real estate in any city or town with a population of not less than 5,000 inhabitants, and if at any such meeting, two thirds of the said owners of real estate present, determine in favour

of a public library, then the act shall be adopted. The adoption of the act authorizes the owners of real estate in such city to become a body corporate with all the power of a legal corporation. The affairs of the corporation shall be conducted by nine trustees, six of whom shall be elected by the ratepayers, and three by those who have made certain donations of books or money. These trustees shall have the power to levy for the purposes of the library annually a tax not exceeding one half cent on the dollar, on all rateable real property within the city or town where they are elected. The trustees are authorized to establish and maintain free reading-rooms, with books, newspapers, maps, and all necessaries. They are also empowered to allow householders and inhabitants to borrow and take away books from the library, and to establish fines for infraction of regulations. The 10th clause of the act declares that the said libraries SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE.

There are other clauses as to the mode of election, the management of the business of the library, the appointment of officers, &c., but the summary we have given indicates the spirit of the act, and the power vested in the people to act for themselves. It augurs well for the liberality and success of the measure that the citizens can act without the consent or the interference of City Councils. Influenced as these sapient bodies often are by factional prejudices and narrow and selfish views, trammelled by debt caused by their extravagance and mismanagement, rarely if ever capable of foreseeing any wise measure which has the moral and social elevation of the people for its aim—to have referred the establishment of a free public library to their decision would have been equal to pronouncing sentence of death upon it. The people always act from more generous instincts and with juster views than their rulers—especially local rulers—and with this power vested in their hands we trust will long to see Toronto taking the initiative in a work which will confer no small honour upon its inhabitants.—*Toronto Daily Telegraph*.

4. PENNY READING-ROOMS IN ENGLAND.

In almost all the large cities of Great Britain penny reading-rooms may be found in abundance, being everywhere popular and successful. In our own city there is a large floating population to whom such an institution would be a desideratum, many persons being desirous from time to time of seeing the news from different parts of the world, but who are either unable or unwilling to pay the necessary fee or subscribe to the Mechanics' Institute room. There are moreover a large number of working men and mechanics resident in the city to whom such a room would be a great convenience and who would no doubt be glad to support one. The board of directors of the Mechanics' Institute contemplate opening such a room on Yonge Street near Queen Street at an early day, and from the facilities at their command there is every reason to believe that they will make it conducive to the interests of thousands of our citizens as well as a pleasant place of resort for all the news of the day—all for a penny.

5. SABBATH-SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

A discussion took place at the last Sabbath School Convention in Montreal, on the subject of Sabbath-school libraries, which was opened by the Rev. Mr. Pardee, who said it was a question of great importance. Fault had been found with the management of this department, but it must be remembered that it is only about half a century since books for youth had attracted attention. Now there are eight to ten thousand works for Sunday schools, for youths and children. Some of these had been prepared with great care; others had been got up by publishers with only a single reading. There was, however, no excuse for books of a doubtful tendency. The selection was often left to improper persons, sometimes to juveniles, who consulted merely their own taste; at other times motives of economy were consulted; the result being that books were selected, which, from their influence, ought never to be seen in a library. The minister ought to guard the library as careful as his pulpit, the best men in the church should be selected as a committee, and a standing committee should be appointed to watch and take advantage of the market, as by this means books could often be got cheaply. There were plenty of interesting books to be had now, which parents as well as children were glad to read. He then showed various ways by which the confusion caused in schools by the giving out of books might be avoided. Every year the library was becoming of more and more importance, and the greatest care should be taken in the selections.

Rev. Mr. Marling took up the question of the best means of selecting books, and recommended, among other plans, that when new books were got, each teacher should have so many placed in

his hands for examination, a general revival being afterwards made. The great demand was now for stories. It was in many respects a serious symptom, but what was to be done? Teachers find solid and instructive books left on the shelves. If they are not read, of what use are they? They must make proper selections and regulate this desire.

Rev. Mr. Bonar deprecated giving way too much to this desire for stories. Parables were short tales whose end and aim was easily discovered, but now we had long stories of two to three hundred pages, whose moral it would be difficult to discover.

Rev. Mr. Scott had found that many of the books in use, particularly in the Union schools, were such as to draw away from Christ, instead of drawing to him.

Further discussion followed, during which it was suggested by the Rev. Dr. Wilkes that Canadians should endeavour to set themselves to work to write books themselves, not mere stories, but interesting works full of Christ all through; and the Rev. Mr. Bell pointed out that the books were much read by parents, so that in reality three classes were required, for the very young, for those farther advanced, and for adults.

Rev. Mr. Walker contended that every Sabbath school book should bear on its surface the object for which it was intended.

Rev. Dr. Irvine warned the meeting against yielding to the taste for stories which proceeded from the depraved heart, and that there was no truth in the idea which many seemed to have, that children were able to understand nothing else. He pointed to the immense circulation of such books as James' *Anxious Enquirer* and Boston's *Four Fold State*, a theological work, but one as plain as the Bible itself. If books are thought to be above the capacity of youth then raise it to the level of the books, not lower them.

The chairman recapitulated the points brought out in the discussion, and the subject was closed.

6. BOOKS OF FICTION FOR CHILDREN.

The *London Quarterly Review* remarks: "The mind of a child," says a wise thinker, "is like the acorn; its powers are folded up, they do not yet appear, but they are all there. The memory, the judgment, the invention, the feeling of right and wrong, are all in his mind, even of an infant just born. One by one they awake." His imagination—one of the earliest powers that awakens within him, even before he has passed through the mysteries of pap and found out that being naughty differs from being good—must be fed. And fed it will be either on the make-believe talk of his sister Mary nursing her doll, the idle stories of Betsey the nursemaid when he is naughty about 'bogy' and the 'black man' who carries off bad boys; or about the golden fairy who is to give him taffey and gingerbread—when he is good. By and by, as he grows older, his sister Mary reads to him, and at last he learns to read for himself, the charming adventures of the 'Fox and the Crow,' 'Billy Goat Gruff,' 'Sinbad the Sailor,' or 'Diamonds and Pearls,' the delicious history of 'Puss in Boots,' the tragedy of 'Blue Beard,' or the heroic drama of 'Jack the Giant-killer.'

"But whichever of these or a hundred other such delightful pages it be, his faith is boundless. Happiest of mortals for a time at least, he can believe all he reads; with the one happy proviso that it is not true. It ought to be, aye, and is, because his sister says so. While he is absorbed in the misfortunes of the 'Tin Soldier' or the 'Ugly Duck' the breakfast bell is unheard, and dinner unheeded; he is feasting in dreamland, on strabout in the giant's castle, or on those famous cheese-cakes of Queen Scheherazade, whose vital charm was pepper. Not that he is forgetful of fact, even while in the full pursuit of fiction. Indeed he is always burning for facts. He wishes to know what glass is, where Robinson Crusoe was buried, how much gold it takes to make the inside of a watch, why the sun sets later in June than December, what thunder is, if the end of the rainbow touches the ground, why firing off a cannon once made a man deaf, what sago is, and a thousand other things, which papa, not being a walking encyclopædia, is not always ready to tell him. And whatever answer he can obtain he is ready to believe implicitly, as long as he is dealt fairly with.

"Yet, though St. George and the Dragon, Ali Baba and Robinson Crusoe, are in one sense as true to him as the history of England; there are shades and degrees of belief in his own mind both as regards the domains of fact and fiction, which he cannot perhaps define, and of which he is scarcely sensible, yet on which he unconsciously acts; setting each narrative or story, tale or fable, romance or chronicle, in its own due place, and giving to each his own royal favor and approval as good, bad, or indifferent. A child in good sound health is insatiably curious, his thirst for fiction of one shape or other is quenched, and if he never asks questions and cares nothing for 'Jack and the Bean-stalk,' or the 'Lad who went to the North Wind,' there is a screw loose somewhere or other; he is in a morbid, unhealthy state of body or mind, probably of both;

his natural growth and tastes, as a child, are becoming stunted and diseased; forced into some narrow, petty channel, where ignorance or bigotry will soon blot out the freshness, grace and light, that are childhood's most precious possessions."

