

be taken without serious encroachment on the time allotted for the pursuit of the English branches. We do not discountenance the study of German, but we think that the language can be acquired with any great inconvenience by attending one of the numerous universities and colleges throughout our country, or by private tuition. While the common school system is superior to any former system of popular education, yet it retains defects which will become grave indeed, if the utmost vigilance is not manifested by its friends.

The common schools offer special inducements for the masses to drink at their fountain of wisdom, and we do not believe that the masses of the people desire to have their draught flavored with German.

The great majority of Germans, and in fact the people of other nationalities do not desire to have their children taught their own language. Their intelligence teaches them that it is in every way conducive to the welfare of their children, that they receive while young, a good knowledge of the language of that country in which they are to spend their future days.

There is vast room for improvement in the present management of our schools. The friends of education will do well, if they can secure more thoroughness and efficiency on the part of teachers.

STANTON, Nebraska May 28, 1877.

The Teachers County Institute at this place met on Monday May 14, and continued in session five days. Prof Thompson, who was to conduct it, not having arrived, nothing of importance was done the first day. The Professor arrived Tuesday morning. He then commenced the Institute with a few brief remarks, stating the purposes for which we had met. The day sessions were occupied principally in class exercises; the several teachers being called upon to teach the classes, or in other words, to illustrate their methods of teaching. The evening sessions were largely occupied with discussions on questions relating to the advancement and improvement of scholars. A goodly

amount of interest was manifested by the teachers, and, the Professor showed that he was alive to the educational interests of the state. He took great pains to explain methods that he had found to be useful in teaching the "young ideas how to shoot." We as teachers feel mutually benefited by the Professor's help, and tender our thanks to him for his kindness.

S. D. M.

The following from the *Journal of Microscopy* is a keen thrust at the loose manner of American colleges in conferring degrees:

An American gentleman of considerable notoriety lately visited England, bearing letters of recommendation in which he was styled "Professor of Natural Sciences." The first English savan upon whom he called and presented his credentials advised him, as a friend, not to present such papers, for, said he, "It is a good deal in this country to be a Professor of Chemistry; it is a great thing to be a Professor of Geology; and the magnitude of a Professor of Astronomy is something not easily measured. But when you are recommended as a Professor of all of these and much more, the idea is overwhelming."

PUBLICATIONS.

We have received the fifteenth annual catalogue of the Oskaloosa College, Iowa. This college embraces a variety of courses, classical, religious, commercial and normal departments, etc.

The catalogue shows a large attendance of students.

"Touch Me Gently, Father Time," is the title of a new and beautiful song and chorus, by Charlie Baker, author of the famous "He Holds the Fort of Heaven." Any music dealer will mail this beautiful song for 40 cents. Published by F. W. Helmick, 50 West 4th St., Cincinnati, O.

We have received the yearly catalogue of the Neb. Normal School. It is neatly printed, and shows a larger attendance than last year. We will have occasion to refer to its contents hereafter.