A day or two ago, we presented a summary of the annual report of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb for 1869. As we have already laid the statistics of the report before our readers, we deem it unnecessary to repeat them; but we invite their attention to the following extract from the report on the subject of articulation, and especially to the very interesting letter of Miss Montgomery. The report says:-

"Much attention has been given to that of articulation.

"Believing that the system of teaching the deaf mute by signs, adopted by De l'Epee and improved by Sicard, was superior to that of Heinike, the directors introduced it into this institution at its foundation, a half a century ago; and they have had no reason to regret the course then taken. Indeed, experience and observation have confirmed them in their opinion, and they feel themselves sustained the opinions of Dr. Kitto, Harvey Prindle Peet, LL. D., the Rev. Dr. Day, Mr. Lewis Weld, Rev. W. W. Turner, the Rev. Collins Stone, and President E. M. Gallandet, gentlemen whose large intelligence, great experience, ripe judgment, and intimate acquaintance with the subject, justly entitle their opinions to great weight."

Dr. Kitto, "Lost Senses," pp. 30, 31, says:

—"I am thoroughly persuaded that this mouth-reading must be wholly inadequate to the purposes of real conversation, involving intercourse of the intellect or the imagi-

> Dr. Peet, in his Report on European Institutions, 1852, page 255, says:—"On this head (instruction in articulation) I can but repeat and confirm the views expressed in the able report of Rev. George E. Day, made to the board seven years ago. Mr. Day's opportuni-ties for testing thoroughly the results attained in the most celebrated articulating schools were much more extensive than those enjoyed by myself; and to his conclusion (the result of the most thorough and searching examination of those schools perhaps ever made), that instruction in articulation is scarcely ever of decided benefit, except when the faculty of speech has been acquired through the ear, all the observations I was able to make only bring additional confirmation."

> Professor Day says in his report, 1845, p. 167:—"The common testimony given by professors, clergymen, and gentlemen in other professions is, 'We cannot understand On p. 178:-"To one-tenth of the whole, instruction in articulation is not given, or if attempted, is a complete failure. Two-tenths succeed, in a modified sense, while seven-tenths are only able to make themselves understood in the articulation of frequently-repeated sentences and single In regard to lip-reading, he says (p. 182):- "On an average, about one-third of the most advanced class, with the aid of the signs employed by the teacher, and the frequent repetition made use of, appear to understand the most of what the instructor says; another third appear to lose a considerable part, while the remainder only seize the most common words, and are much of the time obviously at a loss as to what is going on." In Dr. Day's report of a second visit to the most important institutions, made eight years later, he says:—"The proportion of deaf mutes who may, with a sufficient expenditure of time and labor, be taught to articulate mechanically, and to read upon the lips, is variously estimated at from one-fifth to one-tenth of the whole number." "The instances of remarkable success are comparatively rare, and in nearly every case conditioned upon the possession of the power of hearing, until an advanced period of childhood. Any attempt to make the teaching of mechanical articulation a part of the general system of deaf mute instruction, would be a deplorable error." "No new arguments or reasons in favor of teaching deaf mutes to arsiculate and read upon the lips have been advanced. It is not pretended that recent discoveries or improvements have been made, by which the teaching of articulation to deaf mutes has become easier, or more generally

Mr. Wild, in his "Report on European Institutions," 1845, p. 119, says:—"Such a system does not seem to me to be suited to the taste or the wants of our country. In regard to the former (Germany), I scarcely met with an intelligent person of any rank, even in Germany, who spoke of the articulation of the deaf and dumb with approbation. It was rather with disgust, as a matter very repulsive and disagreeable; and sure I am, it would not be less so, in general, in the United States. Our wants require that all the deaf and dumb of our land should be educated in the best manner, to secure their usefulness and happiness. But how can we afford constantly to devote so many men of intelligence and vigor to the education of each class of four, five, eight, or even ten deaf mute children, as would be required on the German

successful than formerly."

MITTELL SOLL

arter Chicken

JPASEVIII.

The Rev. W. W. Turner, in the proceedings of the National Conference of Principals of Institutions for the Deaf and Dumb, 1868, p. 69, says:—"There are many congenital deaf mutes who can be taught to utter a few plain, simple words, especially those whose enunciation is marked and sharp. And second, a few who have some considerable voice, and who are accustomed to make noises, may be taught to use that voice for the enunciation of words and sentences. But I do believe that the time spent in communicating articulation to congenital deaf mutea is almost time wasted.'

