

At the recent meeting of the Royal Society of Canada, at Ottawa, a monograph was read on "The History and Present State of Botany in New Brunswick." Several members, in discussing the paper, spoke of the importance of collecting such information before it is too late in other provinces, so that when a complete work on the flora of the Dominion is published, the time for which, it is hoped, is not far distant, its author may have just such material as this ready at hand.

PRINCE BUONAPARTE, a grand nephew of the great Napoleon, has been visiting the Atlantic Provinces. He remained for a few days in Fredericton, St. John and Halifax. At Fredericton he visited the normal school, and expressed himself greatly pleased with what he saw and heard there. At Halifax, accompanied by the Lieutenant Governor, the Hon. Provincial Secretary and the Superintendent of Education, he paid his respects to the Halifax academy, St. Patrick's girls' high school and Alexandra school, taking in the kindergarten and the manual training school. The prince expressed himself much delighted with the evidence of progressive work which he saw in Sr. DeChantal's department.

**CRAM.**

At the present day cram is specially the mark of the lazy teacher whose work is as mechanical in observing the work of his pupils as if he were herding sheep. It is the mark of the ignorant teacher who does not know what education is. And sometimes we find it in the masterly disciplinarian who reduces the memorization of lessons to the precision of his military drill. When our teachers receive a more thorough training for their profession, when those acquiring skill can afford to remain in the profession, then we may expect to have less occasion to hear complaints of cram. But what have we a right to expect when for nearly thirty years of a free school system in a progressive province, no teacher was compelled or even received an inducement of serious value, to prepare for teaching by attending a normal or training school? Need we be surprised that in the profession there should be those who know not what education means? But even when the day comes in which all the teachers will be trained, when all will be so interested in their profession as to feel the use of being in touch with their fellow teachers through our local educational papers, even then, there will be hours of weariness, when the teacher may drop into the way of the mechanical lesson hearer and insist on cram.

With respect to the education of the olden time, we know there were men with the proper genius of the teacher, who developed just such characters as the world then needed. We also know that what might be considered a good education then, is now of but little value in many fields in the struggle for life. But never before were there better teachers than at the present day; and never before was there an approximation of the amount of good teaching which is done to-day.

**SHALL WE GO TO THE WORLD'S FAIR ?**

As holidays are now approaching, many teachers are asking themselves and their friends the above question.

As a friend who has been there and who has the desire to help them in this as in other difficulties we would venture a few words of advice.

With teachers one of the first considerations will be the cost.

The average cost may be easily figured up and with some degree of certainty.

Return Railway Ticket from Halifax	....	\$32 00
Meal, (Take Well-stored Lunch Basket)	..	1 00
? Pullman Car, part way,	....	4 00
Omnibus to Hotel,	....	50
Hotel Room for fifteen days,	....	15 00
Meals at Restaurant for same time,*	....	13 50
Car Fair on Illinois Central,	....	3 00
Tickets for thirteen Admissions,	....	6 50
Side Shows, say	....	3 00
Extras,	....	1 50
Cab and Meals on Return Journey,	....	3 00
Total	....	\$83 00

\* The visitor should carry his lunch for midday and eat it on the grounds.

The sum given above is ample to allow any teacher to see and study the Fair to advantage and with comfort.

Of course where there are so many temptations to indulge in little luxuries it will require some self-denial to refrain from spending more. It would be well to have a few dollars extra in case of emergency.

Now as to the advisability of going. If you are a young teacher struggling to accumulate enough to carry you higher in your education, do not put yourself back two or three years in your studies for the sake of the Fair. If you have dependent on your small earnings a family or relatives, do not go. If you cannot get some reliable friend to go with you hesitate about going.

To all other teachers we would would say do not fail to see the World's Fair.

1. The buildings taken individually (with a few ex-