

6. When was the sketch-book published?

V.

1. What is meant by the sub title of the story—"A Posthumous writing of Diedrich Knickerbocker"?
2. What is the origin of the story of "Rip Van Winkle"?
3. Give a *resume* of the narrative.
4. What is the general character of the story?
5. Where is the scene laid?
6. Name the principal persons of the story and their most striking characteristics.

VI.

1. What traits of Irving's character are revealed in "Rip Van Winkle."
2. Point out very *humorous* passages in the story.
3. Are there any *fine descriptive* passages?
4. What historical references in the story?
5. Are the manners and customs of the characters peculiar to the age and the place?
6. Examine the language of the story as to *purity of style*.
7. Illustrate from "Rip" the author's "photographic minuteness of detail."
8. "Along with his object-painting goes the quaintest choice of adjectives and substantives." Illustrate from "Rip."
9. "It is not the legend proper that constitutes the charm of Rip Van Winkle." What is it then?

Educational Notes and News.

Tara possesses a new brick school house with four rooms.

The Prince Edward Teachers' Convention meets at Picton on the 18th and 19th inst., those of Kent, Frontenac and North Grey, at Chatham, Kingston and ——— respectively, on the 21st and 22nd inst., and that of Elgin at St. Thomas on the 22nd and 23rd inst.

Mr. T. H. McGuirl was appointed last February, teacher of writing, book-keeping, botany and junior mathematics in Sarnia High School. He is using Gege's No. 3 Copy Book, as a foundation in the principles of penmanship, with much success, and exemplifies these principles on a blackboard having six lines with curves and angles painted on it in imitation of the copy book.

The children attending Ayr Public School are learning vocal music under the instruction of Rev. J. Thomson, Presbyterian minister of that village. They have attained considerable proficiency, and their singing at a school concert recently given, was highly satisfactory. The system used is the tonic sol-fa, and one feature that elicited the greatest commendation at the concert was the accuracy and readiness with which the pupils sang some exercises, the notes of which were indicated by manual signs. A visitor, who lately was present at one of Mr. Thomson's lessons, wrote on the blackboard the notes of a melody in soprano and alto, and the children sang it at sight accurately. Such results are rarely attained in our public schools with the five-line system.

NOVA SCOTIA.

From our own Correspondent.

The annual Convocation of Dalhousie College for the purpose of conferring degrees, bestowing prizes, etc., was held in the Academy of Music, Halifax, on the 29th ult. The attendance was very large, crowding the spacious auditorium, though a fierce south-east gale was raging pitilessly without. The following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelors of Arts.—Wm. Aiton, Sussex, N. B.; F. Stewart Coffin, Mt. Stewart, P.E.I.; Hiram Fitzpatrick, Scotsburn, Pictou County; Isaac Gammell, Upper Stewiacke; Robert McD. Langille, River John, Pictou; Robert T. Locke, Lockeport; Arthur McKenzie, Dartmouth, John M. McLeod, Valleyfield, P.E.I.; Kenneth Martin, Belfast, P.E.I.; Margaret Newcombe, West Cornwallis; George Robinson, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; Alfred W. Thompson, Durham, Pictou County; Wm. M. Tufts, Halifax.

Bachelors of Science.—George G. Campbell, Truro; John J. Miller, Halifax.

Bachelors of Law. Albert W. Bennett, Hopewell, N.B., H.

W. Conroy Bank, Halifax; Walter S. Doull, B.A., Halifax; Malcolm U. LeNoir, Halifax; Waltersford Ives, Pictou; Patrick J. J. Mooney, Halifax; Charles Morse, —, J. A. Sedgewick, B.A., Halifax; Wm. Wallace, Halifax; *Alfred Whitman, B.A., Annapolis.

Honors and medals were awarded as follows:—Classics—First Rank—Aiton, W. Mathematics and Physics—Second Rank—Mackenzie, A. S.; Robinson, G. E.; Martin, K. J. Mental and Moral Philosophy—Second Rank—Langille, R. M.; Fitzpatrick, H. H. K. English Literature and History—First Rank—Gammell, I. Second Rank—Newcombe, Margaret F.; Thompson, A. W. The Governor-General's Gold Medal—Aiton, W. The Young Gold Medal—Mackenzie, A. S. The Governor-General's Silver Medal—Langille, R. M. The DeMill Gold Medal—Gammell, I.

The ceremonies accompanying the conferring of degrees were as usual, brilliant and imposing. The customary University prizes were announced, and presented by the various Professors in the two Faculties of Arts and Law. Much *edat* was given to the occasion by the presence of the graduating class in law. Mr. I. Gammell, who graduated with First Class Honor in History and English Literature, delivered the valedictory oration in behalf of the students. This was generally regarded as an exceedingly meritorious production.

After the conclusion of the regular exercises, an address specially designed for the students in law, was delivered by that eminent lawyer and juriconsult, David Dudley Field, of New York. The subject of Mr. Field's masterly paper was "The Comparative Jurisprudence of the English-Speaking People." An interesting historical review of the development of our great legal system was followed by an earnest plea for simplification, condensation and codification, objects to which Mr. Field has devoted the labors of a life time.

The Supreme Court with one judge dissenting, has decided to issue a *mandamus*, ordering the Governor of King's College to reinstate Professor Wilson in the Chair of Classics and Classical Literature, on the ground of illegal procedure in the matter of his dismissal. The Court pronounced no opinion on the main questions at issue between the Professor and the Governors. Further agreement will probably ensue on the return of the writ.

Two measures passed by the Legislature at its late session are deserving of notice. One of them entitled "An Act to Encourage Academic Education" importantly modifies existing Legislation regarding county academies, though institutions under that name are to be continued under new conditions. The Act provides for a High School in each county town, to be conducted under Provincial regulations, with a grant from the public treasury, conditioned on the number of qualified masters and duly certified pupils. The *maximum* grant obtainable by any academy is \$1,720. All the academies in the Province, other than those of a denominational character, are brought under the operation of the Act. The other measure referred to, entitled "An Act to Encourage Agricultural Education," provides for the appointment of a lecturer on agriculture in connection with the Provincial Normal School. The design of this newly created chair is not simply to instruct the pupil-teachers in Agricultural Chemistry and the sciences bearing on agriculture, but particularly to train a limited number of teachers for service in special schools, for the establishment of which in agricultural districts the Act makes provision.

*Allowed to graduate without passing their final examinations on account of their being engaged as volunteers in active service in the North-West at the date of the examinations.

Literary Chat-Chat.

Professor Huxley, the English scientist, has just celebrated his sixtieth birthday.

Mr. Matthew Arnold is preparing for his approaching visit to America.

Mr. Ruskin has resigned the State Professorship of Fine Arts at the Oxford University.

Jean Ingelow has just published in London a new volume of "L. r. e. s." This charming verse-maker is now fifty-five years old.

Harper Bros. will issue an edition of the Revised Old Testament in four octavo volumes, uniform with their edition of the Revised New Testament.