

Mr. A. E. G. McKenzie, A. B., principal of the Harkins Academy, Newcastle, has been appointed principal of the Albert school, St. John West, in place of Mr. John Montgomery, resigned. The REVIEW extends its hearty congratulations to Mr. McKenzie on his appointment and on his recent marriage to Miss Lottie Troy, an estimable teacher of Newcastle.

A conference was held at Moncton on the 28th December, at which representatives of the boards of education of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick attended, including Premier Murray, Hon. A. H. Comeau, Dr. A. H. MacKay, C. H. LaBilloy, C. M. Leger, M. P. P., and Dr. J. R. Inch. The object was to consider the preparation of a series of text-books for the Acadian-French schools of the Maritime Provinces. It was decided to recommend to the government of each province the appointment of a committee, to whom should be entrusted the work of preparing the manuscript of four readers, under the direction of the superintendent of education for the three provinces. These readers, it is expected, will be ready for introduction in the schools in August, 1906.

BOOK REVIEWS.

JESS & Co. By J. J. B., author of "Wee Macgregor." Cloth. Pages 285. Illustrated. Price \$1.25. The Copp Clark Co., Limited, Toronto.

One rises with satisfaction after the perusal of a book like this. It is healthy and entertaining. There are touches of genuine Scottish humour on almost every page, and the characters are all wholesome, "neebourly" bodies with whom it does one good to become acquainted. For genuine fun and refreshment commend us to a book like this.

A LADDER OF SWORDS: A tale of love, laughter and tears. By Gilbert Parker. Cloth. Pages 291. Illustrated. Price \$1.60. The Copp Clark Co., Limited, Toronto.

The scene of this story is laid partly on the Island of Jersey and partly at the court of Queen Elizabeth. The latter is by far the more interesting portion of the book. There is not one incident that is commonplace. The characters are, most of them, well drawn, especially that of the Seigneur of Rozel, which is the most original, if not the best, in the book. Queen Elizabeth is well portrayed—her strength and weakness, her vanity and caprice, her wilfulness and obstinacy make up a character that if it is not true to the life, is certainly absorbing and full of interest. The author has not succeeded quite so well in depicting the Earl of Leicester—at least the character falls short of the masterly portrait in Scott's "Kenilworth," and so does the picture of court life in the time of Elizabeth. But the book throughout is one that absorbs the reader's attention from the beginning to the end.

THE PRISONER OF MADEMOISELLE: A Love Story of Acadia. By Charles G. D. Roberts. Cloth. Illustrated. Pages 265. Price \$1.50. The Copp Clark Co., Ltd., Toronto.

The plot of this story is original and well woven throughout. The characters are sprightly and entertaining. The hero is a young Boston lieutenant who is lost in the Bay of Fundy while on a semi-trading, semi-buccaneering voyage in the early days of Port Royal. Driven on shore

near Cheticamp he becomes the prisoner of Mademoiselle de Biencourt, a dark-eyed Acadian damsel of noble birth. Love, adventure and hairbreath escapes finally lead to a happy denouement. The descriptions throughout of woodland scenery and denizens of the forest are not in Roberts' best style.

Sir Walter Scott's TALISMAN, with introduction and notes. Cloth. Pages 210. Price 2s. 6d. Macmillan & Company, London.

A beautifully bound volume, convenient, and in good large type.

Sir Walter Scott's WOODSTOCK. With introduction and notes. Cloth. Pages 747. Price 2s. 6d. Macmillan & Co., London.

This is a fine edition for the student and general reader of one of the best of Scott's novels. The notes and biographical sketch of the author will be found very useful.

EDUCATIONAL BROTH. By Frederic Allison Tupper, head master of the Brighton high school, Boston. Cloth. Pages 211. Price \$1.50. C. W. Bardeen, Syracuse, N. Y.

A series of cleverly written sketches on current educational topics.

LITTLE FOLKS OF MANY LANDS. By Lulu Maude Chance, teacher in the first grade, public school, Riverside, Cal. Cloth. 112 pages. Illustrated. Price 45 cents. Ginn & Co., Boston.

It was a happy thought to provide such a book for young children's supplementary reading, and the thought has been happily carried out in the attractive little volume before us.

ELEMENTS OF BOTANY. By Joseph Y. Bergen. Cloth. 283+237 pages. Illustrated. Mailing price, \$1.45. Ginn & Co., Boston.

This is a revision of Bergen's Elements of Botany which has been so widely used in American schools for several years past. The new edition is more compact, and contains the latest results of modern research, making it much more adapted to the wants of students, especially in cryptogamic botany.

OUR SCHOOLS: THEIR ADMINISTRATION AND THEIR SUPERVISION. By W. E. Chancellor, superintendent of schools, Bloomfield, N. J. Cloth. Pages 434. Price \$1.50. D. C. Heath & Co., Boston.

The book is devoted to setting forth the status of school systems in villages and the smaller cities, and to the duties of the board of education, the superintendent, the principal, the supervisor, and the class teacher. The book is an intelligent guide for more effective work in schools.

Goethe's HERMANN AND DOROTHEA. Edited with introduction, notes, exercises and vocabulary by Philip Schuyler Allen, Assistant Professor of German Literature in the University of Chicago. Semi-flexible cloth. xlvii+257 pages. Illustrated. Mailing price, 65 cents. Ginn & Co., Boston.

Goethe wrote Hermann and Dorothea in the full maturity of his creative and artistic power. It is that one of all his works which in later years he could read with unalloyed satisfaction, and of which he never tired. This new edition of the famous masterpiece has been prepared with a view to its use in advanced high school work as well as by college classes.