

WE notice in the provincial press indications of a general movement in our academies and advanced schools for the formation of local museums in connection with these institutions. This is a promising feature. The guiding principle in the formation of these should be collection and representation of the complete natural history of the particular locality. Foreign articles of scientific, historic or curious interest should, of course, always be thankfully received. But *the* effort should be made in the direction of the study and systematic illustration of the world of nature in our neighborhood first and foremost. We should like to have reports from academies, high schools and other schools which have already made attempts in this direction, and from those who propose to make attempts. We shall be glad to note the progress made in this department by December of the next year.

THE third session of the Nova Scotia Summer Science School will be held in one of the most interesting portions of the province—Parrsboro. Now is the time to commence preparing to utilize the advantages offered by such an institution.

OVER 150 students are attending the Provincial Normal School at Truro. Each year the general scholarship of the students attending is of a higher order. Principal Calkins' lately published text-book on education is found to be an invaluable aid to the student-teacher as to the teaching teacher.

MR. GEO. R. PARKIN, of Fredericton, has contributed an able and scholarly article in the December *Century* on the "Reorganization of the British Empire." This, with a series of letters to the *New York Nation*, in which Mr. Parkin traces the growth of the federation scheme, shows an intelligent view of the question from a British as well as a Canadian standpoint.

WE have much pleasure in directing the attention of teachers throughout New Brunswick to the announcement made in another column by the Ladies' Auxiliary Committee of the S. P. C. A. This committee has for years been doing a very useful work in disseminating literature, and by other means to secure a greater interest among children in regard to the lower animals. They realize that to make these efforts successful and lead children to be kind to the lower animals, the teachers' co-operation should be secured. We hope that the efforts of these energetic and humane ladies will be appreciated by a general response to the call for essays.

PROFESSOR LAWSON, Ph. D., LL. D., ex-President of the Royal Society of Canada, has, as Secretary for Agriculture for Nova Scotia, reduced the reporting of crops to an exact science. From his exhaustive report published last month, in which he sums up crop statistics from every county of the province, we cull the following notes: Hay, 97 per cent. of the average, but, owing to superior pasturage, will be equivalent to something above the average; oats, 104 per cent.; wheat, *below* the average; buckwheat, *above*; peas and beans, *below*; Indian corn, 60; turnips, *above*; potato, slightly *below*. Apple culture is extending in the province. The crop, on the whole, is above the average, the best varieties being the most successful.

THE *Maritime Medical News*, a bi-monthly journal of medicine, surgery and obstetrics. We have just received the first number of this promising journal. While published in Halifax, it has a staff of editors representing the three Atlantic provinces of Canada, in this respect following the example of the *REVIEW*. Professor D. A. Campbell, M. D., of the Medical Faculty Dalhousie College, and Dr. Morrow, Pleasant street, Halifax, represent Nova Scotia; J. W. Daniel, M. D., M. R. C. S., and L. C. Allison, M. B., of St. John, represent New Brunswick; and James McLeod, M. D., Charlottetown, represents Prince Edward Island. The present number contains the annual address of Dr. P. R. Inches, President of the New Brunswick Medical Society; of William McKay, M. D., M. P. P., President of the Nova Scotia Medical Society, and papers by other eminent medical men, in addition to editorial articles and notes. The diffusion of native medical literature by this journal must do much to advance the science of healing and general sanitation in our provinces.

WE have received a copy of the annual University lecture of McGill University, for 1888-89, by Principal Sir J. W. Dawson; also from Ray Greene Huling, of New Bedford, Mass., reports of High, Grammar and Primary School Education in Massachusetts, with the Proceedings of the N. E. Teachers' Association; and from Prof. Macoun, Dominion botanist, a Catalogue of Canadian Plants, Part IV.—Endogens.

THE *Montreal Witness* offers a number of valuable prizes for competition in the schools of Canada. First, there is a Dominion prize, worth \$125; secondly, a prize for each province, and thirdly, a prize for each county and to each of twenty-three cities. The subject given is the best true story of adventure, the scene of which is laid in the county or city in which each competitor resides. The stories must be sent to the *Witness* office before the 28th of February next.