

Educational Review.

Devoted to Advanced Methods of Education and General Culture

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY, 1914.

\$1.00 PER YEAR

MRS. G. U. HAY, Proprietor.

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THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.

Office: 174 Waterloo Street, St. John, N. B.
TELEPHONE MAIN 1629-41.

PRINTED BY BARNES & Co., Ltd., St. John, N. B.

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THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW is published on the tenth of each month, except July. Subscription price, one dollar a year; single numbers ten cents. Postage is prepaid by the publishers, and subscriptions may begin with any number.

When a change of address is ordered, both the NEW and the OLD address should be given.

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The number accompanying each address tells to what date the subscription is paid. Thus "325" shows that the subscription is paid to May 1, 1914.

Address all correspondence to

THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW,
St. John, N. B.

"Chou who of Thy free grace didst build up this
Britannick Empire to a glorious and enbiable height,
with all her daughter Islands about her, stay us in
this felicitie."—John Milton.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

Our picture supplement this month is a reproduction of Sir John Millais' famous picture, "The Boyhood of Sir Walter Raleigh."

In 1552, fifty-five years after John Cabot had set up the flag of England on the American continent, Raleigh was born on the south coast of Devon. He grew up in a time of discovery and exploration, and in a land of famous sailors and explorers, the land of Drake and Hawkins and Sir Humphrey Gilbert, the land of which it was said that when Queen Bess was in doubt or her country in trouble, "She was wont to send for a Devon man, sir."

In the picture we see two boys sitting on the shore and listening to the tales of a sailor. The storyteller's back is turned to us, but by his attitude and gesture we know the force and interest of the story, which fascinates one lad, and keeps his eyes fixed on the sailor's face. But Raleigh is thinking not only of what man has done, but of what man will do, and he is looking far out across the sea, as if he already saw the land of his hopes and dreams.

He seems to have been the first great man to realize that the New World was not merely a stepping stone to India, or a battlefield with Spain for gold, but that there should grow up a Greater Britain across the seas. That is why we count him among our Empire builders, although his attempts to found a colony failed, and the country that he named for his Queen is no longer under the British flag.

In 1584 Raleigh sent an exploring expedition to the eastern coast of North America, and the country over which the Queen had made him Governor was named Virginia.

In 1585 he sent out men to make a settlement; but they were not fitted for the task, and returned to England. In 1587 he tried again, but this attempt failed also. Raleigh had to give up his plans for Virginia, but he did not lose his hopes. He said, "I shall live to see it an English Nation." And he did live to see an English settlement established in Virginia in 1607.