7. SYSTEMATIC AND DESULTORY READING.

This brings us again to the question of systematic and desultory reading with which our social ethics are generally concerned. It will at once be admitted that no incentive to effort, no discipline of mental training, no industry and ordered purpose are possible in vague and desultory reading. But in the silent world, as in the active world, there is both the lighter and the severer side. There is both exertion and relaxation. Those who make the exertion are entitled to the relaxation. The formal division between systematic and desultory reading is not to be accepted in such wise that we should wholly take to the one, and wholly abjure the other. Those who in other departments of life have made their protracted efforts, and have their habits of order, industry, and purpose, are entitled to take their relaxation in this department without renewing the finished labours of the day. But, at this point, a certain consideration arises. No man ought so to construct his scheme of life, or to adjust his daily avocations in such a manner, that there should be no room left for thought and care in the matter of reading. It is a mistake to divest reading of the aspect of a duty, and to regard it simply as a gentle sedative, or a gentle stimulant. Sir James Stephen has somewhere expressed an apprehension respecting the political aspect of desultory reading. He compares the great mass of desultory literature in this country to the writings of the Encyclopædists, when grammar, logic, metaphysics, history, philosophy, and even religion were rendered familiar, easy, epigrammatic and amusing. "Since to Englishmen, collectively," says Sir James Stephen, "now lies the final appeal from every human authority in England on every question affecting our national welfare and our duties as a people, is it unreasonable to desire, or unwise to express the desire, that the vast apparatus of instruction now happily at command may be so contrived, and so employed, as to train us all for the right discharge of this most grave responsibility." A man has no right to give such exclusive attention to his ordinary business and avocations that his reading is a mere pastime and desultory employment. It will be well for him if he should select some pursuit, where, by easy and moderate labour, some portion of real knowledge or excellence may be attained. A change of labour is frequently as a cessation from labour. We have had a wise lesson left us in the example of those who have mixed labour and devotion with thought and study. Let us have a determinate object, and the most desultory reading will be susceptible of being brought into relation with this object, and so be a means of assisting instead of retarding our regular reading. It is most plainly legible in Holy Writ that it is the divine desire that we should be acquainted with our intellectual powers, as well as our moral obligations. The divine appeal is that we should be wise, that we should consider, that we should grow in knowledge, "that the soul be without knowledge is not good." The ocean of books, in some respects, reminds me of the ocean that encompasses all human shores. We are appalled by its vastness and its depth. It almost seems a barrier instead of a highway. Some are content with gathering up the shells thrown upon the shore, with playing upon the ocean margin, or trusting themselves for brief hours of sunshine upon the pleasant waters. But others launch forth with a determinate direction, and catch the favourable wind, and steer straight for some prosperous haven, where they may gather in precious harvestings and goodly commodities. So it is when we contemplate the infinitude of books. We too must map out for ourselves a definite course over that apparently trackless expanse, glad if a haven can be obtained and some costly freight be secured. It is a true saying that a man is known by his friends—not only by the companionship of the living, but by the companionship of the dead. It is no mean thing that we may have the companionship of mighty intellects, and pure and noble natures, who have bequeathed their dying thoughts to the world. They give us their best thoughts, their ripest learning, their most matured experience. I would strongly urge the necessity of broad general studies. Most certainly poetry and fiction are not to be excluded. Our Lord's use of the Parable appears to me to be a direct sanction of that which appeals to the imaginative faculty. That must be dwarfed and stunted intellect where the feelings, the fancy, and the imagination have not a proper nutriment afforded to them. A taste for history, science, and philosophy, should be acquired or developed. A little time wisely and regularly spent will suffice to give a mastery in some pursuit, or the acquisition of a language. Those intellectual pursuits are especially useful which elicit dormant powers of thought, or form a habit of original investigation. In our reading we shall certainly encounter perils; it is as often wise to face and overcome them. We shall meet with

habits of reasoning and reflection very different to ours—much that is unfair and is opposed to our dearest notions of life and religion, much that is positively sinful. Perhaps it is not too much to say, that—the Bible only excepted, where alone we meet with perfect, unadulterated truth—there is no human work which we should not do well to read with a certain measure of distrust. A large measure of distrust in ourselves is not unwise. But if we read with care, caution, candour, always willing to be taught, always desiring to arrive at truth, and bearing in mind a certain golden maxim, *Bene ordasse est bene studuisse*—we shall best attain to that development of mind which is only second in importance to the development of our religious and moral nature. There is one kind of reading which I especially bear in mind—I mean religious and devotional reading. One of the most celebrated statesmen of modern times, after the turmoil of a debate in the House, would calm his mind by reading for some half-hour before retiring to rest. Most of us have felt the sweet soothing power of—

"Sacred song to calm and elevate the mind;
And the night shall be filled with music,
And the cares that infest the day
Shall fold their tents like the Arabs
And silently steal away."

Such ministrals is as the ministrals of the Son of Jesse, which soothed the troubled spirit of Saul. Devotional writers have left us the most precious and enduring legacies; they have admitted us to the scenes of their most thoughtful and sacred retirement—they have left us landmarks, whereby we may direct our own course, and warning pillars to serve as beacons—they cheer and brace us when we feel languid and fainting in our pursuit, and when gathered to their rest, they lean down, as it were, from the great cloud of witnesses that encompasses us, with looks of kindly watchfulness and animating love. The literary value of English religious works is something very great. Lord Bacon, in his day, dwelt on the extraordinary value of this literature, and, since his time, there have been enormous accessions of the highest value. Our religious literature will, indeed, not unfavourably contrast with the fruitful theology of Germany. In the present day it is especially varied and fruitful. The relationship which exists between divine truth and all other truth is closely and diligently traced, and one of the most elevating and delightful intellectual pursuits lies in the attempt to make ourselves cognisant of and participators in this.

But these thoughts have an especial reference to Holy Writ: "If my time were to come over again," writes a remarkable man, the late Mr. March Phillips, "and I could see with wiser eyes than those I had, every day should see me laying up in store the Word of God. Had it been my practice, my mind had by this time been a concordance to itself, and not of words, but of matter. What a mercy on the bed of sickness, amidst the infirmities of age, *sans eyes, sans ears, sans everything* but the understanding of the truth, and a mind familiar with the Scriptures." Such testimonies might be multiplied to any extent. It is related of Henry Martyn, so deep was his veneration for the Word of God, that when a suspicion rose in his mind that any other book he might be studying was about to gain an undue influence over his affections, he instantly laid it aside. Nor would he resume it till he had felt and realised the paramount excellence of God's Word. He could not rest satisfied till all those lesser lights that were beginning to dazzle him had disappeared before the brightness and glory of the Scriptures. St. Jerome relates "that he knew monks who could say by heart the whole of the New Testament." It is related of an eminent Orientalist, that in the course of his work of translation, he transcribed the whole of the Bible seven times. He was asked whether the monotony of the employment had not been wearisome to him. He burst into tears at the question, and said, "that he was thus moved, through his reflection of the unspeakable peace and happiness which it had pleased God to vouchsafe to his soul while he had been engaged in this holy employment." When we read or write, it has been truly said, "The Spirit Himself writes an interlineary gloss for the faithful." We may consider also the immense variety of the Scriptures. They include or imagine forth every kind of literature. In effect they contain some fifty literary documents. These present us with annals, history, the proverb, the poem, the familiar letter, systematic treatise, the biography, vision, dream, chronicle, idyl. Where else will you find thought more precise, poetry more thrilling, oratory more affecting? It is a distinct intellectual acquisition to master the wonderful language of St. John, or the philosophical argument of St. Paul. It is an undertaking worthy of any man's ambition to acquire a knowledge of the languages in which the two covenants were written, not indeed a knowledge critical and exact, yet sufficient to ascertain the meaning of the Word of God in its original tongues. It has been pointed out as a literary fact, that those men who have combined Oriental subjects with Western learning, have obtained the widest mental

sweep, and have drunk most profoundly of the well of wisdom. This is seen in the case of such men as Milton and Burke, who have been as distinguished in the practical affairs of life, as in literature and thought. The comparison also applies to the great scholars of the 17th century, as compared with those scholars who have exclusively formed themselves upon classical models.—REV. FREDERICK ARNOLD, in "The Path on Earth to the Gate of Heaven."

