

Notes and Comments.

PROFESSOR J. E. WETHERELL, Strathroy Collegiate Institute, has had his salary increased to \$1,500 per annum in consideration of his new duties in connexion with the Training Institute.

READERS of Mr. van der Smissem's edition of Grimm's *Marchen* will be glad to see that Messrs. D. C. Heath & Co. have in preparation another work edited by the same writer—Hauff's *Marchen: Das Kulte Herz*.

WE are requested to say that it is the intention of the Education Department not to submit a formal paper in Orthoepy at the next entrance examination to the high schools and collegiate institutes. The examiner in Oral reading, however, will be asked to consider carefully the pronunciation of the candidates.

THERE are many signs that the profession of the Teacher is gradually shaping itself so as to rank in importance with the Medical and Legal professions, and the latest of these signs is, that it has been considered worthy of a special mark of Royal favour. —*Educational Times (London, Eng.)*

THE ignoring of the importance, grandeur, and beauty of the human body is common to both educated and uncultured. Dr. G. Ven well says that the latter does not know, the former does not reflect, that the conscious ego has no demonstrable existence independent of the aggregation of organs and apparatus which constitutes the body. The spirit tenant might chafe unheard, unfelt, unknown, if the avenues of the senses were also closed, and consciousness, emotion, be never manifested were the brain, out of which they were evolved, not rightly formed.

THE appointment of the Rev. John Potts, D.D., as General Secretary of Education for the Methodist Church, says the *Evangelical Churchman*, seems to point to the fact that, now that university federation has been endorsed by the Conference, the policy is to be steadily pursued. If this is true, such a course is worthy of all praise and speaks highly for the loyalty and forbearance of the members of the Methodist Church towards one another. It is to be hoped that Dr. Potts will have the confederation scheme under his personal direction. If his energy is applied to it, the consummation cannot be far off.

“THE remarkable educational exhibit which has been sent to South Kensington under the auspices of the Ontario Government continues to attract the attention it merits from all classes of visitors. Already it has been examined in detail by many educationists, a large number of whom will, however, be freer to spend time in the Court when the Summer Vacation begins. To bring the exhibit before the notice of these gentlemen,

Dr. May has taken a wise step. To official school inspectors, to the principals of the leading schools and colleges, and to clerks of School Boards and other similar authorities—numbering in all several hundreds—he has sent a neatly bound volume containing a description of Ontario's Educational system, and a catalogue of the exhibit. With this volume, which is presented on behalf of the Educational Department of Ontario, by the Hon. G. W. Ross and Dr. S. Passmore May, a special invitation to visit the Court is also forwarded, and an intimation is given that Dr. May will be most happy to furnish personally to such visitors all the information in his power. The invitation will doubtless be gladly accepted by many of the best-known members of the scholastic profession, and by this means much useful information will be disseminated respecting Ontario's enterprise in a matter which is so closely related to the real welfare of the province.”—*Globe Colonial Exhibition Supplement*.

WE have received the following:—

COLONIAL AND INDIAN EXHIBITION,
CANADIAN COURT,
SOUTH KENSINGTON, S. W.,
17th Sept., 1886.

MY DEAR SIR,—THE EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY has been received regularly, and distributed to those interested in education, and I am pleased to say that many persons have spoken very highly of your Journal as to its value to educationists and the excellence of typography and paper.

As I have not seen any notice in your paper of this Department, I send a Catalogue of Exhibits and a few newspapers herewith, extracts from which might be of interest to your readers.

Yours truly,
S. P. MAY.

T. ARNOLD HAULTAIN, ESQ., M.A.

THE editor of the *Central School Journal*, Keokuk, Iowa, recently well said: “How many headaches and backaches and general illness that have been ascribed by fond parents to overstudy, were really due to the miserable condition of school buildings, we may not say. We have seen children climb long flights of stairs when such effort was a direct violation of the simplest laws of health. We have entered school-rooms where the air was dense and foul with noxious effluvia. We have seen the children seated so that the glaring light shone directly in their eyes. We have seen them pale and languid. We have noted the listless air, and sympathized with the headaches. We knew the cause, and we have time and again uttered our feeble protest. If our desire is to ruin children physically, the present arrangement of buildings is well suited to the purpose.

Let two stories be the extreme height of our buildings. Let us insist upon scientific modes of ventilation and give the teacher to understand that this matter must not be neglected, and we shall have less trouble with our pupils' health.

WE publish the following portion of a circular which has been sent by the Education Department to head masters of high schools and collegiate institutes:—

DEAR SIR,—

As my answers to a number of enquiries made since the re-opening of the High Schools are of general interest, I have deemed it advisable to embody them in a circular, as follows:

1. The Senate of Toronto University having changed the selection from Shakespeare, previously announced for Matriculation, the Literature for First Class Teachers for 1886-7, in addition to Thomson's *Seasons* and Southey's *Life of Nelson* as prescribed, will be “The Merchant of Venice.”

2. Hereafter, as for 1886—1887, the Literature Texts for Third Class Certificates will be taken from the authorized High School Reader; and, as in the case of those for the Entrance Examination, about half for one examination will be repeated for that next ensuing. Head-Masters are required to use these selections in their forms (see Reg. 98. Form I, 5): and, to enable them to do so with the utmost advantage, some of the selections are, and will be, especially adapted for pupils just promoted from the Fourth Class of the Public Schools.

3. A candidate may write for a Second Class Non-professional Certificate without previously taking a Third Class Non-professional Certificate.

4. While there is nothing in the Regulations to prevent a candidate from writing for a Second and a Third Class Non-professional Certificate in the same year, it is, in most cases, undesirable that he should do so, and Head-Masters may (see Reg. 96) refuse to prepare the same candidate for both examinations in the same year, should the circumstances of his school or the capacity of the candidate render this course advisable.

5. Two examiners will hereafter be required to set each paper, both for the Entrance Examination to High Schools and for Teachers' Certificates.

6. Candidates for Teachers' Certificates will be allowed a choice of questions within certain limitations, that is to say, while an examination paper may consist of 12 questions, the maximum marks may be obtained by answering eight or nine. This will give greater freedom to the examiner and the teacher, and reduce the risk of failure on the part of the candidate who understands the subject.