

TO OUR READERS.

1. Matters connected with the literary management of *THE MONTHLY* should be addressed to The Editor, P. O. Box 2675. Subscriptions and communications of a business nature should go to The Treasurer, Mr. Samuel McAllister, 59 Maitland Street, Toronto.

2. The Magazine will be published not later than the 20th of each month. Subscribers desiring a change in their address will please send both the old and the new address to Mr. McAllister not later than the 15th of the month. Subscribers failing to receive the magazine after the 25th of each month, should communicate at once with him.

3. The Editor will be glad to receive school and college news, notices of meetings, and concise accounts of conventions.

4. Correspondence on all questions relating to education is solicited. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

5. Subscription, \$1.50 per annum, post paid. Club rates—Five copies per year at \$1.25 each; ten copies at \$1; twenty copies at 85 cents, net, post paid. Send money by registered letter or P.O. order. Be careful as to the address. Letters intended for us sometimes go elsewhere, and are not recovered without delay and annoyance.

6. The publishers are desirous of obtaining copies of *THE MONTHLY* for the years 1879 and 1880. Any one returning the vols. of these years may obtain complete vols. of 1882 and 1883, bound in paper. Persons having copies of 1879 and 1880, or portions of them, to dispose of will please communicate with Mr. McAllister.

7. Circulars respecting *THE MONTHLY* may be had on application to the Publishers.

8. We have several important changes and improvements in contemplation, designed to render *THE MONTHLY* more interesting and valuable to its patrons. Amongst other things we promise more attention to the work of the Inspector and the Public School Teacher. We begin a News Column with the January number. Natural Science also will receive special attention.

We are again compelled to hold over much interesting matter.

We have to thank Messrs. Copp, Clark & Co. for a copy of their invaluable Canadian Almanac for 1884. It is in every respect a most useful and interesting publication.

We are in receipt of a number of school announcements for which the senders have our thanks. The school calendars are interesting and give much valuable information of a local character.

Grip of last week depicts the Minister of Education and the Premier on a toboggan coming down a steep incline, across which lies the "Reader's log." "Will they get over it" is the legend. Time will tell.

The Artist (a fortnightly, devoted to painting, sculpture, music and the drama, Boston, Mass., \$2.00 a year) is a bright, gossipy, clever serial of much practical use to art students, amateurs and the dilettanti. It has occasionally a very good etching.

We are indebted to Mr. Commissioner Eaton, of the Washington Bureau of Education for a number of valuable reports upon educational topics. We hope to give an extended notice of them at an early date.

We regret the demise of our contemporary, *The Canadian Illustrated News* of Montreal. For thirteen years it made a gallant struggle for existence,

but it never paid the publishers. It filled a place of no mean rank in our literature, and deserved a better fate. The ascent for Canadian literature is very steep.

The American Educational Year Book and University Catalogue (Vol. V., 1883) published by C. H. Evans & Co., St. Louis, contains descriptions of all the colleges, seminaries, academies; normal, commercial, law, theological and other schools in the United States, with lists of superintendents, educational periodicals, and a great variety of other information indispensable to every one who wishes to be well acquainted with the schools and school systems of our neighbours across the lines.

The latest issue of *The Humboldt Library* [J. Fitzgerald, 20 Lafayette Place, New York: 10 teachers \$1.00 a year] is No. 51. "Money and the Mechanism of Exchange," by the late W. S. Jevons, M.A., F.R.S. We hope many teachers will find time to read this treatise. Mathematical masters will find it very helpful in dealing with certain parts of commercial arithmetic. It would not be amiss if every bank director, new and old, were compelled to pass a satisfactory examination upon this book before he was entrusted with the handling of another's money.

Vick's Floral Guide for 1884, [James Vick, Rochester, N.Y.], itself a beautiful annual, is a welcome guest to the man who cares for cultivating flowers, content to breath his native air in his own ground. Although the botanist calls most "flowers" monstrosities, the young student will find in this elegant and beautifully illustrated catalogue some help in distinguishing plants. He may also learn the appearance of the delectable marjoram and lavender, and may render himself able to pluck the never-to-be-forgotten caraway, hoarhound and savo'y without risk of blundering into catnip, hyssop and wormwood.

In our October number, we mentioned a number of our educational exchanges in which we thought our readers might become interested. We propose from time to time to give such further information respecting them as may enable those in quest of school journal literature to make a satisfactory selection. We begin with *The Journal of Education*, Boston, a weekly publication, \$3.00 a year; in advance \$2.50. It has now reached its nineteenth volume. It is a very able school journal and always contains the pith of American thought upon educational topics. *The School Bulletin of Syracuse N. Y.*, monthly, \$1.00 a year, aims at giving the school thought, opinion and news of New York State. It takes note of current events. Its selections are numerous and generally very good. *The Teacher* (Philadelphia, monthly, 50 cents a year) is more or less of a trade organ, for Messrs. Eldridge & Brother. It is beautifully printed and altogether inviting. It is also largely made up of cuttings, but the original articles are often quite valuable. Its recent platform was truly admirable. *The American Journal of Education*, St. Louis, monthly, \$1.00 a year, is always full of news about schools in Arkansas, Alabama, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana and neighbouring states. Its special boast is that it "has secured an increase of wages to teachers in Missouri, of nearly \$20 a year." It thinks this is better than "wasting its time and space in parsing intricate sentences or solving difficult problems in mathematics or puffing individual teachers." *The Central School Journal*, Keokuk, Iowa, monthly 75 cents a year, has a very large circulation in the west. It is now in its seventh year, and has recently been enlarged and improved. It advocates the introduction of manual labour into the Public Schools as an essential means to child-training. All these journals are devoted to the theory and practice of teaching. They are eminently practical and confine themselves chiefly to Public School work. They are all in the small newspaper form.