8. PRIVATE READING OF THE TEACHER.

Every teacher should endeavour to read some each day. Many teachers say they have no time for reading,—that with teaching six or more hours per day, preparing lessons, visiting parents, (if they board around,) attending public meetings, and doing other essential things, there is no time left for reading. There are many things to take up the time of the teacher, but "where there is a will there is a way." Let us see if some time cannot be found :

A teacher must sleep, say.....	8	hours.
Teach,	6	"
Prepare lessons,	2	"
Exercise,	2	"
Meals,	1½	"
Conversation,	1½	"
Devotion,	1	"

Twenty-two hours in all, leaving two hours for reading, writing, and private study. Every teacher who is really in earnest can find this time for self-culture ; for sufficient time has been allowed in the above programme for each duty mentioned.

Some reasons for giving this time to reading are :

It will increase one's stock of knowledge and his usefulness as a teacher. By reading we store the mind with information. In books we find the treasured wisdom of the world. Reading places this all at our command. Other things being equal, the more knowledge we have, the better we can teach.

It enlarges and improves the mind. A man of extensive reading, and of careful thought upon the subjects read, takes a broader and more correct view of every subject brought to his notice. Reading tends to liberalize and expand the mind.

It affords pleasure. To have the mind filled with noble thoughts on noble subjects, to trace effects to their causes, affords exquisite pleasure.

It increases one's power for usefulness. Knowledge is power. The more we have, the greater influence we can exert upon others.

How and what shall be read ? Read so as to understand, digest, and remember. Many read for excitement, simply to occupy the mind while the book is before the eye. Such reading is injurious. A person should read slowly, should try to understand all points as he goes along, and should endeavour to remember the things read. Rapid reading without remembering, is hurtful. It weakens the memory and the power of attention. Some persons read with a pen or pencil in hand, and make an index to their reading, or mark chapters, paragraphs and sentences for future examination, when not understood or assented to ; for future review if thought to be peculiarly truthful and striking ; for comparisons with other portions of the same book, if thought to differ in style or sentiment. The plan of reading with pen in hand is a good one.

What to read, is more difficult to answer. Some negative rather than positive directions may be given ;

1st, Read only such books as are worth remembering.

2d, Read books which are written in good style.

3d, Read books which excite thought by suggesting ideas and trains of reflections. A book which gives one fact, and suggests two ideas, is better than a book which gives ten facts, but suggests no ideas.

Those who wish directions upon what to read, how to read, and the formation of taste in reading, will find "Pycroft's Course of English Reading" an excellent hand-book.—*Normal*.

9. MAGNIFICENT PUBLICATION UNDER THE SUPERINTENDENCE OF THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

Before leaving the book department, we must take a glance at the magnificent publications opened under the superintendence of the Master of the Rolls. Their history in a few words is this. In the year 1822 the House of Commons presented an address to the Crown, stating that the ordinary editions of the works of our ancient historians were inconvenient and defective ; that many of their writings still remained in manuscript, and in some cases, in a single copy only. The Master of the Rolls submitted to Her Majesty's Government in 1857 a plan for the publication of the ancient chronicles and memorials of the United Kingdom, which was adopted. In selecting these works it was considered right, in the first instance, to give preference to those of which the manu-

scripts were unique, or the materials of which would help to fill up blanks in English history for which no satisfactory and authentic information has hitherto existed in any accessible form. The Master of the Rolls desired to form a *corpus historicum*, which should be as complete as possible, within reasonable limits. In a subject of so vast a range it was important that the historical student should be able to select such volumes as his own peculiar tastes and studies required, and should not be put to the expense of purchasing the whole collection ; an inconvenience inseparable from any other plan than that which has been in this instance adopted. Of the Chronicles and Memorials, 80 volumes have been published. They embrace the period from the earliest time of British history down to the end of the reign of King Henry VII.

The publication of these works has given a new impetus to the study of English history ; much new matter has been brought to light and many doubtful points have been cleared up. Even a catalogue of the works, as the titles are very long, would occupy a great deal of space, and is to some extent unnecessary, as it is already to be found in the library of the University of Toronto, together with, I believe, a very exhaustive index.

BRITISH TOPOGRAPHY—SPLENDID MAPS.

Another most interesting department of the exhibition made by the British Government, is the Topographical. At the end of the last century, it was determined to produce a military map of Great Britain on a scale of one inch to the mile. Very great progress had been made in the enormous work, when, in 1824, it was resolved to make a map of Ireland on a scale of six inches to the mile. The proximate cause of this was the inequality existing in the taxation of land in that country, and the English scale of one inch to the mile being deemed inadequate to enable fair apportionment to be made, the larger scale was selected. The work was printed in 1840, and its value was found to be so great that it was resolved to do something larger for England and Scotland than had yet been accomplished. Accordingly, Government gave orders for the execution of the following series of plans and maps, viz. :—1. Plans of all towns having above 4000 inhabitants on the scale of 1-500 or 10 56 feet to a mile. 2. Plans of parishes, excepting uncultivated districts, on the scale of 1-2500 or 25 344 inches to a mile, very nearly equivalent to one square inch to one acre, to be accompanied by tables of the contents of the fields and other parcels of ground. 3. Maps of counties on the scale of six inches to one mile = 1-10560, with a certain number of contours upon them, on the scale of six inches to one mile (being reduced from the larger scales by photography, except the uncultivated districts of which the plans are drawn on the six inch scale. 4. General map of the kingdom on the scale of one inch to a mile = 1-63360, showing the hill features. The survey is now proceeding in accordance with these instructions ; and the plans on the above scales are being published as fast as they are drawn, the 1-2500 plans being zincographed, and the maps on the other scales engraved. They are sold in sheets, price 6d. each, by the booksellers throughout the United Kingdom, and at the price are the cheapest maps ever published. Specimens of the work most beautifully executed are shown and elicit unbounded expressions of delight from military men. The expense has been something tremendous, but the work has been most efficiently done. Every hill, every house, every farm, every bridge, every turnpike-gate, stream, streamlet, mill farm road, house-yard has been marked down. In indicating such minuteness you may think I exaggerate ; but I certainly do not. Their microscopical detail, combined with their topographical accuracy, render them beyond doubt the best series of maps possessed by any nation in the world.

PHOTOZINCOGRAPHY AND PHOTOPAPYROGRAPHY.

In the neighbourhood of the maps are placed various specimens illustrative of the processes of photozincography and of photopapyrography. Among the most interesting is a photozincographic copy of Doomsday Book, and of eight of the 1,623rd edition of Shakespeare's plays. By this process the minutest accuracy has been preserved ; there is absolutely nothing different from the original. For a small sum, the student residing in the United States or in Canada, in India or Japan, may obtain a *fac-simile* of the works mentioned upon which to study, without being put to the trouble and expense of a journey to London to examine into some controverted point, which may be settled as soon as it can really be looked at.—*Globe Correspondence*.

10. THE MISTAKES OF PUBLISHERS.

An entertaining chapter in the history of literature might be written concerning books that were at first rejected by the trade, but which, when at length given to the press, brought fame to the authors and profit to their publishers. Robinson Crusoe was rejected by the whole trade of London, till at length it came to the

hands of a publisher who was more noted for his speculative propensities than for his good judgment. He printed it, and cleared a hundred thousand guineas by his venture; and publishers are to this day making money continually by new editions of it in all styles. *Jane Eyre* was rejected by nearly every respectable publishing-house in London, and was finally rescued by accident from a publisher's iron safe, where it had lain till it was mouldy, by a daughter of the bookseller, who had himself forgotten it. *Kinglake's Eothen* was offered by its author to twenty different houses, and at last it was published by Mr John Oliver, of Pall Mall. *Vanity Fair* was rejected by Colburn, for whose magazine it was written, that astute publisher complaining that there was no interest in it. Beresford tried in vain to sell the copyright of *Miseries of Human Life* for £20, but when it was published more than five thousand pounds were realized from the sales. The *Rejected Addresses* was really rejected by Murray, though the price asked for it was only £20. A publisher was afterwards found for it, and after sixteen editions had been published, the same Murray gave a hundred and thirty-one pounds for the right to issue a new edition. Buchan offered the copyright of his *Domestic Medicine* to every principal bookseller in Edinburgh and London for £100, without securing a publisher. After it had passed through 25 editions, the copyright was sold for £1,600. The manuscript of the first volume of *Blair's Sermons* was sent to Strahan, the King's printer, but it was not till Dr Johnson had warmly commended the work that Strahan ventured to give £100 for it. The sale was so rapid and extensive that the publisher made Dr Blair a present of another hundred pounds, paid him £300 for the second volume, and £600 for each of the others.

