

The "Description of Nova Scotia" gives us some interesting information also. In giving its situation and extent it is said to be "about 212 miles east north-east from Boston." Even at that early day Americans sometimes located the remainder of the earth with reference to Boston.

We are told that "the hill on the side of which Halifax is built is the highest in the country, being 330 feet above the level of the sea." Haligonians need not be too elevated by this, however, for we are soon informed that Nova Scotia is "considerably overspread with fogs for several months in the year." The rivers of the province are said to be the "St. John's, the Pictou, the Miramichi, and the Chignecto, in the County of Halifax." We would expect from this writer some startling height for the famous Fundy tides, but while stating that they rise higher here than perhaps elsewhere in America, he mildly places their height at about fifty feet. Annapolis, he tells us, "is situated on the west side of the harbor of Lunenburg," though he locates it correctly in another passage. As to the people,—“notwithstanding the deplorable state of morals among the generality of the inhabitants of Nova Scotia, there are a considerable number of people whose conduct and conversation are very decent and orderly.” Again, “the people of Nova Scotia are not generally religious.” He had spoken more favorably of the people of New Brunswick.

The book gives us the impression of having been written from memory, and a very bad memory, after some reading of different works.

W. F. G.

For the REVIEW.

Proposed Changes in the N. S. School System.

Under the sanction of the Provincial Teachers' Association of Nova Scotia a committee of ladies and gentlemen whose names are given below met in Halifax during the Christmas vacation to consider certain changes in the school system, which were under discussion during the sessions of the last meeting of the Association.

This committee, after prolonged deliberation, adopted by a unanimous vote in each case, resolutions to be reported up to the Association, affirming that in their opinion the following changes should be made:

FIRST. That the Course of Study prescribed for High Schools, and the syllabus of examination for licenses of various grades should be so assimilated as to constitute in effect but one course.

SECOND. That on completion of the High School Course students should be awarded graduation diplomas by the Education Department.

THIRD. That the non-professional requirements for Licenses of Grades D, C and B, should conform as nearly as possible in character and extent to the work of the first, second and third year, respectively, of the High School Course.

FOURTH. That an adequate guarantee of professional knowledge and skill should be required of every candidate for license to teach in the schools of Nova Scotia.

After a good deal of discussion upon various features of the courses of study for common and high schools, it was decided to assign the work of revision, with which also this committee was charged, by departments to various sub-committees constituted as follows:

English.—Rev. Dr. McNeill, St. Francis Xavier, Antigonish; J. B. Calkin, A. M., Normal School, Truro; Robt. McLellan, A. B., Pictou Academy, Pictou.

Science.—Alexander McKay, Supervisor of Schools, Halifax; A. H. McKay, B. A., B. Sc., Halifax Academy, Halifax; E. J. Lee, Inspector, Amherst; H. S. Freeman, A. B., Amherst Academy, Amherst; Miss I. M. Creighton, Halifax.

Mathematics.—F. H. Eaton, Normal School, Truro; A. H. McKay, Halifax; Robt. McLellan, Pictou; Dr. McNeill, Antigonish; Miss N. A. Burgoyne, Windsor.

English Language.—I. B. Oakes, A. M., Horton Academy, Wolfville; M. J. T. McNeill, Inspector, River Bourgeois; C. B. A. D. Brown, Bridgetown; Miss N. A. Burgoyne, Windsor; Jas. H. Munro, Inspector, Yarmouth.

History and Geography.—J. B. Calkin, Truro; E. T. McKen, Sydney Academy, Sydney; H. Condon, Inspector, Halifax; H. S. Freeman, Amherst; Miss I. M. Creighton, Halifax.

In consideration of the fact that the subjects of Music and Drawing are already under consideration by the Superintendent of Education, who can command the services of experts in these subjects, no sub-committee was formed to consider this part of the course especially.

During the summer vacation the chairmen of these several committees—in every case the first mentioned in the above lists—will meet to co-ordinate and harmonize the departmental revisions and to prepare a final report, to be submitted to the Association at its next meeting, which the Executive committee have decided shall take place in Halifax during the Christmas vacation instead of July.

It is very desirable that every teacher who feels an interest in the modification of any particular feature of the Course of Study should communicate with some member of the appropriate committee, while communications of a general character bearing the work of revision may be addressed to the Secretary of the general committee.

FRANK H. EATON,

Secretary of General Committee.

TRANS. N. S.