

We have received a copy of a very interesting paper on School Libraries, read before the Provincial Teachers' Institute at Revelstoke, B. C., by Inspector David Wilson, whom many old friends will remember as a teacher near St. John years ago.

The trustees of Albert, Riverside, Midway, Beaver Brook and Chester school districts have decided to open a consolidated school. A temporary board of trustees for the consolidated district was appointed. The new building will be located between the districts of Albert and Riverside, and will cost in the vicinity of \$15,000.

Some time ago Mr. C. G. Lawrence, teacher at Tracey, N. B., wrote to the masters of schools in several British colonies, asking that scholars in these should correspond with his pupils. The request was willingly complied with. Such an interchange of letters will be of benefit to the pupils in the schools, and be another means of drawing the colonies closer together.

Nineteen lives lost, one lad made insane from injuries, thirty players severely hurt, and hundreds the victims of minor accidents, is the record of school and college foot-ball games during the season of 1903. It is noteworthy that none of the teams of the first class college elevens was killed or disabled, showing the advantage of science and training in this, the roughest game. Does it pay?

Ontario's educational system is seriously threatened. Throughout many of the rural sections of the province there is a scarcity of teachers, and the department has been compelled to admit students to the normal schools who have not previously had one year's teaching experience, as required by the regulations. Low salaries are said to be the primary and almost only reason for the dearth of teachers.—*The Educational Monthly of Canada.*

Only the walls remain standing of the magnificent stone building of the Ottawa-Roman Catholic University. Fire broke out early on the morning of December 2nd, and so rapidly did it spread that two priests of the teaching staff were seriously injured, and several students hurt in leaping from the burning building. The total loss is about \$500,000, covered by \$200,000 insurance. The building accommodated 350 student-boarders, most of whom were from the United States. One of the injured priests has since died.

A correspondent, M. M. K., writing from Vancouver, B. C., under date of November 24th, says: "A right welcome visitor is the REVIEW to the 'sunset doorway of the west,' as it enables me to keep in touch with old friends and educational matters in my home province. I came here in April from New Brunswick. It was a delightful time of the year for travel, and there was fine weather during the trip. The Rockies impressed me with their grandeur. I have not yet got over watching and admiring the mountains,—there is always some new beauty in them. We could see snow on the highest peaks all summer, but there is much more now. The grass is as green as in sum-

mer at home. I am teaching as a substitute teacher for \$50 a month. The schools here are good. In the normal school the students have professional work only, having passed examination in scholarship before entering. They spend the last two months in teaching in the model school, which I think is much better than teaching only twice, as in New Brunswick. The term is six months long."

A novel scheme has been devised in Brussels Street Baptist Sunday-school to overcome tardiness among pupils, both old and young; and though it has been worked but a short time the prospects of a clean punctuality report are brightening each week. Prior to the ringing of the superintendent's bell, which calls the whole school to order, a conspicuous placard is placed on the reading desk, upon which are the words: "I Am Early" in large, black letters. As soon as the bell is rung, the placard is turned around, to read, "I Am Late," so that every person arriving after the tardy sign is hung out is confronted with the gentle accusation, and some are seen to slink up to their places and slip into a chair as if much mortified.—*St. John Globe.*

The Educational Society of Western Kings County, N. S., held an adjourned meeting at Waterville on Monday evening, November 31st, President Osborne in the chair. Mr. F. M. Chute gave a practical lesson on arithmetic; Principal J. Willis Margeson, of Berwick, spoke on the relations between the school and home; Mr. B. H. Lee reviewed the principles of Pestalozzi. Mr. F. Huntington praised the moral work done by the schools, and denied that it was the duty of the school to give religious training. Rev. Mr. Hawley favored having women on school boards, and Mr. F. M. Chute deplored the low rate of pay to teachers, saying that a man with barely intelligence enough to dig was as well paid as a Grade D teacher.—*Condensed from Berwick Register.*

### RECENT BOOKS.

SEA MURMURS AND WOODLAND SONGS. By Mrs. S. E. Sherwood Faulkner, Hammond, N. B. Cloth. Pages 111. Toronto: Wm. Briggs, 1903.

This is a pretty little volume of verse. Many of the poems have real merit, and are written in a simple, natural style which appeals to the reader.

ENGLAND'S STORY: A History for Public Schools. By Eva March Tappan, Ph. D., and John C. Saul, M. A. Cloth. Pages 395. Geo. N. Morang & Company, Toronto.

"England's Story," by Eva March Tappan, was published in 1901, and reviewed in these columns in November of that year. Revision and additions of about twenty-five pages bring the work down to the present year, and most of the later history of the country has been re-written, making it more a history of the British Empire than of England. The book is most interestingly written, and the changes above referred to have added greatly to its value.