

eight—three sons and five daughters—of whom William, Ethel (Mrs. Rutter, now principal of the department of Domestic Science at Macdonald College) Mary and Bessie (Mrs. Robinson) are graduates of Macdonald College, and Horace and John are graduates of the University of New Brunswick.

#### NATURE STUDY AND OBSERVATION.

The work on bird observation undertaken by Mr. Perry and the teachers who are assisting him, the results of which appear in this month's REVIEW, are highly interesting and valuable. If these observations are made with care, and teachers and their pupils take some pains to become acquainted with the birds and others of our native wild animals, and to report briefly and concisely the consequences will be of value to nature study and school work generally. It will also be the means of gathering information useful to science, for much has yet to be learned concerning the movements and habits of birds, and other wild folk. Young people with their sharp eyes and quick intelligence may be relied on to do much of this observing and out-door work, if they are put in the way of doing it and the teacher is interested; but the teacher must be the leader. If she knows a little about birds and plants, she will soon be ambitious to know more, for the pupils will spur her on to fresh endeavor.

Read the notes in the REVIEW for this month; and we hope they will be read early. The reports should be sent in to Professor H. G. Perry, Acadia University, Wolfville, not later than the 25th of the month. Do not send to the REVIEW, St. John, as such reports have to be remailed, and stand a chance of being late. Send direct and early.

If teachers need help in nature study they should plan to attend a summer school. The advertising pages of the REVIEW contain information for them.

Oh, to be in England,  
Now that April's there,  
And whoever wakes in England  
Sees, some morning, unaware,  
That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf  
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,  
While the chaffinch sings in the orchard bough  
In England — now.  
And after April, when May follows  
And the white-throat builds, and all the swallows!  
Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree in the hedge  
Leans to the field and scatters on the clover  
Blossoms and dewdrops — at the bent spray's edge —  
That's the wise thrush; he sings each song twice over,  
Lest you should think he never could recapture  
The first fine careless rapture!

*Home Thoughts from Abroad.*—BROWNING.

#### ARBOR DAY.

##### How to Observe It.

If you have kept other Arbor Days with the children this should be your best. If this is your first, prepare to observe it so that the day will linger long in the memory of the children and recall pleasant things about trees and flowers and birds and a happy gathering in the schoolroom. The day will give an opportunity to invite parents and friends to the school. The invitations may be prepared on maple leaf forms and written by the children. Have a committee of larger girls to prepare some refreshments. Nothing promotes sociality and good feeling more than a little something to eat and drink, and when passed round by the teacher and her committee it will be appreciated by fathers and mothers and make them feel at home. The teacher should make up a programme for the day, consisting of readings, recitations, songs, dialogues and little papers and stories prepared by the pupils on what they have studied or read in school. This latter feature will be enjoyed by parents. We have heard of a teacher who arranged her programme so that it followed out the life plan of a tree for a year. It opened with a song of spring. Then a pupil gave the story of the sap beginning to flow. A boy told of his visit to a sugar camp. Twelve children gave a recitation on trees made up from quotations from authors. Other children may give stories about trees including the "Story of Johnny Appleseed" (found in the REVIEW for April, 1912). Short papers on the colours of leaves in autumn and why the leaves fall would naturally follow, closing with some description of trees in winter. This and back numbers of the REVIEW will help teachers to make up a plan of exercises.

Above all, in the lessons of the day, aim to create a spirit of Arbor Day,—to love the trees, to save them, and to thank God for their use and beauty. Perhaps there have been lessons enough during the year on the furniture made from trees and their various other uses. Make the lessons of Arbor Day on the living tree, how good a friend it is to us in its beauty and shade.

##### Planting a Tree.

On another page Mr. DeWolfe gives some good suggestions about planting trees and shrubs. But if all the trees, planted since Arbor Day was first observed in these Provinces, had grown, we would