11. HISTORY OF PUNCTUATION.

In *Disraeli's Amenities of Literature*, the history of punctuation is well given. Caxton introduced the Roman pointing, the dash being the only mark they used. That was softened to the comma, and the colon was introduced to "shew that there was more to come." The semi-colon is a latin delicacy long resisted by the obtuse English typographers. The Bible of 1592 does not contain it, but it appears in that of 1633 and afterwards. Chalmers thinks that the use of the semi-colon would have saved Shakespeare from his commentators.

12. OXFORD PROFESSORS OF POETRY.

The Oxonian chair of Poetry was founded in Queen Anne's time, and Mr. Matthew Arnold is the 17th occupant of it. Warton, Dean, Milman and Keble, were among his predecessors. The professorship has had at least two good results—Warton's *History of English Poetry*, and Arnold's *Essays in Criticism*.

13. A FORGOTTEN TRANSLATION OF GOLDSMITH'S.

The Religious Tract Society of London lately published a translation of an interesting book in the shape of an autobiography of a French Protestant, who, condemned to the galleys for the sake of his religion, fled from his country after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. This work, which was published at Rotterdam, and went through several editions early in the last century, was disinterred a few years since from the neglect into which it had fallen, and created a sensation among the learned, who could not quite make out whether it was fact or fiction. It enjoyed the honour of a translation into English in 1758 by no less a person than Oliver Goldsmith, whose task was performed under the assumed name of James Willington, a circumstance which has escaped, we believe, the notice of most of his biographers. Whether his translation has been used in the new edition, or a fresh one has been made, we are not told. The hero of the memoir, Jean Martelibe, lived to be ninety-three, and to have a daughter the wife of Vice-Admiral Douglass, an English naval-officer of note.

14. EUROPEAN LITERATURE.

S. Natoli, the Minister of Public Instruction in Italy, has given some interesting statistics about the public and large private libraries of the different states of Europe. They are not, however, much guide either to the number of readers or the strength of the love of books in different countries, which would be known much better if we could tell the average number of books per house, and the number of times each volume is read. Of course circulating libraries are not included in S. Natoli's statement, though Mr. Mudie's is probably of far more moral importance to England than any of our great libraries, except that of the British museum itself. Taking, however, the statistics for what they are worth, S. Natoli says that where Great Britain has 1,771,493 volumes in its public and large private libraries, or 6 to 100 persons in its population, Italy has 4,149,281, or 10½ to every 100 person; France has 4,389,000 or 11.7 to each 100 persons; Austria, 2,408,000, 3.9 per

cent.; Prussia, 2,040,450, or 11 per cent.; Russia, 582,000, or 1½ per cent.; Bavaria, 1,268,500, or 26½ per cent.; and Belgium 500,100, or 10½ per cent. It is clear, therefore, that Italy, which is a very ignorant country, has public libraries far beyond its proportional education, and also probably Bavaria, while Prussia, which is the most educated of all, occupies in the list only a middle position.

It is estimated that there are 1,000 paper mills in the United States, with about \$40,000,000 capital, and producing about 1,200 tons of paper daily. The rags that are used up annually are said to be worth \$60,000,000.

15. VICTOR COUSIN'S LIBRARY.

It has been already stated that M. Cousin bequeathed to the Sorbonne his magnificent library, composed of fourteen thousand volumes, many of them rare editions and of great value. But it is not generally known that in his will he entered into very minute details on the subject. He requires that the library shall be left just as it is, in the very same place so that readers may be received in the apartment which he inhabited for more than thirty years. He also leaves to the Sorbonne all the furniture and engravings which adorned his room. He formally forbids any of his being lent out of the premises. He endows the Sorbonne with an annual income of 10,000f., viz., 4,000f. for the librarian, 2,000f. for the sub-librarian, 1,000f. for the reading room clerk; and 3,000f. for keeping the books in repair. Lastly, he designates M. Barthelemy St. Hilaire as chief librarian, and leaves him all his papers, charging him expressly to write his (the testator's) biography. The posts of chief and sub-librarian are hereafter to be reserved for *agrégés* of the university. Having made all these dispositions, M. Cousin appoints as universal legatees M.M. Mignet, Barthelemy St. Hilaire and Frémyn, who will have at least 400,000f. to share amongst them, after all deductions, and independent of a capital representing an annual income of 6,000f. bequeathed especially to M. Mignet.

16. FRENCH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The Minister of Education in France, M. Duruy, has ordered people's libraries to be established in all the mairies of Paris. Large rooms have been hired for this purpose, and they will be warmed and lighted in the evening for the use of the working classes.

17. BERLIN POPULAR LIBRARIES.

These Libraries, of which there are now seven, owe their origin to the distinguished historian Raumer. After returning from the United States, where the civilizing influence of popular libraries had attracted his attention, Raumer founded in 1842 a Scientific Association, as it was called, having for its object the organization of an annual course of lectures, of which the proceeds should be devoted to useful works. In the list of useful works, popular libraries occupied the foremost place. The association had noticed that after all the pains taken to instruct the youth of the country, the adult masses possessed few opportunities of using what they had learned at school; in particular, had little opportunity of procuring books suitable for their leisure hours. The lectures were so successful that in 1847, the association handed over to the municipality of Berlin £600 for the establishment of four popular libraries, which were actually opened in 1850. Year by year, additional sums accrued from these lectures. At present, a sum of £1,500 is being accumulated for investment with a view to the maintenance and enlargement of the libraries, while the parochial authorities grant an annual subsidy of £225 for the same purpose.

The installation and management of these are characterized by equal economy and efficiency. A few presses along the walls of a schoolroom receive the books; the schoolmaster is the librarian, and the more intelligent pupils are his assistants. Thrice a week, viz.: on Wednesdays and Saturdays, from noon to 2 p.m., the hours of recreation; and on Sundays from 11 a.m., to 1 p.m., the library is open. Whoever can produce a good cautioner receives a ticket entitling him to read for three months. Every application for a book is in writing, duly signed by the applicant, who must present his reading ticket along with his application. The reading ticket is returned to its owner along with the book asked for, but the written and duly signed application is not given up till the book comes back to the librarian. A fine of three pence is exacted from any one keeping a book longer than a fortnight.

18. PROGRESS OF LITERATURE IN INDIA.

The following interesting particulars concerning the present state of literature in British India are borrowed from M. Garcin De Tassy's inaugural speech, now published, delivered on the occasion of his first public and gratuitous lecture at the Bibliothèque Impériale. In alluding to the great dispute which has arisen between

the Hindoos and Mussulmans as to the preference to be given to the Oordoo dialect over the Hindoo, the former being mixed up with much Persian and Arabic, while the other is considered the pure original language derived from Sanskrit, the learned professor rather inclines to Oordoo, because it is the representative of Islamism, which recognises but one God, while Hindoo represents the polytheist doctrines of the Hindoos. These dialects being thus connected with the religious tenets of the two great dominant sects of the country, our author states a fact which is somewhat startling—viz., that there is in India the same tendency to bring the language back to the pure Hindoo standard as there is in Greece to revive the language of Xenophon; whence we should be inclined to conclude, contrary to the truth, that among the natives polytheism is rather on the increase than otherwise. M. Garcin De Tassy informs us that the Universities of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay continue to prosper, and that the Oriental University of Lahore, founded by the natives themselves, promises success under Dr. Leitner's management. Its object is chiefly to revive the taste for ancient Hindoo and Mussulman literature, and to introduce a new kind bearing as strong an analogy to European literature as is compatible with Asiatic ideas. Two principal colleges are to be connected with this university,—one at Lahore and the other at Delhi, each having a principal or director, and six professors. Our author concludes his address with an obituary of distinguished orientalisists, viz. Mr. N. Bland, the editor of the *Makhzun ul asrar*; the Abbé Bardelli, of Pisa, one of the most learned Sanskrit scholars of Europe; Bishop Hartman, of Allahabad, the author of a translation of the New Testament, according to the Vulgate, in Hindoostanee; and lastly, Dr. George Edward Lynch Cotton, Bishop of Calcutta.—*Galignani.*

