

In these Special Reports on Educational subjects, by the Education Board, we have the latest information about the educational system, etc., etc., of the "Sister Nations" throughout the whole British Empire. We take this to be another evidence of the vital unity of the British people in all the world. Can Canada do for its provinces what the Imperial Government is doing for its nations? The want is felt, which is a beginning of its attainment.

We are glad to notice that Hon. Richard Harcourt, the Minister of Education for Ontario, is addressing Teachers' Institutes in various parts of the province. He seems to be able to see "bright and prosperous times" for teachers in the near future. We

hope to be present when these times come. At present the salaries of teachers are small, and slowly, but surely, becoming smaller. In this connection we commend to our readers the comparison made by Mr. C. P. Muckle, and he speaks from personal experience. According to the minister, some children in Ontario receive only $4\frac{1}{2}$ years schooling. We think there is quite a number who do not attend school much less than four and one-half years. Mr. Harcourt refers with approval to the position of teachers on the Continent of Europe. Why not restore the pension system to the teachers of Ontario? We feel certain it would have a good effect on the teaching-staff of Ontario, especially. It would supply them with some reason to devote themselves to teaching.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The eighth English University is on the stocks. The Council of University College, Liverpool, have declared that Liverpool ought to be the seat of an "alma mater;" and the subscriptions of the enthusiasts are beginning to flow in. Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, London, Victoria, Wales, Birmingham—that is the order of seniority, and how is it to be continued? Liverpool, Bristol,?

A cable will be laid from Vancouver, B.C., to Australia and New Zealand. When completed it will cost \$6,000,000. The expense will be divided between Great Britain, Canada, and Australia. The line is to be ready for business by August 2, 1902. It will touch only British territory—the mid-ocean stations being Fanning island (south of Hawaii), Fiji, and Norfolk island.

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE.

Date: 1901.

Place: A Canadian University.

Examination: 'Merchant of Venice.'

Examiners: A Freshman Class of

various Protestant Denominations.

Question: "Who was Jacob's mother?"

About half of the 30 young men and women examined did not attempt to answer.

Three said: Rebecca.

Others gave: Rachel, Leah, Sarah, Labaan (sic).

One gave a combination: "Leah Sarai (sic).

And one triumphed warily with: The wife of Jacob's father.

Two good appointments to Research Fellowships are recorded at Oxford. The new fellows are Mr. C. H. Firth, the late Ford Lecturer (whose lectures on the Cromwellian army are about to be published), and Mr. Hunt, who was associated with Mr. Grenfell in the finding and deciphering of a number of interesting papyri.

There is probably no paper in the universe that would be editorially responsible for the following, except the paper that gave it birth—"The