

their traditions as to become a part of the United States. "Look at a map," he writes, "and you will see that within the latitude of Canada are included, in the Old World, Norway and Sweden, European and Asiatic Russia (excepting only the most southerly projection), Denmark, Prussia, Holland, Belgium, the northern section of France, and the whole of Great Britain and Ireland. From these countries came the races that succeeded Rome in bearing, as they still largely bear, the civilization of the world. And analogy suggests that under the bracing climate of Canada, in centuries yet to be, civilization may, in the New World, find its sturdiest supporters. The new provinces will, in a very few years, be the regal home of prosperous millions. Nature has said it."

THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW for February has a heap more of good things for teachers. The editors are unremitting in their labors to make the REVIEW something of practical worth to the teaching fraternity. They are succeeding well. Does every teacher in these provinces get the benefit of its pages monthly? —*Truro Sun*.

WE are requested to ask N. B. teachers who are in want of schools to furnish the inspectors of their respective districts with their address.

#### A SUMMER SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES.

Various persons have been mooting the extension of "Summer School" work beyond the province of elementary science. We should be the last to encourage filling up of vacation with labor, unless there should be an urgent cause for it. Yet sometimes labor and recreation may be combined. Whether that can be done or not on the proposed lines must be answered by our readers; and, therefore, we bring to their notice a suggestion just made by an eminent Nova Scotian linguist who is teaching in one of the great American universities. He writes: "Would it be possible to have, either separate or in connection with it (the Summer School of Science), a 'Summer School of Languages?' We have several of these here and they have proved of great benefit to teachers, very many of whom attend them. The idea is simply an idea submitted to you, and has not assumed any definite shape in my mind. The outline of it would be something like this: Halifax, as a central and easily reached point for a location; Dalhousie, for lecture rooms. Three courses, English, French and German. Classes for beginners and for advanced students. I now speak more particularly of foreign languages—readings and translations of classical and modern works—outlines of

literary history—comprehensive systems of study and explanation of main differences between English and foreign languages, chiefly difficulties of accidence and syntax elucidated by history of language. Weekly lectures in English on social and historical points illustrating and explaining literature. Course of, say, six weeks, from 1st July to middle of August. Attractions of Halifax as a summer resort would aid. There would, of course, be privileges of various kinds to students of the school."

#### THE FIRST STEP TAKEN.

The school commissioners of Dartmouth have voted \$600 for a kindergarten in connection with the public schools. The town of Dartmouth, it appears, has taken the lead in the Atlantic Provinces in the introduction of the kindergarten into the public school system. This honor is quite in keeping with the progressive spirit of this town for a number of years past. It is very fitting, too, that Dartmouth should be the residence of the energetic and accomplished president of the Nova Scotia Fræbel Institute, who has done so much to arouse and hold attention to this important phase of education. It is now but a question of time—time to learn the advantages they have been missing; when the people of our cities and towns will arise and demand the kindergarten as the foundation of their free school system.

The open letter in another column, addressed to school boards by Mrs. Condon, the President of the Nova Scotia Fræbel Institute, contains a plea for the introduction of the kindergarten system which should receive the marked attention of those to whom is entrusted local educational development. The earnestness of the plea and the soundness of the arguments employed are creditable alike to the broad philanthropy and self-sacrificing devotion of a lady who has given her mature years and a ripe judgment to solving the great problem of primary education.

#### MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

We have received the annual report of McGill University, Montreal, which contains a number of interesting facts concerning the progress that is being made in this great educational institution. Of degrees in course 102 were given last year, raising the number of its professional graduates to 1440 and that of graduates in arts to 449. The whole university at present consists of McGill college with four faculties of law, medicine, arts and applied science, with about 50 professors and 650 students, Morrin college, Quebec and St. Francis college, Richmond, four theological colleges and the normal school which is practically a professional college for teachers.