V. Papers on Newspapers.

1. STATISTICS OF THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

A Parliamentary return of the number of registered newspapers in the United Kingdom, and of the number of stamps issued by the respective Inland Revenue officers in each of the quarters from the 30th of September, 1864, to the 30th June, 1866, shows that the number of stamps issued to the principal London morning newspapers during the year ending the 30th of June, 1866, was as follows:—The Times, 2,506,033—viz. 483,284 at 1d.; 1,863,801 at 1½d.; and 158,948 at 2d.; Standard, 310,748; Morning Post, 230,000; Daily News, 114,873; Morning Herald, 81,054; and Morning Advertiser, 65,500. No stamps appear to have been issued to the Daily Telegraph or Morning Star. The number of stamps issued to the London evening papers during the same period was as follows:—Evening Standard, 773,088; Record (published three times a week), 412,500; Evening Mail (published three times a week), 255,000; Shipping Gazette, 254,000; Express, 195,035; Globe, 100,000; Evening Star, 100,000. No stamps appear to have been issued to the Pall-mall Gazette. The number of stamps issued to the principal London weekly papers during the same period was as follows:—Illustrated London News, 879,334; London Gazette (published twice a week), 870,000; Field, 258,000; Bell's Weekly Messenger, 245,470; Guardian, 239,526; Mark Lane Express, 234,000; Railway News and Stock Journal, 221,000; News of the World, 208,600; Magnet, 197,000; Saturday Review, 195,000; Travers' Circular, 180,325; Gardener's Chronicle, 159,000; Bell's Life in London, 158,000; British Medical Journal, 114,400; Weekly Times, 111,600; Law Times, 109,000; Punch, 101,500; Athenæum, 84,000; Lancet, 81,375; Mining Journal, 76,879; Ecclesiastical Gazette, (published monthly), 155,350; and Homeward Mail, 70,000. The number of stamps issued to some of the principal provincial daily and weekly papers in England during the year ending the 30th of June, 1866, was as follows:—Sussex Express and Surrey Standard, 326,000; Stamford Mercury, 323,137; Midland Counties Herald, 246,000; Leeds Mercury, 152,000; South-Eastern Gazette and Surrey News, 130,000; Hereford Times, 116,000; Staffordshire Advertiser, 111,000; York Herald, 108,500; Liverpool Mercury, 106,000; Oxford Journal, 104,500; Norfolk News, 104,500; Carlisle Journal, 95,000; Shrewsbury Chronicle, 94,000; Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 90,000; Norwich Mercury, 90,000; Exeter and Plymouth Gazette, 84,000; Ipswich Journal, 77,675; Manchester Guardian, 76,000; Saturday Bristol Times and Mirror, 75,500. In Edinburgh, 881,000; stamps were issued during the year ending the 30th of June, 1866, to the North British Advertiser; 308,850 to the Scotsman; and 260,500 (including 1,000 half-penny stamps for supplements) to the Edinburgh Evening Courant. In Dublin, 848,600 stamps were issued during the same period to the General Advertiser; 438,000 to the Daily Express; and 389,000 to the Evening Mail and Packet. There were 1,732 registered newspapers in the

United Kingdom, viz.:—1,372 in England, 55 in Wales, 144 in Scotland, and 161 in Ireland.

2. NEWSPAPER LABOUR.

Very few of the myriads who daily peruse the columns of our public journals, form any idea of the amount of labor represented by the print before them. To enter upon the full statement of the whole sum total of toil, from the moment that the "copy," so called, or original text from which the reproduction is made in type, comes to the hand of the compositor, until the completed newspaper is laid before its readers, would be a more complicated task than we propose to undertake at this time. Our theme is simply the quantity of sheer scribbling performed by the newspaper writer—the individual who furnishes the daily pabulum of facts and comments which are embodied in the articles furnished to the press. This branch alone yields details that will convince the most skeptical or careless thinker that no member of the community more faithfully toils for whatever meed of fame and emolument he may get, than the conscientious journalist. A regular practical writer, who prepares daily what would make two hundred lines of print for every day in the year, counting thirty only in every month, and therefore leaving five entire days as a margin for accidents, sickness, &c., would run up the following estimates:—

Per diem, 200 lines; per month, 6,000 lines; per year, 72,000 lines. Now, 6,000 lines will make a portly volume, and consequently our slave of the pen bestows upon us the contents of 12 volumes every year. Supposing his career as a writer to last for the medium term of 30 years; he would give us 1,160,000 lines, or 360 solid volumes, still counting out the 150 days made up by the margin of five allowed for each year of the thirty. But, in order to be upon the safe side of the computation, let us allow an entire additional year for the time lost by sickness, holidays, travelling, &c., and we still have 348 volumes from this indefatigable worker. However, there are very few thorough-going newspaper men in New York, who prepare original articles, or do sketch or shorthand reporting, who cannot show an average of 400 lines per diem of various kinds of work throughout the twelvemonth. The quota of labor would give the 348 volumes of matter in 15 years, even retaining for that shorter space of time the marginal allowance of one year and 150 days.

It occurs in many cases that one or two hands supply the bulk of the editorial page proper, and besides the labors of these gentlemen, the boasted performances of the most prolific book writers the world has ever seen, fade to inferiority so far, at all events, as the quantity of matter is concerned. As to its quality, there may exist differences of opinion, but it is no more than justice to say that the same amount of industry, research, observation, and readiness with the pen, that is revealed in the leaders of the great daily press generally, would, if applied with equal tact and perseverance to the more permanent branches of literature, carry the journalist to honorable success.

There is no more complete error than the universal idea among men who can write something, that it is quite easy to "get up," as they call it, a newspaper article. When they read one that is well digested and well written, it flows so smoothly; its points are so well taken; its language is so simple, that to write another would seem to be mere child's play. So does everybody think that he can poke a fire, or nurse a baby better than his neighbor. But just try it, dear sir, and with all your talents, and all your learning, and all your self-confidence, you may egregiously fail. Lord Brougham was an orator, a historian, and an essayist, but he could not, to save him, put an article into right shape for the London press, without assistance. A similar assertion has been made about Bulwer, whose romantic and poetical writings reveal the utmost grace and facility in their way. No! the work requires a peculiar schooling, and long experience. There is so much to avoid; so much to turn; so much to leave out, or so much to get in compactly; so many meanings to utter, and so many to suggest without utterance, that the untrained hand makes as sad work of it as a white-wash brush would in a chairo-oscura painting.

We see the attempt made very often, indeed, to jump into an editorial seat, as a savage might leap upon a locomotive, and terrific devastation of grammar, sense, and meaning is the result. There is a certain knack, in all professions and occupations, which has to be acquired by a greater or less degree of study, according to the natural faculty and bent of the candidate; and the youth who wanted to learn a dollar's worth of navigation, because he was going to sail for Europe, in a schooner, that afternoon, and he was to be mate, and his father the captain of the craft, was not, really, a whit more ridiculous than the aspirant who seeks to address a mingled and varied public, without due preparation and thought, no matter how great his ability in other things.—*Mercantile Journal.*

VI. Paper on Meteorology.

1. ABSTRACT OF MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL RESULTS, compiled from the Returns of the daily observations at ten Grammar School Stations for APRIL, 1867.

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

Table with columns: STATION, ELEVATION, North Longitude, West Longitude, Barometer at temperature of 32° Fahrenheit, HIGHEST, LOWEST, RANGE, MONTHLY MEANS, DAILY RANGE, HIGH-EST, LOWEST, MONTHLY RANGE, WARM-EST DAY, COLD-EST DAY, Tension of Vapour, MONTHLY MEANS. Rows include Barrie, Belleville, Cornwall, Goderich, Hamilton, Pembroke, Peterborough, Simcoe, Stratford, Windsor.

