

never have place in an examination paper set for children, he would not fail to raise a shout of applause from thousands of parents and teachers. Practice in speed and accuracy in the elementary rules are quite defensible, says the Minister, but had he used the word "indispensable" and emphasized it he would have been nearer the truth and possibly nearer his own wish in the matter. There is hardly a week in which some poor, luckless youth does not find the arithmetical puzzles of the text-books of no service to him in his daily counting-house work—not a day in which he does not wish his teacher had given more attention to a ready manipulation of figures and less to the arithmetical equation about which there is such a ridiculous lack of an everyday look. Ontario has gone too far in this direction, and the other provinces are fast following in her wake. Are the teachers going to say halt, or have they become as infatuated with the craze as the examiners?

Last month we made space for Dr. Harrison, and, while it is pleasant to learn that the New Brunswick University is making some progress, we regret that its president has thought it prudent to impugn our motives in referring to the history of the institution over which he presides. What we said about the New Brunswick University was no "old woman's fable," but common hearsay in that province at the time of the writing of our articles, as President Harrison may find out by perusing the newspapers and periodicals of St. John and Fredericton. We are glad to notice that it is the intention of Dr. Harrison to bring the institution more in touch with the general educational system of the province through his own personality, and that was all we pleaded for. If the doctor will go a step further, and bring his institution more in touch with Canadian affairs, he will then certainly

do all that any one could expect of him. We wish the institution every success under the policy that has just been inaugurated, and hope to hear that New Brunswick University has at length recognized that there are distinguished Canadians outside of New Brunswick who would do honor to the university were their sympathies enlisted in its behalf.

Prince Edward Island has a Teachers' Association of its own and its annual convention is being held this month. The history of the educational movement in the little province in the Gulf is full of interest, and it is our intention to give some attention to its affairs as we obtain the necessary information. We shall be glad to hear from correspondents in that section of our wide extending country.

The echoes from the Halifax convention are still being heard from various parts. Dr. MacCabe's idea of assimilation of examination standards was a fitting corollary to the address of Dr. Harper in behalf of a Federal Bureau of Education. We publish Dr. Harper's address this month, and expect to present some of the other papers read at the convention from month to month. The question of a Bureau of Education is being carefully considered by the newspapers, and there seems to be growing a general verdict in its favor. Our readers would do well to examine the terms on which it is proposed to organize such a sub-department, and the beneficial results that may naturally be expected to arise from it. Some have raised minor issues, such as the expense of the work, and the difficulties that would lie in its way, but no useful organization has ever run its course without meeting difficulties in its way, and, in our opinion, the expense would be money expended in the highest and