Rev. Collins Stone, in the Fifty-third Annual Report of the American Asylum, page 20, says:—"The instruction of the deaf and dumb has now been prosecuted for something more than a hundred years. It has been conducted in the main by men distinguished for brilliant talents, sound judgment, and practical skill, as well as for Christian charity. The published treatises on this subject, discussing methods of teaching, theories, and principles of the art, number several hundred in several different languages. Have the experience, the investigations, the patient labor of a hundred years settled any principles? Taught any lessons? Fixed upon any reliable results? These questions can have but one reply; a reply that can neither be evaded nor ignored. It is the conclusion so often reiterated in these discussions—as the substantial ground we have always occupied—that, while semi-mute and semi-deaf children should be taught articulate speech, the great mass of congenital mutes can never acquire it, or be

President Gallaudet, who two years ago spent several months in an examination of European schools, says (p. 46):—"Three teachers only, of all whom I have consulted, claim success in articulation as attainable by the mass of the deaf mutes, and these admit that experience has not yet sustained their

The report then continues as follows:-"The accompanying letter from the gifted Miss Montgomery, a teacher in the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, cannot fail to be read with deep interest.'

Miss Montgomery's letter reads as follows:-"INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAP AND DUMB, NEW YORK, Nov. 25th, 1869.—Mr. Barelay.— Dear Sir:-I was very much surprised and flattered at the receipt of your letter asking my 'opinion' on the vexed and vexatious question of articulation. I should not be half woman if I did not have an opinion on the subject—a very decided one, too—and one that I am in no wise loth to express. It is just this, that special instruction in articula-tion, even to the classes you mention (the semi-deaf and semi-mute), is simply special instruction in a very pretty and expensive, and in some rare cases rather useful, accomplishment.

"In answer to your other question, whether I prefer the sign or written language to speech, I say most emphatically that I do. Indeed, aside from a reluctance which I cannot overcome, to use my vocal powers, they are so limited, and I speak with so much effort, mental and physical, that beyond a few sentences of commonplace, or a few words in an emergency, I rarely attempt to use my voice, and never succeed in making myself understood. Persons of average quickness of apprehension fail to understand me at all, they have become familiar with my peculiarities of speech. I do not, in fact, know a single individual with whom I could carry on a conversation of any considerable length, without having recourse to the manual

alphabet or to writing.
"Since the receipt of your letter I have inquired of ten semi-mutes, six of whom are employed as teachers here (the remainder are members of the high class), their preference in this matter, and nine unhesitatingly and unequivocally declared that either the manual alphabet or writing was more agreeable to them than speech, as a mode of communica-tion; and that they habitually made use of one or the other of these modes in preference to speech. The tenth was undecided; but as I know that he very rarely uses his voice when he can get pencil and paper, I think his indecision is more of theory than of fact. All of the ten I have mentioned have as good a command of the voice as I have, and four speak with remarkable ease and distinctness for deaf persons. One, in particular, is a marvel to all her hearing friends on account of the clearness and grace of her enunciation, and yet, in talking with hearing persons who can read from her fingers, she almost invariably makes use of them. This lady is, by those most competent to decide in such a matter, adjudged to speak better than any other deaf person they have ever heard; and yet in the street or in a shop she finds it almost impossible, often quite so, to make her simplest remarks or inquiries understood.

"However distinct the utterance may be made, I doubt if art can ever so supply the lost guidance of the ear, as to make speech to the deaf of any practical value, outside of the immediate circle of family and friends. And when the manual alphabet, which furnishes a sure, rapid, and unobtrusive means of communication can be learned in a few hours, it seems to be, to use the mildest word, extremely selfish to require a deaf child to perfect or acquire, by slow and painful effort, a means of communication, in which he can, from the very fact of his deafnes, take no real pleasure. And when we consider how much our pupils have to accomplish in the very limited time given them, the question is, not 'Is articulation practicable,' but, 'Is it right to attempt to teach it?"

"The record of Dr. Kitto, in this matter 'Lost Senses,' pp. 20-31, is, in substance, the experience of every semi-mute of my acquaintance. His opinion should, I think, from the position to which he attained and the peculiar circumstances of his life, have great weight. Becoming totally deaf at the age of twelve, he retained his vocal powers, so far as any deaf person can retain them, and was able to improve them very much by determined and persevering use; yet on page 111 of the work to which I have referred, he says: - My own present facility of speech stands me in little stead, beyond the walls of my own house. I do not find real occasion for it ten times in a year."

"The dear friends who have labored and sacrificed so much for us cannot, by their ntmost endeavors, restore to us our lost sense; and since the same mighty physical convulsion that threw up an impassable barrier to sound turned the spontaneous flow of thought from its natural channel into a new one, let them not, in mistaken kindness, try to force it back to the old, but as heretofore, endeavor to smooth and widen the new.

"I have been constrained to answer your questions at much greater length than I intended, and the fact that the subject is one in which I am greatly interested must be my excuse. I have been teaching dumb muter and semi-mutes with all my might since the day I graduated, and no one, I think, would hail with more delight or adopt with greater zeal any system which gave reasonable promise of broader and deeper culture or increased social facilities for the deaf. This old-new system holds out no such hope; it has been tried, and it failed.

