

skilful workmen in the mines, and there can hardly be a doubt that, if the colliers avail themselves of the facilities that are to be offered, the results will be beneficial to them and to the companies as well.

**MEETING OF THE FRÖBEL INSTITUTE.**—The annual meeting of the Fröbel Institute of Nova Scotia was held in the Province building on the 3d inst, the president, Mrs. Condon, in the chair. Among those present were Inspectors Condon, Roscoe and Lay, Supervisor McKay, Principal McKay, Dr. Hall, Dr. Hibbert Woodbury and Principals Kennedy and Congdon. Several ladies interested in kindergarten culture were also in attendance. Dr. Hall gave an account of the lectures on Fröbel's system delivered to the normal school pupils by Miss Woodcock, and expressed his satisfaction at the deep interest shown by the pupils in their visits of observation to the kindergarten, and augured the happiest results. Mrs. Patterson and Miss M. A. Hamilton have completed the course, but are still, with laudable ambition, working in connection with the kindergarten. Two other ladies, also teachers, are now taking the full course. The school board of the city of St. John sent Miss Orr, of Victoria school (a very able teacher in the primary department), to take a month's training and observation in the model kindergarten. This lady is illustrating in a marked manner the practical benefits of the short course specially designed for teachers engaged in active work. Principal Hay writes that she is introducing Fröbel's practice into her department most efficiently, so that those who sent her feel amply repaid for the expense they incurred. Principal McKay hoped soon to see the kindergarten established in every town in Nova Scotia in connection with the public schools. A general discussion took place as to the best means of bringing this about, and it was shown that much had been done towards this and by the arrangement entered into by the government, whereby regular instruction in Fröbel's principles and systematic observation of the well-conducted kindergarten forms part of the training henceforth of every pupil-teacher at the normal school. It was felt and expressed that the people of Truro deserved great credit for the spirit and determination with which they had supported the kindergarten at a large pecuniary outlay.—*Hx. paper.*

THE scholarships vacant for the next year of the N. B. University will be those for Restigouche, Gloucester, Kent, Westmorland, St. John, Queens, Albert, York. Teachers of superior and grammar schools throughout the province should keep this list as well as the advertisement of the university, printed in another column, posted up where their scholars may see it. It will stimulate to effort in the direction of the higher education.

### EDUCATIONAL OPINION.

"It is strange to observe how indifferent the public generally is to the best and soundest work being done in its midst."

This is what the *Rangoon Gazette* says of the work of missions in Burmah. But the same may be said, for instance, of our common school work. While politics and trade receive every attention the formation of educational habit, of moral tone, of practical skill in the great mass of children who are to be the people of our country, awakes but little enthusiasm. The papers of a city like Halifax, being unable to see outside of Halifax, are ready to devote any amount of space, to use any means, fair or unfair, to aid a Halifax college, but they seldom try to arouse the public to the far greater importance to the country of the common schools of the province. It is encouraging to know that the teachers themselves are interested in the work, as is seen by the holding of their conventions, of their school of science, their support of educational periodicals, and in other ways. At the late convention in St. John the minister of finance urged that the teachers should receive larger salaries as a fair return for their important services, and that a longer vacation should be given in the summer, both to give opportunity for self-improvement in the teachers, for rest and recuperation, and for the advantage to the health and vigor of the pupils. All these recommendations are in the best interests of the country at large.—*Windsor Tribune.*

"It ought to be that as young men grow in the knowledge of literature and science they should form those habits which contribute to their happiness and usefulness, and which tend to strengthen the state. A collegiate or any other education which fails in this is faulty at the most critical point. . . . The lives of Arnold and Thring were devoted quite as much to the making of men as of scholars. The results have justified the wisdom of their plans, and should be a model for more general imitation."—*Woodstock, N.B., Press.*

"We make the statement emphatically that there is no portion of the Dominion more favorably situated for the development of manufactures than the Maritime Provinces; and this being the case, the education of our youth should be so conducted as to develop the love for industrial pursuits, and to properly train those who have the natural abilities to become skilled workmen in any industrial calling."—*Hants, N. S., Journal.*