Table with columns: STATION, Humidity of Air, WINDS, SURFACE CURRENT, MOTION OF CLOUDS, ESTIMATED VELOCITY OF WIND, Amount of Cloudiness, BALK, SNOW, A.U.R.O.R.A.S., WHEN OBSERVED. Rows include Barrie, Belleville, Cornwall, Goderich, Hamilton, Pembroke, Peterborough, Simcoe, Stratford, Windsor.

Barrie.—On 8rd, hail, 27th, thunder. Rain on 1st, 4th, 16th, 16th, 20th. Snow on 4th, 5th, 8th, 22nd. ... R E M A R K S. Wind and clouds moved all of both days in opposite directions. 4th, at 9 p.m. atmosphere saturated. 8th, fogs appear above ground. 9th, will ducks seen flying towards Dundas marsh. 10th, rain and hail in forenoon and in afternoon rain and snow flakes of immense size, melting at once. 11th, clearer appeared. 12th, bay clear of ice, same date last year. 13th, buds of red maple visibly enlarged; an ordinary meteor at 9:30 p.m., seen in SE, falling towards S. 15th, buds of blim of Gilead and lilac considerably enlarged. 23rd, snow rain and hail on same day. 23rd, cloud in form of an arc from W to NE, 200 high, its highest part 20° white, the sky clearer below the cloud than above it, considerably brighter than the rest of the heavens, it seemed to proceed

15 inches, and 8 inches the previous day. 15th, robins first seen. 19th, wild ducks. Most of the spring birds returned during the month; a few gulls on the Ottawa river; crows in abundance. On night of 26th, a very sudden change of temperature. Storms of wind on 3rd, 11th, 18th, 23rd, 26th, 27th. Fogs on 15th, 16th, 30th. Snow on 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 8th, 22nd, 23rd, 27th. Rain on 2nd, 8th, 15th, 20th, 27th, 29th, 30th. The last crossing on the ice was on 29th, unusually late; the ice was firm for teams until 20th. No growth yet except the buds of the elder and willow. Spring uncommonly late; weather changeable; very much sickness. Many deaths among children; some cases of typhoid and of "spotted" fever, fatal in a very short time.

PETERBOROUGH.—On 3rd, atmosphere hazy. 4th, robins first observed. 8th, at 10 a.m., wind vane indicated NW, two strata of clouds then visible: upper, nim. rapid motion NE; lower, nim, very low, rapid motion SW, the stratum from NE prevailed and at 11 a.m., the lower one was not observable. 10th, atmosphere very hazy, swallows first observed. 11th, auroral light with slender streamers observed. 15th, very hazy and smoky—smoke resting on surface at 7 a.m. 15th, first frogs heard; murky fog and smoke very low at 7 a.m. 20th, at 10.34 a.m. heavy rain with thunder and several flashes of forked lightning; perfect rainbow at SE, at 4.30 p.m. 22nd, "Little Lake," near town, clear of ice. 25th, trees loaded with snow at 7 a.m.; ice in back lakes beginning to break up 27th, the large lakes free of ice. 30th, most of the small back lakes not yet open. 18th, wide halo round moon. 29th, halo round sun, imperfect towards SE. Snow on 5th, 22nd, 24th. Rain on 1st, 4th, 5th, 8th, 15th, 16th, 20th, 30th. Weather during month generally cold and inclement; only one or two genial days; inflammatory colds and pulmonary attacks very prevalent.

SIMCOE.—On 18th, peculiarly beautiful and large halo round moon observed from 11 till 12 p.m. 20th, wind stormy all afternoon, velocity 7. 22nd, rain, snow, sleet and hail. 24th, snow, sleet and rain. 29th, at 9 p.m., and after; an intense lurid auroral twilight embracing the whole northern half of the heavens, while all the sky was covered with dense black clouds; there was also a rude arch, which seemed to be formed by black clouds; lightning also in the south, but no thunder. Rain on 1st, 4th, 5th, 8th, 10th, 15th, 16th, 19th, 20th, 23rd, 25th, 27th, 30th. Snow on 22nd, 24th.

STRATFORD.—On 4th, thunder and lightning at 10.50 a.m. 9th, large lunar halo at 9 p.m. 13th, mill pond free from ice, swallows first seen, frogs first heard. 19th, hail at intervals between 6.30 and 7.30 a.m. 30th, at 7 a.m., complete saturation observed. Storms of wind on 5th, and 26th. Fogs on 4th, 16th, 30th. Rain on 4th, 5th, 8th, 10th, 15th, 16th, 20th 25th, 26th, 30th.

WINDSOR.—On 3rd, first snow drops in bloom; frogs first heard. 8th, crocuses in bloom and first swallows seen. 16th, dense fog. 23rd, hyacinths and tulips in bloom. 29th, strawberry in bloom. Storms of wind on 1st, 4th, 20th, 25th, 26th. Rain on 1st, 4th, 10th, 15th, 21st, 22nd, 24th, 26th, 30th. Slight snow, melting as it fell on 5th. Month variable as to weather, and vegetation generally backward.

We hope in our next number to give some information respecting the meteorology of St. John, New Brunswick, which a correspondent has kindly furnished. Dr. Schultz, the observer at Fort Garry, Red River, will also send his reports shortly, covering several months observations.

VII. Educational Intelligence.

— ADDRESS TO WILLIAM WATSON, ESQ., SUPERINTENDENT OF COMMON SCHOOLS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF YORK, COUNTY OF YORK.—RESPECTED SIR,—We, the Trustees and Teachers of Common Schools in the Township of York, beg most respectfully to convey to you an expression of our sentiments, and personal esteem we entertain for you as Superintendent of Common Schools in the above named Township. The zeal and energy always manifested by you in your official capacity have had the most salutary effect, not only in sustaining and animating us in the discharge of our duties, but also in stimulating the pupils under our charge to greater exertions in their various studies. We desire in this manner to convey to you an acknowledgement of the kindness and courtesy which you have always exercised the authority vested in you by the Municipality of the County of York. Your long experience in the profession, and the success which has crowned your efforts during more than twenty years of laborious work in training the young render your advice at all times very valuable, and we are happy to state that under all circumstances we have had convincing proofs of your warm attachment in the solicitude and anxiety you have ever evinced for our welfare, and wherever counsel or guidance or sympathy has been necessary, we have found you a faithful director and a judicious and earnest friend. For the just, considerate, independent and impartial course pursued by you during your Superintendency we beg your acceptance of this address, with the accompanying purse. Whilst no words can adequately represent our feelings we trust that this address and purse may be regarded as a sincere mark of our high appreciation of your worth and character. And we fervently pray that He who can best estimate the im-

portance of the great work in which, we in common, are engaged, will preserve you long and give you physical strength to fulfil the responsible duties of your office.

— REPLY TO ADDRESS.—FELLOW TEACHERS.—In reply to your very flattering address, I cannot sufficiently convey to you my thanks for the manner in which my co-labourers in education have been pleased to convey to me their appreciation of my services, in connection with their arduous duties, during the time I have had the honor of superintending the schools in this Township. It is now nearly eight years since I was first appointed to that important position; during that period I have endeavoured to fulfil the responsible duties of my office conscientiously and to the best of my ability, and it is highly gratifying, after so long a period, to have such a cordial assurance of your approval. The terms in which you have been pleased to notice my official services, convey to me an earnest that my anxious endeavours have not been altogether unsuccessful. My health, during a part of the time, rendered me less efficient than I could wish; at the same time I have always felt it to be my duty to render advice or assistance when solicited, or whenever I thought it needed. Allow me to add that while it will be my pleasure, as well as duty, to endeavour to make myself as useful as possible, it will always be my earnest endeavour to retain these kindly feelings which have so long subsisted between us, and which have been so feelingly and warmly conveyed to me in your address. My friends your work is progressive—your occupation is no sinecure, it is one continuous struggle. The efficient teacher is continually on the alert; embracing every opportunity he may meet with; thereby enabling him to impart instruction more expeditiously. I again sincerely thank you, my fellow teachers, for your expressions of personal regard and respect, I highly appreciate them, and will ever retain a pleasing remembrance of your marked kindness to me. Accept my sincere thanks for this *more substantial* token of your approbation. That you may all enjoy both temporal and spiritual blessings here, and that the great Pilot may guide and conduct us all safely at last, to that Blessed Haven of final rest, is the earnest prayer of your devoted friend and sincere well-wisher,

WILLIAM WATSON.