"Hoping that I have not taken up too much of your time, and that you will not attribute my earnestness to a lack of respect for those who differ with me in this matter, but to an impatience that I can hardly control when I see time spent that cannot be regained, and money that is so much needed elsewhere expended in attempts that seem utterly futile.

"I am, dear sir, very truly yours, "IDA MONTGOMERY."

The report then continues:-"It may be added that instruction in articulation has been abandoned in most of the schools in Great Britain, except in the cases of the semi-deaf and semi-mute.

"Sensibly alive to whatever is calculated to improve the education of the deaf mute, and aware of the interest taken by the public, the Directors determined to appoint a committee of their own body, and one of their most competent and experienced teachers, to visit and examine the schools where articulation was taught, in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York.

"In the month of October last the committee visited the American Asylum, at Hartford, and witnessed the mode of imparting instruction to her pupils in articulation, adopted by Miss Sweet.

'From Hartford the committee went to

"From Hartford the committee went to Northampton, and examined the School of Articulation under the efficient and accomplished Miss Harriet B. Rogers. On their return the committee visited the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and the school under the care of Mr. F. A. Rising.

"Instruction is given in articulation in the New York Institution by the experienced Mr. Encelsman. The committee speak in high Engelsman. The committee speak in high terms of the cordial reception they everywhere met with, and the facilities afforded them in prosecuting their inquiries. It was nowhere asserted that all deaf mutes were capable of

acquiring a knowledge of articulation. And almost all semi-mutes who can speak, prefer holding conversation by signs or by writing From all the information the committee obtained, and their own observation, they came unanimously to the con-clusion that the education of deaf mutes is far more general, more thorough, more accurate, and less expensive by signs than by lip-reading; and that very few succeed in holding a conversation of any length by the reading of the lips. But inasmuch as some of the semi-mute and semi-deaf pupils may derive advantage by more systematic instruction in articulation than that hitherto adopted, they recommended the employment of a well-qualified teacher for that purpose.

"The board deeming it expedient to adopt any measure which will improve the educa-tion of the deaf mutes, directed the Committee on Instruction to nominate a suitable female as a teacher of articulation to such of the semi-mutes and semi-deaf as are likely to be benefited by such instruction. The committee will, no doubt, promptly make the nomination. A full opportunity will thus be afforded to test the value of the measure."

This copions extract will fully satisfy our readers that the directors are fully alive to this important question, whether teaching articulation to the deaf is as advantageous as that of imparting instruction to them by the sanual alphabet and by signs. We do not undertake to decide the question, but we commend the directors for their determination to impart more systematic instruction to their semi-mute and semi-deaf pupils in arti-

The following paragraph is from the New York World of the 13th inst .:-

HARD ON THE DEAF MUTES. Some of the pupils of the institution for the improved instruction of the deaf mutes were up here to-day, and were able to do astonish ing things in the way of understanding questions merely by observing the motions of the lips as they were uttered, and answering them audibly, as the result of a course of instruction in articulation unassisted by the ear. Mr. Tweed made some inquiries of them which were answered very intelligently, until he commenced to question them about the prospects of the new charter and as to the names of Harbor Masters and Port Wardens the Governor would send in, when they relapsed into their original mental and auricular ob-

The report contains a biographical sketch of the late Laurent Clerc, which we may hereafter notice.

The terms of admission are \$250 a year, payable haif yearly in advance. The indigent deaf mutes of the Commonwealth, between the ages of ten and twenty years, are supported by her; those of New Jersey and Delaware by those States.

The schools are closed on the last Wednesday of June and reopened on the first Wednesday of September. Certain questions must be answered by the applicants for the bounty of the Commonwealth prior to their admission into the institution.

Visitors are admitted on Thursday at 3 o'clock, on presenting a ticket from a director, except during the months of July, August, and September.

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PROPOSALS. PROPOSALS FOR STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT Sealed Proposals will be received until 8 P. M. on the 1st day of MARCH, 1870, for furnishing all the "Stamped Envelopes" and "Newspaper Wrappers" which this Department may require during a period of four years, commencing 1st of July, 1870 vice.

STAMPED ENVELOPES. No. 1. Note size, 2% by 4% inches, of No. 1. Note size, 2% by 4% inches, of white, paper.
No. 2. Ordinary letter size, 3 1-16 by 5% inches, of white, buff, canary, or cream-colored paper, or in such proportion of either as may be required.
No. 3. Full letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 3% by 5% inches, of the same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.
No. 4. Full letter size, 3% by 5% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

Proportion of each.

