

**Talks With Our Readers.**

"SUBSCRIBER" thinks it would be charming to start a literary correspondence club on some page of the REVIEW, to which literary people, students and teachers could send questions regarding the author, (whoever is selected), and his poetry and writings. Also that a number of competitive questions on the author and his work be submitted every month to the corresponding editor, these questions to be answered by the members of the club. "Subscriber" adds: "I think that either a Browning or Tennyson club would make a very strong appeal to the readers of the REVIEW."

The idea is a good one, and the editor would be glad to consider details personally or by letter, if "Subscriber" will favor him with her address.

A "HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER" who has been especially interested in the efforts of the Nova Scotia teachers to remedy the defects of their high school course, suggests that the high school of New Brunswick is in as serious a condition as that of the sister province. He asks, "when will the educational authorities here have the courage to grapple with the questions?"

The two greatest needs in the high school at present are, to lessen the pressure by reducing the number of subjects taught, and to provide optional courses. The latter would entail considerable additional expense, and would perhaps be out of the question in any but our largest communities. How to secure the best results from efforts and the money spent on our high schools is worthy of consideration, and the columns of the REVIEW are open to our correspondent or to those who have something tangible to offer.

A correspondent would like to see Dr. A. H. MacKay's address on the study of Latin published in the REVIEW, and adds: "I think those great debates on school questions, as that for instance which occurred last summer in Nova Scotia, stir up people and have a great educational effect on the community."

Dr. MacKay's address is published in full in the N. S. Journal of Education for October last.

"SUBSCRIBER":—"I have had considerable difficulty in teaching Hay's History of New Brunswick to my pupils. It seems too difficult for them to understand. Do you know of any way by which it could be made easier and more interesting to the

pupils? If so, I hope you may have time to publish it in the REVIEW, so that this difficulty may be remedied by your kind help."

It should not be difficult to arouse the interest of children in the story of their country. That was the special aim in view in writing the history, and many children have read it with the same zest as they would any other story. "Subscriber" may be helped in reading on another page how one teacher interested her children in history.

**CURRENT EVENTS.**

Alzen is the name given to a new metal composed of two parts of aluminum and one part of zinc. It is as strong as iron, takes a high polish, and does not rust as quickly as iron.

Esperanto is making greater progress than did any other proposed international language, and it is expected to come into general use as a means of communication between men of different nations who do not understand each other's native tongue.

English capitalists have closed a contract with the government of Newfoundland for a fast steamship service between St. Johns and a port on the Irish coast.

Russia will begin the withdrawal of troops from Manchuria without waiting for the 25th of April, the date fixed by the treaty of Portsmouth.

The greater part of the city of Kingston, Jamaica, was destroyed by earthquake on the 14th of January. Fire followed the earthquake, and many lives were lost. The Dominion government has given \$50,000 towards the relief of sufferers, and the United States government sent prompt assistance.

Much indignation was felt when it was reported that the admiral in command of the United States ships at Kingston had taken matters in his own hands, landing armed men on British soil and raising the United States flag; but it has been explained later that he landed men under arms at the request of the local police inspector to overawe the convicts in the penitentiary who were supposed to be on the point of rising, and that he recalled them on the same day at the governor's request. The naval officer in command of a British ship, which arrived later, offered to send men ashore if needed, but his offer was declined.

Nearly one hundred thousand immigrants from the British Isles, over fifty thousand from the continent of Europe, and over sixty thousand from the United States were added to the population of Canada in 1906.

Lord Strathcona has agreed to give \$2,500 a year for five years for excavations among the Hittite ruins in Asia Minor. Two thousand inscribed tablets have been found in the ruins of one of the Hittite cities. Important discoveries in ancient history are expected.

Recent discoveries in Central Asia include some ancient manuscripts on birch bark, together with paper manuscripts probably belonging to the eighth century of our era.

A German inventor is able to send messages over a distance of twenty-five miles by wireless telephone, and be-