

from its congener, the primrose, only in the length of its scape and in the size and in the slightly altered proportions of its petals. The latter plant grows for the most part in level, moist pasture lands, with its beautiful yellow, exquisitely scented petals close down among the thick crinkled leaves of the plant.

The cowslip, formerly a primrose growing on the bank, was in danger of being hidden by the surrounding and overtopping foliage, so its blossoms were pushed out on umbels at the ends of tall slender scapes to attract the attention of bees and wasps, upon which insects it has to depend for the fertilization of its ovules. When the variations have been produced by the agency of man, as in the case of our field and garden plants, such as the turnip or the parsnip, they are not of a permanent character. If left to themselves, these plants would, in the course of a few generations, revert to a condition similar to that from which they originally sprang.

The primrose is, as its name denotes, one of the earliest flowers of spring; and in some places grows so abundantly as almost to cover the meadows with its bright yellow flowers, and a beautiful sight it then presents. But I am not so sure that the farmer regards them with very favorable eyes.

The cowslip was formerly thought to possess wonderful medicinal powers, but its use now is limited to the making of "cowslip wine," a beverage still prized by a few old country people.

H. Town.

*Principal Centennial School,
St. John, N. B.*

The following letter needs no explanation. It is from a valued subscriber who on changing her condition in life, does not forget to advise us delicately of the fact, and request a discontinuance of the REVIEW. Some subscribers, in similar circumstances, have forgotten in their moments of bliss to apprise us of their altered conditions, thus leading to mutual embarrassment.

DEAR SIR, I shall have to ask you to stop your paper, which is now being sent to the following address: Miss My subscription expired with last number of the REVIEW, I think. I would not think of giving it up only that I have changed my occupation. During the time I was teaching I got many useful hints from it which aided me in my work; but now that I am no longer teaching I feel that I must give it up. Regretting that it must be so,

I remain, yours respectfully,

October 26th, 1896.

Mrs.

Some one has suggested that the centenary of the birth of Thomas Chandler Haliburton, the famous author of "Sam Slick, the Clockmaker," should be celebrated on 17th December next, by the setting up of a suitable memorial. Haliburton was a humorist, but a man of good common sense at the same time. Later generations know very little about him. How would it do to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the birth of this noted Canadian by issuing a popular edition of his masterpiece!—*London Ont., Advertiser.*

A Distinguished Lady Principal.



For nearly ten years, from November 1878 to September 1888, the principalship of the Victoria and Girls' High School, St. John, was occupied by Mrs. M. Carr, now Mrs. deSoytes. Her strong personality, ripeness of scholarship and devotion to her work, soon made the school one of the first in Canada. Indeed so great was its reputation and so excellent its management, that Lord Lorne on his visit to it in 1881 pronounced it "the finest school of its kind he had seen anywhere."

That this was not a kind compliment to St. John was shown in the fact that some years afterwards a gentleman in this province happened to be in the audience at the opening of the Imperial Institute, in London, where Lord Lorne spoke of Canada and made a special reference to the Victoria High School, of St. John, N. B., using almost the very words he had used in the presence of the St. John people.

So deeply attached did Mrs. Carr become to her school, and so strongly entrenched in the affections of the people of St. John, that a tempting offer to assume the principalship of Trafalgar Institute, Montreal, in 1887 was declined.

Mrs. Carr's career as a student and teacher was brilliant, and impressive in the highest sense. Previous to entering on her career as teacher she had such unusual bereavements, in losing five members of her once