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Miscellaneous Mention.

A Russian lady has just bestowed 50,000 roubles upon her country women, to be applied to giving medical training to those desirous of becoming physicians.

Regent Fifield will not be present at the Christmas meeting of the board. Regent Powers, it is said, will resign after this meeting, as he has received the honor of the Attorney Generalship.

Teachers who are inclined to talk too much will do well to heed Southey's admonition: Be brief, for it is with words as with sunbeams, the more they are condensed the deeper they burn.

It is understood that an attempt will soon be made here to organize a law department in the University. If Judge Savage is made chancellor a better opportunity could not be offered to institute a law course, and under so distinguished a jurist such a course could not be but an eminent success.

The Longfellow Memorial Association has issued a circular to the "children of America," inviting ten cent subscriptions toward the fulfilment of the plan of the Association for the erection of a memorial statue in front of the poet's late residence. Contributions should be sent to John Bartlett, treasurer, P. O. Box 1590, Boston, Mass.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes has resigned the professorship of anatomy in the Harvard University medical school. The retirement of Dr. Holmes from the office he has held thirty-five years was induced by a desire to give his attention more particularly to literary pursuits. He will contribute several articles to the *Atlantic Monthly* during the coming year.

Students sometimes ask if it is not a waste of time to spend so many hours in preparing for society exercises, exhibitions, etc. We would answer by asking another question in the words of Whipple: "Do you want to be a memory, a word-cistern, a bower, or a man?" If to develop the powers of thought is the one great object, certainly no one thing is more valuable than the work of the literary society.

Some four years ago there was introduced by Prof. Sproul into the University of Cincinnati a course of study in the Shemetic language, with special attention devoted to the Arabic. The number of students taking the course has averaged from eight to twelve. The course will be made more attractive this year by a series of lectures on the "Distinctive Features and Literature of the Shemetic Languages."

Ex-Supt. W. T. Harris, in a recent address at New Haven, declared that in his experience of examining several hundred applicants for the position of teachers in the public schools he had always found those who were proficient in the study of grammar the best teachers.

A thorough system of physical training has been introduced in Wellesly College under the direction of D. A. Sargent of Harvard College. The gymnasium has been fitted up with apparatus similar to that at Harvard, and will be conducted on a strictly scientific basis: the amount and manner of exercise being prescribed and directed according to the need of each individual. How long before we will have something of the kind here.

Three plans are now being considered by the citizens of Concord, Mass. for a fitting memorial of Ralph Waldo Emerson. One is to build a handsome driveway running from the Emerson mansion on Lexington St. to Sleepy Hollow Cemetery where Mr. Emerson's body is interred and on the rising ground outside the cemetery, which site overlooks the street and residence, erect a handsome monument to his memory. The other plan is to place a statue of Mr. Emerson in the Concord Free Public Library building or in the yard outside. None of their plans is as yet fully matured.

The life of the late Thurlow Weed almost spans the history of this country under its present Constitution. He was born before Washington died, and when Webster, Calhoun and Clay were making their reputation he had edited several county newspapers and fought in the battles of his country. He was alive during the darkness of the French Revolution. He lived and worked with three generations of public men. Benjamin Franklin died seven years before Mr. Weed was born. The lives of these two journalists take the world back into the reign of Lewis XIV. Another such would very nearly reach the time of Shakespeare.

According to the United States School Commissioner's recent published report, the total school population of the United States in 1880 was 15,551,875; number enrolled in public schools, 9,680,403; average daily attendance, 5,744,188; number of teachers employed, 280,034; average salaries paid men, from \$25 in South Carolina to \$101 in Nevada; to women, from \$17 in Vermont to \$77 in Nevada. The total school income was \$83,940,239. The expenditures per capita of school population was 96 cents in Alabama to \$14.91 in Massachusetts. Women vote in many States at school meetings. In Maine the pupils decreased; less money was expended. In New Hampshire and Vermont, and Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, like state of things. Connecticut increased and so did the other States generally.