

# The Educational Review.

Devoted to Advanced Methods of Education and General Culture.

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## THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.

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The retirement of Mr. John March from the position of superintendent of schools of the City of St. John took place at the close of the year. For twenty-five years no one has been so closely identified with the common schools of St. John as Mr. March, in his position both of secretary and superintendent. Of a genial disposition, ready sympathies, and possessed of rare tact and a skill for organization, he exercised an influence with teachers, parents and children that tended in a great degree to secure that harmony which is so essential in carrying out a system of free school education. He was always ready to devote himself without stint in the service in which he was engaged. It is a matter of regret that a man in the full possession of his powers, and at an age when he cannot readily turn to any other employment, should not be retained in a position in which, it has been shown, he has done so much excellent work.

THE cordial letters that the REVIEW is constantly receiving and the promptness with which our subscribers are responding to the call made upon them in our December number, is a matter of great encouragement to us. It is pleasing to know that in spite of the many obstacles that the editors meet with, chiefly the lack of

time, in providing a first-class educational journal, the attempt to meet their wants, if only partially successful, is appreciated by our subscribers.

UNDOUBTEDLY one obstacle to the progress of secondary education in these provinces is the want of uniformity in requirements for matriculation into the different colleges. We gladly give space in another column to a correspondent who clearly sets forth these differences and shows how they may be swept away. We shall return to this subject in a future issue.

THE decision of the executive of the N. B. Educational Institute, not to convene it next year, will meet with the approval of the teachers. It is not the first time by any means that this conclusion has been arrived at, and there is a very general feeling that once in two years is often enough to hold the provincial institute. It seems especially fitting this year to dispense with the meeting, as there are to be two or three double county institutes—that is institutes embracing two or more counties. The Chief Superintendent and those taking the most active interest in the provincial meeting will no doubt be present at those joint meetings, and probably reach a much larger number of teachers. All those things were considered by the executive, and the decision to have no session next year was reached with but one dissenting voice.

It might be a good plan to hold sessions of county and provincial institutes on alternate years. Both of these parliaments of teachers are most useful and instructive, and it would be wise to so order them that one would not interfere with the other, either in attendance or in the benefit conferred. Institutes should not come so closely together as to cause any liability of the instruction given by them not being thoroughly digested.

THE *Messenger and Visitor*, St. John, comes to us in an entirely new dress and greatly improved in make up. In size of page it is somewhat larger than the REVIEW, and its patrons, who are numerous, and, we are glad to hear, constantly increasing, will appreciate the more convenient form and improved appearance.