

taken to them in boats, and thrown upon the shore as if to dogs. The government built a lazaretto at Tracadie, and their condition was improved. Now there is a handsome building erected and maintained by the Dominion government. Their every want is attended to by the faithful Sisters of Charity, and their condition is made as cheerful and happy as possible. They number now only eighteen. Under the medical supervision of Dr. A. C. Smith, whose reputation as an authority on leprosy is world-wide, there is a prospect that the disease may be stamped out after a generation or two. The sources of fresh contagion from abroad (there are three Icelanders in the Lazaretto now, who came to this country afflicted with the disease some years ago), and the hiding of diseased ones by their friends are the two sources of danger at present; but the latter causes less anxiety owing to the watchfulness of the authorities and the care bestowed upon the unfortunates in the Lazaretto. This has gained the confidence of the people.

A NEW BRUNSWICKER IN GERMANY.

The following extracts are taken from a private letter to the editor, written by Mr. Geo. J. Trueman, well known to New Brunswick teachers. Mr. Trueman and his wife are spending the year at Berlin, and Mr. Trueman is attending the university. His comments on educational matters in Germany will be sure to interest our readers. Under date of September 23rd, he writes:

"I have daily conversations here with three teachers, and as my knowledge of German, especially three months ago, was very insufficient, we have often occasion to use Latin as a common language. It is a source of unending amusement to them that we do not adopt the Roman pronunciation. I have been trying to defend the English pronunciation, but really from my present standpoint, the action of our board, as noted in the REVIEW (of August) seems a step backward.

This country is in many ways conservative; but when the authorities think a change is desired, they do not ask the consent of the teachers before they make it. For instance, a pamphlet has just been issued and distributed among the teachers, laying down several new principles. It states that the compulsory term of years for every student will hereafter be eight instead of seven years, from six years of age to fourteen; that drawing must be taught not from books, as previously, but from nature, the pupil using cardboard and charcoal, or crayon. The amount of work demanded in drawing would be quite appalling to us in Canada. Also the last step has been taken in making the spelling phonetic. While this does not mean so great a

change by any means, as it would mean in English, it nevertheless materially changes the appearance of a large number of words in common use, as 'Thür' and 'thun.' These are to be written 'Tür and tun' after Easter in all schools, and after October in some. These changes mean that the teachers in drawing must in the coming vacation go into art schools and learn to draw from nature, and that teachers of all subjects accustom themselves as quickly as possible to the new spelling, etc. By a recent regulation a teacher is held responsible for any damage a pupil may do while under his care, and for any injury he may do. A teacher of chemistry was recently compelled to pay all doctors' bills and to give a yearly allowance of \$120 to a girl who had had her eye injured in a chemical experiment. The teachers are required by law to make every term a certain number of excursions with their classes, going once each year to the magnificent Zoological Gardens. Not long ago a boy, who got out of the teacher's sight for a moment, threw a stone and killed a bird, whereupon the teacher was forced to pay sixty marks. We would think that rather hard in Canada. I have already visited some schools here, but as I am planning to visit many more, I will not yet say what might seem afterwards as hasty conclusions. The girls are not allowed many privileges here from an educational standpoint. The excellent gymnasium (high schools) of which every one has heard, are, at least in Berlin, open only to boys. Girls can attend the university as hearers, but are not allowed to matriculate. If they wish to prepare for the university, or for teachers, they must attend private schools. During the month of August I attended classes in the university, and was very pleased with that institution. There are some 10,000 students in attendance, and a staff of professors as good as the country can produce. The English Seminar has many students and several professors. The whole university, with its affiliated institutions, libraries, laboratories, etc., offers almost unexcelled opportunities for study, and at moderate cost."

A HISTORIC INCIDENT AND ITS SEQUEL.

Every school boy and girl has read of the escape of King Charles II, after his defeat at Worcester by Oliver Cromwell 250 years ago. After the battle Charles fled into Shropshire and sought refuge at the house of a farmer named Penderell, who lived at Boscobel. He sheltered the king for several days, when means were found for his escape from the kingdom. The story is thus told by the historian Hume:

To this man (Penderell) Charles intrusted himself. The man had dignity of sentiment much above his condition, and though death was denounced against all who concealed the King, and a great reward promised to all who should betray him, he professed and maintained unshaken fidelity.