WESTON, 20th May, 1867,

— ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL-HOUSE.—On Sunday evening last, at half-past four o'clock, the corner stone of St. Patrick's school-house was laid by his Lordship Bishop Lynch, with all due solemnity. The rev. clergy of the city parishes assisted. There was a large attendance of the parishioners of St. Patrick's and of the members of other congregations. The Very Rev. Vicar-General Walsh delivered a most brilliant sermon of nearly an hour on Catholic education. It was one of his most successful efforts, and that is saying enough for the merit of the discourse. His Lordship made some appropriate remarks before the assemblage dispersed. The band of St. Michael's College attended and performed music suitable to the occasion.—*Freeman*.

— KINGSTON COMMON SCHOOLS.—The annual lecture in connection with the Common Schools of this city, was delivered by the Local Superintendent, Mr. Samuel Woods, M.A., last evening, in the City Hall. The subject of the lecture was "Primary education." The lecturer began by stating that fortunately there was no longer any necessity to argue in favor of primary or Common School education. His intention was to take a cursory glance of the various systems of primary school education in what are called the most enlightened countries of the world. The system, he said, was one of great importance, and it was the duty of the Government to superintend the cause of education. It never was the policy of Rome to educate her people, and the results as compared with other nations, of whom the reverse could be said, were thoroughly known and understood. He referred to and commented upon the various systems in Prussia, Holland (existing since 1803, the plan of our Canadian Common School system being, in some measure, adopted from it), France, England, and Ireland, Scotland, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. The system adopted in France was an exact transcript of the Prussian system. The latter country contributed \$400,000 per annum for the payment of teachers. The schools of England were not for the public; half a million of the population of London never enter a school, for the reason that there is no accommodation provided for them; and in no other country in the world, making so great a pretence as it does, has so little been done. High authorities were quoted in support of his assertions. The falling off in education, in the parish schools of Scotland, was owing chiefly to the Lancasterian system, which, he said, had been condemned by Prussia, as unsound. Opinions of competent authorities proving that there was a

falling off in Scotland, among others that of Sir William Hamilton, were quoted. The Lancasterian system was a merely mechanical one. There was once a Lancasterian school in this city, and a branch of it still existed under the care of certain worthy ladies who devoted themselves to the cause of educating the children of the poor; but the system they adopted was not by any means the Lancasterian one. This school was effecting a great deal of good. Two years ago Nova Scotia had adopted the Canadian system; for that reason he would say very little about it, more particularly as there was scarcely time as yet to arrive at a conclusion on the subject. But as regards New Brunswick, a worse system could not have been adopted if human stupidity had been taxed to its utmost extent. The Government of that Province expended a vast deal of money in the cause of education, but did not take the trouble to see that it was properly applied. It also insisted on loyalty and patriotism being taught in the schools, while the books used were nearly all American, and scholars are permitted to use any book they please. There was no uniformity in the process. These facts and a host of others were fully supported by extracts from the head School Superintendent's reports which the lecturer read from. Nearly all the remaining portion of the lecture was devoted to the Common Schools of the city. Our school-houses would compare favorably with those of any other of the cities in Western Canada, and in many cases they were superior; so would the attendance as well as the instruction in the various branches of education. He showed by comparing figures of certain past years, that the general school expenses were being gradually lessened, and said that they must of necessity decrease still more when the expense incurred by the erection of buildings and the purchase of sites has been wiped off. The expense per pupil, yearly, he stated to be \$4.40; in Toronto it was \$9.64; in Hamilton, \$9.52; in London, \$8.70; and in Ottawa, \$12.85. These figures showed that education in this city was fifty per cent. cheaper than in any other city of the province. The education of the poor was the weak spot in our Common School system, and the defect must be met and grappled with; something must be done, and the sooner the better. The mode of electing country school superintendents in Canada West he said was altogether political, and should be condemned. Mr. Woods closed an able and well-delivered lecture with a few timely words of advice to school trustees, teachers and parents. At the close of the lecture, the Chairman, Mr. John Creighton, Police Magistrate, called the attention of the trustees and the city fathers to the many idle children of both sexes and all ages, who wander about the city, and for whom something might and should be done. What was most wanted was a suitable teacher who would be devoted to the work. Votes of thanks were tendered to the chairman and the lecturer.—*Kingston Chronicle and News.*

—CONVOCATION OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY.—The annual Convocation of the University was held May 2nd, in the William Molson Hall, the Hon. James Ferrier, the senior Governor, in the chair. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, regretted that the Chancellor, Mr. Justice Day, was unavoidably absent. He then called upon the Rev. Dr. Leach to offer up prayer. The Registrar, W. C. Baynes, B.A., read the report of the last convocation. The following gentlemen were elected fellows for the ensuing year: *Faculty of Law*.—Professor Torrance and Mr. C. Peers Davidson, B.A., B.C.L. *Faculty of Medicine*.—Doctors Godfrey and Trenholm. *Faculty of Arts*.—Messrs. Brown, Chamberlin, and R. S. Leach. *Award of Prizes and Honours to Students in Arts* as follows, viz.:

John Spratt Archibald, Prince of Wales Gold Medal; Colin Campbell Stewart Sir William Logan Gold Medal; Alexander Duncan, James Carmichael, and John McKenzie. Valedictory delivered by Mr. Stewart.

The following gentlemen had the degree of M.A. conferred upon them:—O. Peers Davidson, L. H. Davidson, Archibald Duff, N. H. Trenholm, Lemuel Cushing, R. A. Ramsay, William Hall, David Ross McCord, John Redpath Dougall, and Donald Baynes.

Principal Dawson stated that the only degree other than ordinary, granted in the past session, was the *ad eundem* degree of B.A., to Rev. O. Fortin, B.A., of Bishop's College, Lennoxville. He then proceeded to say:—The past session has been one singularly uneventful. We have no great gains to record and no great losses to deplore. Our number of students has maintained itself at its former standard, but except in the faculty of Medicine has not increased. Our number of graduates will be somewhat larger than on any previous occasion, though in Arts, owing to special causes, it is this year exceptionally small. In these circumstances I think it my duty to direct your attention not to the past but to the future, more especially in connection with the great political change on which this

