

Editorial Notes and Comments.

—The Christmas season has again come with all its gladness and congratulations, and we extend to our friends and readers the usual greetings. The review of the work accomplished during the first part of the school year, let us hope, has been an encouragement in itself to our teachers, and as they leave the school-room for the fortnight's recess with pleasant expectations, so may they return to their duties after the holidays with renewed vigor of body and spirit. May God prosper them in the accomplishment of their arduous labours during the part of the school year yet to come.

—The idea of the school library continues to develop in the provinces of the Dominion, as on the other side of the Atlantic. There is a valuable line in a letter which a member of a school board has received from a member of the British Parliament who is anxious to pay for the establishing of school libraries in Rotherham, and we trust the hint will not be without its effect on some of our wealthy citizens. The member of parliament, in giving a donation of three hundred pounds sterling for this purpose, says:—"I think I am now in a position to carry out a proposal which we have more than once discussed together; I mean the foundation of school libraries for the children of all the elementary schools in the division, where no such libraries exist, and where fitting arrangements can be made. I hope that some day school libraries will be a necessary part of the apparatus of all our schools; but as that day has not yet arrived we shall do well to make a beginning now. If you will invite two or three members of other School Boards in the division to assist you on a small committee, I will obtain for you the best advice as to all details. The object should be to make the libraries thoroughly attractive to the children. For the younger children there should be a store of the very best picture books, so that they may enjoy in their own homes those pleasures which are, as a rule, only available for the children of the rich. For the older children there should be a good supply of tales of adventures, travels, real and imaginary, fairy tales, books of poetry, illustrated books of history and science, historical novels by Sir Walter Scott and others, and the like. If children wish to read at home, let us by all means give them good literature to read, if we can. I believe there is an ample field for this work besides what is already being done by Sunday School libraries and other agencies in the division. It might be a good plan if the old scholars of the schools were allowed,