No. 5. Extra letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 3% by 6% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of No. 6. Extra letter size, 2% by 6% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 7. Official size, 3% by 8% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 8. Extra official size, 4% by 3% inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

to the proportion of each.
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All the above envelopes and wrappers to be embessed with postage stamps of such denominations,
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face, and to be made in the most thorough manner,
of paper of approved quality, manufactured specially
for the purpose, with such water marks or other devices to prevent imitation as the Postmaster-General
may direct.

The envelopes to be thoroughly and perfectly
gummed, the gumming on the nap of each (except

The envelopes to be thoroughly and perfectly gummed, the gumming on the flap of each (except for circulars) to be put on not less than half an inch in width the entire length. The wrappers to be gummed not less than three-fourths of an inch in width across the end.

All envelopes and wrappers must be banded in parcels of twenty-five, and packed in strong pasteboard or straw boxes, each to contain not less than two hundred and fifty of the letter or extra letter size, and one hundred each of the official or extra official size, separately. The newspaper wrappers to be packed in boxes to contain not less than two hundred and fifty each. The boxes are to be wrapped and sealed, or securely fastened in strong manilla paper, so as to safely bear transportation by mail for delivery to postmasters. When two thousand or more envelopes are required to fill the order of a postmaster, the straw or pasteboard boxes containing the same must be packed in strong wooden cases, well strapped with hoop-iron, and addressed; but when less than two thousand are required, proper labels of direction, to be furnished by an agent of the Department, must be placed upon each package by the contractor. Wooden cases, containing envelopes or wrappers to be transported by water routes, must be provided with suitable water-proofing. The whole to be done under the inspection and direction of an agent of the Department.

The envelopes and wrappers must be furnished

Department.

The envelopes and wrappers must be furnished and delivered with all reasonable despatch, complete in all respects, ready for use, and in such quantities as may be required to fill the daily orders of postmasters; the deliveries to be made either at the Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., or at the office of an agent duly authorized to inspect and received the server the place of delivery. office of an agent duly authorized to inspect and re-ceive the same; the place of delivery to be at the option of the Postmaster-General, and the cost of delivering as well as all expense of packing, ad-dressing, labeling, and water-proofing, to be paid by the contractor.

Bidders are notified that the Department will re-curre as a condition of the contract, that the en-

quire, as a condition of the contract that the envelopes and wrappers shall be manufactured and stored in such manner as to ensure security against loss by fire or theft. The manufactory must at all

loss by fire or theft. The manufactory must at all times be subject to the inspection of an agent of the Department, who will require the stipulations of the contract to be faithfully observed.

The dies for embossing the postage stamps on the envelopes and wrappers are to be executed to the satisfaction of the Postmaster-General, in the best style, and they are to be provided, renewed, and kept in order at the expense of the contractor. The department reserves the right of requiring new dies for any stamps, or denominations of stamps not now used, and any changes of dies or colors shall be made without extra charge.

Specimens of the stamped envelopes and wrappers now in use may be seen at any of the principal post offices, but these specimens are not to be regarded as the style and quality fixed by the department as a standard for the new contract; bidders are therefore invited to submit samples of other and different qualities and styles, including the paper proposed as well as the manufactured envelopes, wrappers, and boxes, and make their bids accordingly.

The contract will be awarded to the bidder whose

accordingly.

The contract will be awarded to the bidder whose proposal, although it be not the lowest, is considered most advantageous to the Department, taking into account the prices, quality of the sam-ples, workmanship, and the sufficiency and ability of the bidder to manufacture and deliver the

envelopes and wrappers in accordance with the terms of this advertisement; and no proposal will be considered unless accompanied by a sufficient and satisfactory guarantee. The Postmaster-Gene-ral also reserves the right to reject any and all bids, if in his judgment the interests of the Government require it. require it.

Before closing a contract the successful bidder may be required to prepare new dies, and submit impressions thereof. The USE OF THE PRESENT DIES

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contract will be made quarterly, after proper adjustment of accounts.

The Postmaster-General reserves to himself the right to annul the contract whenever the same, or any part thereof, is offered for sale for the purpose of speculation; and under no circumstances will a transfer of the contract be allowed or sanctioned to any party who shall be, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, less able to fulfill the conditions thereof than the original contractor. The right is also reserved to annul the contract for a failure to perform faithfully any of its stipulations. The number of envelopes of different sizes, and of wrappers issued to Postmasters during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1869, was as follows, viz.:

No. 2. Ordinary letter size; (not heretofore used).

used). No. 3. Full letter size, (ungummed, for circulars) —4,150,000. 4.180,000. No. 4. Full letter size—67,367,500. No. 5. Extra letter size, (ungummed, for circulars)

No. 6. Extra letter size—4,204,500.
No. 7. Official size—604,650.
No. 8. Extra official size—1700.
Wrappers—3,595,250.
Bids should be securely enveloped and sealed, marked "Proposals for Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers," and addressed to the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, Post Office Department, Washington, D. C.

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