country is about to enter. That change appears to be in its general character of the nature of a new and more independent national existence, and may therefore be fitly compared here to the removal of the student from tutelage of his college profession to the position of a graduate retaining little more than a nominal connection with the University. Whether this country has satisfactorily passed its examinations—whether it has gone through a sufficient course of preparatory training to fit it for that diploma of nationality which has been obtained for it at the hands of the mother country—are questions which I may leave to those who have sought the degree and to those who have granted it. Our concern is with the farther question of the bearing of this change on education, more especially on education in Lower Canada, and more especially still on the higher education with which we are here more immediately connected. These questions I desire shortly to discuss in as plain and practical a manner as possible, in order that the attention of our graduates and of our friends particularly directed to them. In the first place I would refer to the fact that a weighty additional responsibility is thrown on us in this matter of education. There has been no union of the educational systems of the various provinces. On the contrary in our case there has been disunion. Heretofore we have been at least nominally allied with the people of Upper Canada, now we are separated from them. We stand alone in Lower Canada as an English minority; and the responsibilities thus thrown upon us, relates not merely to the provision of education for our own children, and the perpetuation of the means of instruction to coming generations, but also the example which we are to exhibit in Lower Canada, and the position which we are to take as helps or hindrances to education in British America in general. On our due performance of the duties devolving on us, depends more than upon any other consideration, the rank which our children and their descendants are to hold in this province, and in the future realm of Canada, to be constituted under the new Act of Union. Nor can we hope that we shall be materially aided either by those of our fellow subjects, who upon religious and national grounds differ from us as to the methods of education, nor by the majorities in the other Provinces who naturally look with jealousy and dislike on the assertion of the rights of minorities. We may next consider the conditions under which our Protestant education is to exist, and the demands made upon us by these conditions. I believe that the provision for general education in Lower Canada, made under the new constitution, is as favourable as the circumstances would permit, after the failure of the Amended School Law last summer. I believe they are more favourable than it would have been possible to secure, but for the exertions of leading and influential friends of education in this Province, among whom may be mentioned Mr. Galt, Mr. Rose, and our Chancellor. It is provided that the existing privileges of minorities in the matter of education shall not be diminished, and that under certain circumstances a right to interfere on behalf of minorities shall remain in the hands of the General Government and Legislature. In our case more particularly it is provided that the same rights as to separate schools which are possessed by the Roman Catholic population of Upper Canada shall be extended to the Protestants in Lower Canada. These are important safeguards which fairly and fully carried out might not only effectually protect our interests, but remove some at least of the existing legal disabilities of Protestants in Lower Canada in regard to education. Their practical effect, however, depends very much on the manner in which they shall be reduced to practice, and this again on the amount of interest which we as a people exhibit in the welfare of our institutions of education. I would especially indicate the following as fairly deserving of others: 1st, It was in the nature of the case impossible that any constitutional guarantee could be given for the continuance and amount of educational grants. Yet upon this will practically depend in great part the effect of the law. Let us suppose for example that while in Upper Canada the liberal provision for common schools, normal schools, grammar schools, and colleges should be continued, that in Lower Canada these aids, or any portion of them, should be removed or greatly diminished, the equality of the minority here with the majority there in respect to educational rights would at once be destroyed, though the law might in other respects remain the same; and while the majority here would be able to fall back upon its rich educational and ecclesiastical endowments, the minority would be left solely to the precarious recourse of voluntary contributions. I do not say that it is likely to be the case, but I would invite the attention of the friends of education to its possibility, and that any such result may be averted or provided for. Again, we have always maintained that our case is unlike that of the minorities in the other Provinces in several essential respects.

Here the majority prefer on conscientious grounds a system of education with which their peculiar religious views are so incorporated that we are necessarily excluded from its benefits. while the majorities in the other Provinces cannot justly be said to introduce their religious peculiarities into the schools in a similar manner. Our educational system exists in the presence of a purely denominational system, having all the aid and support given in other Provinces only to public schools properly so called. Here also the difficulties are increased by difference of language as well as of religion. This difference was recognized in the bill introduced by the Government in the last session of the Legislature, and I think we should firmly, but without any offensive imputation, insist on its recognition by the Local Legislature to as great an extent as may appear compatible with the united and harmonious working of our several school systems. In the last place, the guarantees of the Union Bill do not touch the peculiar wants of the Universities, and more especially of this University. It is much to be lamented that the Framers of this bill had not the courage to place all matters relating to University powers and privileges in the hands of the General Government and Legislature. Infinite mischief may result from conflicts of Local Legislation on this subject and from the tending to lower the standard of degrees, in consequence of local competition and a limited field of action. All our Universities should have been British American in the strictest sense, all their degrees of national value, all laws relating to the standard and legal estimation of those degrees of national extent. This is a question in which every University worthy of the name is interested, as well as every young man entering into professional life. The authorities of this University considered it their duty to urge very strongly their views in relation to it by petition and otherwise, but apparently without effect. I would now say to all our friends and graduates that no time should be lost in remedying this omission, if we would wish our country to be united and strong in one of its most important interests. In regard to the peculiar claims of this University in connection with the Royal Institution, and what I must characterize as the flagrant breach of faith on the part of both the Imperial and Canadian Governments in failing to fulfil the promises of endowments for the higher education made more than sixty years ago, and frequently renewed since, the Board has urged its claims again and again without effect: and now we regard the case as finally decided against us, for it cannot be supposed that the local government in its comparative poverty will assume debts, however just, which the Canadian and Imperial Governments have found it expedient to repudiate. I can only assure my friends that every possible effort has been made, and that the University has nobly and successfully struggled, without any public endowment, to make itself second to none in British America, and that we stand this day in a position to maintain and continue, with our own resources, the duties which we have undertaken. But for the purpose of further extension, and of meeting the growing wants of the country, we must rely on the benefactions of the wealthy friends of education in this country, whose kind assistance has not hitherto failed us. To sum up this matter—the present crisis demands the careful thought and united exertion of our public men as to the manner in which educational affairs shall be settled in the meeting of the local legislature; and as to the prevention of narrow and injurious local legislation with reference to University matters; and we are entering on a time when the kind solicitude and liberality of friends of education will be even more imperatively demanded than heretofore in sustaining our educational institutions. Should the proper spirit prevail in regard to these points, we can have no fears of ultimate success. For myself and the authorities of this University, I may say that we are animated by no selfish motives. From our point of view we can perceive the links that bind together the whole of our institutions of learning from the smallest common school to the University, and that unity of educational interest which in the higher aspect of the subject applies to our whole country, and overgoes all its diversity of races, creeds and local interests. We labour, therefore, to promote these high aims and that unity of action which can alone secure great results, and are ready for these ends to make any sacrifices, and to put forth any efforts that may be required of us.

The convocation met again, when degrees were conferred in Law and Medicine upon over sixty candidates.—*Daily News*.

— **NEW YORK RUTGERS FEMALE COLLEGE.**—A very interesting meeting was held on the 25th ult. at the Rutgers Female College, in Fifth-avenue, near Forty-second-street, being attended by a distinguished group of gentlemen connected with the educational systems of this country. The meeting was held in consequence of the Legislature of the State having recently conferred the powers and privileges of a college upon the Rutgers

Female Institute, which has for twenty-eight years past held a leading position in this City, as the Trustees were desirous to present their new plans of organization to friends of education from all parts of the country, in the hope of receiving their encouragement and approval. Chancellor FERRIS, LL.D., of the University of New-York, assumed the chair, and after appropriate prayer by Dr. TODD, he gave a brief, retrospective exhibit of the past progress of the Institute, and spoke of its remarkable success until it had reached the full growth of a college. Dr. FERRIS claimed for Rutgers College that it had introduced several new and most successful features into the education of the female mind. Following Dr. FERRIS, the President of Rutgers College, Dr. H. M. PIERCE, gave a short sketch of the future aim of the college in maturing the education of the students, from the infant class up to the first or graduating class. In doing so, Dr. PIERCE stated that two courses of education would be pursued, the scientific and literary, and by these means the various classes would be carried through the varied branches of study with greater freedom than heretofore. Prof. JAMES HYATT, being called upon by his principal to explain the details of the system, stated that the two courses of study would receive the same degree of attention and labor, both on the part of the pupil and the teacher. He explained that in future it was the intention of the alumni to gather the several departments under a competent head; in this manner drawing, painting, sculpture and sketching would be under the general direction of one superintendent. Dr. PIERCE, on resuming his remarks, stated that Prof. D. HUNTINGTON, President of the National Academy of Design, had consented to direct the Art Department, and he would be supported by a council of nine. A friend of the college had promised the institution the sum of \$20,000 for the endowment of this Art Department, on condition that \$30,000 additional be raised from other sources. Prof. B. N. MARTIN, D. D., of the New-York University, was called upon to address the meeting on the necessity of a classical element in a liberal education, but he deferred doing so, on the ground that there was no new feature and as his paper would be published. He was followed by CHAS. E. WEST, LL. D., who read a paper on mathematics in female education. Some interesting statements were made by Mr. D. MARTIN concerning the Home Department. Prof. HUNTINGTON discussed the features of the Art Department. After a discussion of the Bible element in liberal education, by Dr. HOWARD CROSBY, remarks commendatory of the proposed system were made by Prof. A. D. SMITH, President of Dartmouth College; Pres. HOPKINS, of Williams College; Pres. J. R. LOOMIS, of the University of Pennsylvania; Mr. J. GEORGE HODGINS, Deputy Superintendent of Education in Canada West; Chancellor PRYNE, Supt. RANDALL of New-York and others. The meeting was attended by a large number of ladies, who watched the proceedings with deep interest.—*N. Y. Times*

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CENTRAL CANADA.

THE Meeting of this Institute will take place AT KINGSTON, on Friday and Saturday, the 5th and 6th of July, 1867.

J. THORBURN, *President*.

OTTAWA, June, 1867.

[in.—p]

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