

## NOTES FOR TEACHERS.

ADVANCE.—It is said of the teacher's profession that it is too often used merely as a stepping-stone to a more lucrative post. The day surely is not distant when this need no longer be. The tax-paying parent perceives more and more clearly the real nature of the teacher's work, and the vital necessity of the school process being directed by real teachers.

It is inspiring, indeed, to read of great teachers in the past who so loved their life-task that the question of remuneration hardly rose above the horizon of their thought. These men were martyrs. The conditions under which they labored demanded the unselfish service which they gave. The times were poor. The higher functions of the child-school were unheard of, except as whispered prophecies in the hearts of a few. The teacher's post in those days was often reserved for unfortunates who were incapacitated by age or infirmity for pursuits considered to require an ordinary degree of ability. An instance is recorded, in the quaint poetry of village lore, where an aged dame, so

loaded with her years that she proved no longer competent at tending the village geese, was, as a final measure of economy, given charge of the village school.

Perhaps wrapped up in the simple chronicle there was a poem, indeed. It may be that in this crooning, white-haired soul, a troop of trusting babies found an open gate to the simple ways of God. But we judge the *kirchenrath* of the village regarded the matter from another standpoint.

Those old days are gone by. The world grown rich and practical in all things, is slowly coming to a recognition of the teacher. It comes faster as the teacher asserts herself, her needs, and her rights. It were imbecile to become martyr for the enjoyment of martyrdom. The great Pestalozzi went hungry along with his young charges; the world was poor. To-day the children don't so often go hungry—physically; the world is rich. It is for teachers to put forth their claims and those of the children. Advance the salary line!—*Interstate School Review*.

## GEOGRAPHY.

THE CULMINATING POINT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT.—The question as to which of the American mountain summits wears the crown of highest position on the North American Continent, again assumes an interesting phase through the reported discovery of a mountain group in Alaska, in the region of Mount St. Elias, whose altitudinal determination would seem to depose both the Peak of Orizaba (Citlal-

tepetl) in Mexico and Mount St. Elias—the two peaks which have for some time held the position of honor, and which are so nearly of one height (eighteen thousand three hundred and eighteen thousand two hundred feet), that one might justly hesitate before finally awarding the palm for supremacy. The new mountains, possibly representing merely separated summits of a single mountain, upon which Mr. Israel Russell has bestowed the