

Educational Department.

CONDUCTED BY PROF. J. D. HAWES.

All matter intended for this department should be handed or sent to Prof. J. D. Hawes, Monmouth, Oregon.

The Normal School.

The Normal here is in a very prosperous condition. Students from all parts of the State are here in Normal work preparing for teachers. About 150 have entered during the year, and still more keep coming on as the fact gets better known that there is a real live Normal School at work in the State.

We have also quite a number of excellent students from Washington Territory who will all make excellent teachers. These, with many of the very best material we have in our own State, go to show that a Normal School is an actual necessity in the State and that Monmouth is the place for it.

The success this year, so far, is far beyond the most sanguine expectations of its most ardent friends, and has filled the rooms nearly to overflowing with intelligent and industrious students, who will yet make their work felt in the educational field. Not the slightest discord, nor a case of insubordination happening during the whole year so far.

Monmouth is one of the most enlightened little boroughs it has been our pleasure to see since arriving on this coast, something over four years ago; the people all being intelligent, and noted for the interest they take in all educational work. A high moral sentiment prevails. And looking at the matter in all its bearings, the legislature certainly took a very sensible view of the situation when they established the Normal School here.

There is no liquor saloon nearer than Independence, two and a half miles away, the temperance sentiment being so strong as not to allow a saloon license in the place. We hope the day is not far distant when larger buildings, and other conveniences will be here, and the Normal will be one of the leading institutions of its kind on the coast.

VISITORS.

We had the pleasure of a short visit from the Hon. E. B. McElroy last Tuesday at the Normal. He and Dr. Stott, of Independence, spending the afternoon in visiting the different departments, and seeing the machinery of the institution in motion. Both expressed themselves as highly pleased with

the way in which affairs were managed. These gentlemen are competent to judge. Dr. S. is an old and successful teacher, and a very successful student. He is working up a good practice in Independence. We would like to see him do well. The State Superintendent needs no recommendation at our hands as an educator, as the people of the State know him by this time. Come again Bro. Mc. and stay longer. Dr. S. ditto.

The Columbia Commercial College.

This week we have been the recipient of one of those letters whose artistic chirography does a person's eyes good to gaze upon. Our old friend, W. S. James, of the C. C. College, Cor. of Second and Salmon Streets, Portland, is still able to drive a nobby quill, and seems to be quite elevated over the success of the Columbia. And why shouldn't he? We had the honor of helping to establish that institution two years ago the first of September, and began at that date with two students. To-day it ranks among the leading institutions of its kind on the coast with students from all parts of Oregon and Washington Territory, keeping three teachers busily engaged. There is nothing like fair and square work in any business. Give an equivalent. The old Roman maxim of a *quid pro quo* is the text from which our friend James works, and no student graduates from his institution who is not just as his diploma says he is. The Columbia is rearing a reputation on a solid basis, and we are pleased to see the people of Portland appreciate the labors of a good and substantial citizen like the Prof. Many thanks, W. S., for kindnesses received. Write again. It does us good to see your "fist."

"The Grand Old Man."

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone has just completed the 74th year of his age, and he is as hale hearty, and hopeful as if he were thirty years younger. His friends and admirers are not to be reckoned by legions, but by millions, and no wonder that congratulations have poured in upon him like a flood. Mr. Gladstone can also reckon upon multitudes on this side of the Atlantic who are of opinion that, take him all in all, he is one of the greatest men that England has ever produced, and the congratulations from

here will be quite as hearty, and the hopes expressed quite as sanguine, as those with which the vigorous septuagenarian has been greeted on his own side of the water.—*Ex.*

Hold on, Boys!

Hold on to your tongues when you are just ready to swear, lie, or speak harshly.

Hold on to your hands when you are on the point of punching, scratching, stealing, or doing any improper act.

Hold on to your feet when you are on the point of kicking, running off from study, or pursuing the path of error, shame, or crime.

Hold on to your temper when you are angry, excited, or imposed upon, or others are angry with you.

Hold on to your heart when evil associates seek your company, and invite you to join in their mirth, games, and revelry.

Hold on to your good name at all times, for it is of more value than gold, high places, or fashionable attire.

Hold on to the truth, for it will serve you well and do you good throughout eternity.

Hold on to virtue—it is above all price to you, at all times and places.

Hold on to your character, for it is and ever will be your best wealth.—*Ex.*

The Tendency of Scientific Inquiry.

Sir Henry Barkly, G. C. M. G., F. R. S., took the chair at the annual meeting of the Victoria (Philosophical) Institute at 7, Adelphi Terrace, London, in the last week in June. The honorary secretary, Captain F. Petrie, F. R. S. L., read the report, by which it appeared that the institute—founded to investigate all questions of philosophy and science, and more especially any alleged to militate against the truth of revelation—had now risen to 1,020 members, of whom about one-third were foreign, colonial, and American, and new application to join were constantly coming in. An increasing number of leading men of science had joined the ranks, and men of science, whether in its ranks or not, cooperated in its work. During the session a careful analysis has been undertaken by Professor Stokes F. R. S., Sir J. R. Bennett, Vice President R. S., Professor Beale, F. R. S., and others, of the various theories of evolution, and it was reported that, as yet, no scien-

tific evidence has been met with giving countenance to the theory that man had been evolved from a lower order in animals; and Professor Virchow had declared that there was a complete absence of any fossil type of a lower stage in the development of man; and that any positive advance in the province of prehistoric anthropology has actually removed us further from proofs of such connection—namely, with the rest of the animal kingdom. In this Professor Barrande, the great palæontologist, had concurred, declaring that in none of his investigations had he found any one fossil species develop into another. In fact, it would seem that no scientific man had yet discovered a link between man and the ape, between fish and frog, or between the vertebrate and the invertebrate animals; further, there was no evidence of any one species, fossil or other, losing its peculiar characteristics to acquire new ones belonging to other species; for instance, however similar the dog to the wolf, there was no connecting link, and among extinct species the same was the case; there was no gradual passage from one to another.

Moreover, the first animals that existed on the earth were by no means to be considered as inferior or degraded. Among other investigations, one into the truth of the argument from design in nature had been carried on, and had hitherto tended to fully confirm that doctrine. The question of the Assyrian inscriptions, and the recent Babylonian researches, had been under the leadership of Mr. Hormuzd Rassam, who, on his arrival from Nineveh, had given a full report of the extent of his new excavations, which were of the highest interest. His discovery of Sepharvaim, one of the first cities mentioned in Holy Writ, was most important. Professor Delitsch and others aided in the consideration of the discoveries and the inscriptions found. Two meetings had been held to consider the questions raised in Mr. Herbert Spencer's philosophy, and Lord O'Neill and others had shown, by a careful analysis of his arguments, that a greater attention to accuracy in statements, would have kept Mr. Spencer from arriving at those hasty conclusions which had made his philosophy remarkable. It was announced that the results of explorations now being carried on in Egypt would be laid before the Institute early in