

REVIEW since its establishment, and his able and unselfish efforts to extend its influence and widen its field of usefulness, have made him known to many beyond his native province. These will be glad to meet Mr. MacKay, face to face.

WE thank the correspondents who have so warmly commended the January issue of the REVIEW. If we published every month the words of hearty encouragement that are received, they would occupy several pages of the REVIEW; and mingled with the words of appreciation there come others of friendly criticism which are just as gladly received. If the REVIEW is to wield an influence, it must have the good will and co-operation of teachers, and in no way is good will and a desire for its success better shown than by a generous criticism of its faults, pointing out its requirements, bringing it slowly but surely to meet the needs of every teacher and every school district in the Atlantic Provinces. It is this influence that makes the REVIEW read by thousands today where it was read by hundreds a few years ago.

FEW teachers can boast of a period of seventeen years' continued service in one place, yet that is the experience of Principal Cameron of the Yarmouth Academy. Like every true teacher he creates in the minds of his students an overmastering desire for knowledge which he fosters and encourages after they graduate, aiding them either to explore the wonders of the heavens or to search more deeply into the treasures of literature. A postgraduate class recently presented him with an address in old English, with a copy of the Variorum edition of Shakespeare's Othello.

IN the contributor's club of the *Atlantic Monthly* for January, reference is made to a triumph scored by the students of Volapuk. Not content with showing the commercial advantages to be derived from the new tongue, they have entered the realms of poetry. A Volapukist in New South Wales rendered in poetry Dr. Holmes' poem, "Under the Violets." The Volapukian version was without rhyme (perhaps an advantage) but it had reason; for a Nova Scotian, who had never seen the original poem by Dr. Holmes, coming upon the Volapukian version, turned it again into English with remarkable fidelity to the original. The name of the Nova Scotian is Mr. Geo. Creed, South Rawdon, Hants County.

MENTAL arithmetic is one of the best, if not the best, subject on the curriculum to produce thinking pupils. Fully one-half of the time given to arithmetic should be devoted to it. Accuracy, quickness and

reasoning power are developed by it. Many teachers do not give much mental arithmetic, because it demands from them too much activity on their own part; but such teachers do not rank among the best. Many consider that a mistake was made when mental arithmetic ceased to be a requirement for license in New Brunswick. Certainly, if it were a requirement, greater attention would be directed to it in many of the schools.

MANY complaints are being made by trustees concerning teachers who respond to advertisements, but who fail to take any notice to letters sent engaging their services. Even though these teachers may have engaged elsewhere, they certainly, as a matter of courtesy, should decline all other offers made, as they may cause serious delay and inconvenience by not doing so. Trustees complain that they might have secured other teachers, but that they were waiting upon some applicant to reply, or put in an appearance, and thus the chance slipped by. In this matter trustees themselves are much to blame. After securing a teacher they often take no notice of the applications of others. Teachers should know better, and trustees should be educated in the matter.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

The first course of the University Extension Lectures in St. John, has been finished, and the result is sufficient to justify its promoters in endeavoring to make University Extension a permanent institution. About 240 students were enrolled, and a large number of these, with others, have joined the second course which opened on the first of February. The lecturers in the latter course are: G. F. Matthew, M. A., F. R. S. C., on geology; A. E. Macintyre, F. C. S., on chemistry; Prof. W. C. Murray, M. A., on political economy; Prof. W. F. Stockley, M. A., on English literature (Chaucer); I. Allen Jack, D. C. L., Q. C., Recorder of St. John, and A. A. Stockton, LL. D., D. C. L., Q. C., on law. Eight lectures will be delivered on each of these subjects, and the names of the lecturers in each are a sufficient guarantee that the subjects will be treated with ability and vigor.

Many teachers are enrolled among the students. A valued correspondent suggests that Prof. Murray be asked to deliver lectures on psychology in the second year's course, which it is hoped will begin early next autumn.

The professors of Mount Allison University have begun a course of university extension lectures in Moncton. Prof. Andrews has delivered the opening lecture in a course on biology.