

with a selection of the letters of and to Massie still extant. They are arranged in chronological order. Probably the book would have gained if they had been inserted in the narrative instead of being printed as a separate body. However this may be, they are of great interest and importance, both those that relate to land-business and those that relate to politics. Only a few have ever been printed before. The collection includes twenty-three letters of Governor Worthington, fifteen of General Massie, thirteen of Judge Byrd, and smaller numbers of St. Clair, Wilkinson, Meigs, Symmes, Harrison and others. The letters are apparently printed with literal exactness. A map of Ohio, showing the chief land-purchases and reservations, is appended.

Gen. A. W. Greely's *Handbook of Arctic Discoveries*, in the "Columbian Knowledge Series" (Boston, Roberts Brothers, pp. 257), is decidedly a *tour de force*. Its small pages are packed with information relating, in successive chapters, to each particular geographical field of Arctic exploration. Yet, though congestion is extreme in some parts, the book is in general readable. It succeeds in its chief attempt, to sum up results in an intelligible manner. Excellent bibliographies accompany the chapters, and there are eleven maps, good in plan, though not well printed.

Dr. J. George Hodgins, Historiographer to the Education Department of Ontario, has now printed (Toronto, the Department, pp. 330) a third volume of his *Documentary History of Education in Upper Canada*, a work designed to extend from 1791 to 1876. This volume covers only the years 1836-1840, and completes the compiler's record of the educational proceedings of the legislature of Upper Canada as a separate and independent province. The volume also includes a record of the proceedings of the General Board of Education of Upper Canada from 1823 to its extinction in 1833, and of the Council of King's College, 1828-1840. Among the more interesting of the matters embraced in the main series are the discussions on the right of a colonial legislature to alter or amend a royal charter.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

The twelfth annual meeting of the American Historical Association was held in New York, chiefly in the rooms of Columbia University, on December 29, 30 and 31. An inaugural address was read by the president of the Association, Dr. Richard S. Storrs, and receptions were given by President and Mrs. Low and Mrs. C. W. Bowen. The programme indicated an effort to avoid congestion in the proceedings and to promote discussion of at least certain papers. A conference upon the teaching of history was upon the list. The members joined in a luncheon on one of the three days, and those most interested in preparing students of American history for the doctor's degree met and conferred upon the possibilities of common action in that field.

The Historical Manuscripts Commission appointed by the Association a year ago reported a considerable amount of preliminary work accomplished. Carefully prepared circulars have been sent out to libraries and societies and to many individuals, explaining the objects of the Commission and making inquiries on its behalf as to manuscript historical materials in their hands. Numerous replies have been received upon the Commission's blanks, and the beginning has been made of a thorough knowledge of the American historical manuscripts in private possession. The Commission presented with its report a full and detailed bibliography or list of guides to the contents of American archives or other collections of unprinted historical materials, and of less formal descriptions of the same. It has also prepared a first volume of documentary matter, drawn from the various quarters represented in the Commission and adapted to serve as a specimen of the work which it intends to do in respect to publication. It has obtained from the English Public Record Office a series of copies of the letters addressed to the Foreign Office by Phineas Bond, British consul at Philadelphia from 1787 to 1812, letters affording important information respecting American trade and public affairs. It has also prepared for publication a series of documents exhibiting the history of a pro-French plot in the English colonies at the outbreak of the French and Indian War; a collection of the letters of Stephen Higginson, showing the political action and thought of the high Federalists of the Essex Junto during an important period; a selection from the correspondence of Mahlon and Philemon Dickerson, illustrating New Jersey politics during the first half of the present century; a portion of the journal of Edward Hooker, casting a great amount of light on the legislation and politics of South Caro-