

THE REVIEW AND ITS PATRONS.

The REVIEW with this month enters upon the second half of its seventh year. The support it has received in the past, and which is gaining each year, warrants the hope that its influence may be extended still further. It is proposed this year to make it more valuable in every way. Its editorial columns will contain articles that no Atlantic province teacher should miss reading; its contributed articles will be from the pens of some of our most successful teachers, its selected matter will be made with the greatest care, its discussion of local matters will keep teachers in touch with the educational doings in these provinces, and its school and college news, its question department, book reviews, will be of the greatest value to teachers. Messrs. Barnes & Co., its publishers, to whom is due the excellent typographical appearance of the REVIEW—a delight both to editors and readers—will spare no pains to preserve the clearness of its pages and its neat appearance.

The December REVIEW should reach every teacher in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, P. E. Island and Newfoundland. It is of importance to the teacher that it should be read by every person in each district interested in education. Why? Because its contents are of interest to trustees, parents and children, as well as to teachers. The advertisements, of which there are a goodly number, have been selected and asked for chiefly with a view to put before teachers and trustees reliable and prompt dealers in books, school furniture and other important requisites. Its columns also contain the advertisements of nearly all the important educational institutions in the Atlantic provinces.

The REVIEW has been progressive from its start. That is why it should be taken by every progressive teacher in these provinces. Scarcely a week passes but we receive from earnest men and women engaged in teaching the most encouraging words of the benefit that the REVIEW has been to them. These courteous acknowledgments of the value of the REVIEW are most encouraging to its editors and many contributors, and urge them to do even better in the future than they have done in the past.

Another word. Subscribers would find it to their advantage to pay strictly in advance. This would be more satisfactory to them and would relieve us from

much care and responsibility. Many teachers allow themselves to get in arrears, or leave a district without giving notice to have the REVIEW changed or discontinued, and it is continued for months to an address after the person has left the place. This is largely due to thoughtlessness, but it occasions much trouble. Lists of those in arrears, or who, it is thought, have changed their address, have to be prepared and sent to inspectors and others to inform us of the whereabouts and solvency of those who have neglected a very simple duty.

THE DEATH OF LIEUT.-GOVERNOR BOYD.

News of the death of Lieut.-Governor Boyd of New Brunswick, was heard with sadness and regret wherever he was known. A man of large sympathies, active, generous, and benevolent, his life was crowded with good deeds and undertakings that had for their object the good of his fellow man. His term of office lasted only a few weeks. During that short time, however, he brought to his position those qualities of an active citizen and a good man which always distinguished him.

The career of Governor Boyd is an example of what may be accomplished by faith and energy. He rose from one position to another, mainly through his own resources, until he occupied the highest position in his adopted country. His unflinching purpose, strict integrity and punctuality in business, his hopefulness in every cause in which he was enlisted furnish a stimulus to every youth in the province.

EDUCATION AND THE CENSUS.

The *St. John Sun* which has carefully studied the late census returns relative to the comparatively poor showing made by New Brunswick, has been able to clear up the matter and put its finger upon the weak spot, as it were. The explanation is as follows:—

It appears that the French counties of New Brunswick contain in proportion to their population the largest share of those who cannot read or write. In that part of New Brunswick which is not inhabited by Acadians, the educational status is far above the Canadian average, and equal to that of the most favored regions of Ontario.

There are over 10,000 persons between the ages of ten and nineteen who cannot read nor write. This is one-seventh of all the inhabitants between these ages. But the four counties of Gloucester, Kent, Victoria, (which takes in Madawaska) and Westmorland contain two-thirds of this illiterate population, though they have only one-third of the whole population. The proportion of illiterates in these four counties is four times as great as the proportion in the remaining counties. The French-speaking counties, or those having a large French population, not only make a bad shewing themselves, but drag down the average in the whole province.

It is most gratifying to know that in the purely English speaking sections of the province the average attendance is fully equal to that of the most favored