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THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL

An Educational Journal devoted to Literature, Science, Art, and the advancement of the teaching profession in Canada.

TERMS.

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CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL PUB. CO. (Limited),
OFFICE; Toronto, Ontario.

MR. W. J. BLACK, Smithfield, P. O., is desirous of securing a copy of each of the following numbers of the SCHOOL JOURNAL, to complete his set, viz.:—The numbers for November, 1882, January, March, September and November, 1883, and No. 2, 1886. If any subscriber has these numbers or any of them and will send them in good condition to Mr. Black, he will receive both thanks and payment.

WE beg to draw the attention of our readers to the series of Drawing papers commenced in this number. The plan proposed will doubtless prove a great boon to many of our teachers, whose work debars them from attending Art classes during the next session, but who yet desire to improve themselves in the subject of Drawing, or who may intend to try the spring examination in this subject. We heartily commend the offer made by Mr. Burns to our subscribers, and we are sure that they will do well to join this postal-club.

THE Jamaica *Evening Express* says that the blackboard is looking up in Jamaica. Hitherto, the board was not wholly unknown, but was very likely to be found in some out of the way corner, or perhaps, in a state of wreck. Recently a preacher

rescued one in a chapel school from such a state, had the wreck nailed together, elevated it to the right hand side of the pulpit, and used it with effect to fix the divisions of his sermon in the minds of his hearers. The innovation was approved, and now blackboard stock is looking up in the Island. For our own part, we consider that any class-room, no matter to what subject devoted, without a blackboard, is minus one of the most essential implements of the skilful teacher. The proper blackboard is, of course, not a board at all, but an ample portion of the wall specially prepared.

WE give in this issue a paper on the first part of the "Vision of Mirza," as prescribed for the Entrance Examinations for December, 1886. This will be followed by similar papers upon such of the other literature lessons as have not already been annotated in the JOURNAL. Papers on "The Truant" and "A Christmas Carol," will be found in Nos. 5 and 9 respectively of the JOURNAL for the current year. Two papers by different writers on "Lochinvar," will be found in Nos. 4 and 10. The remaining lessons will be taken up in order. As will be seen from that given in this issue, it is proposed to make these notes rather suggestive than exhaustive or minute. We shall be glad, however, of criticisms and suggestions as to the best modes of treatment. Any questions for information will be answered when possible.

THE following three "Nevers" which we clip from an exchange, are worthy of being printed in letters of gold upon the walls of the innermost sanctum of every Public School Teacher, where they would be conspicuous by day and by night:

"Never compare one child with another."
"Never speak in a scolding manner."
"Never use a hard word when an easy one will answer the same purpose."

Personally some of our most painful memories of months and years passed in the school-room, are connected with violations of one or other of those rules. If there are teachers of experience who have not to make, to themselves at least, the same confession, happy are they.

THE following expresses so tersely and vigorously what we wished to say in a paragraph at the commencement of a new school year, that we appropriate it entire from the *Central School Journal*:—"The schools have opened! The teachers have again gathered, ready for the fray. From the ocean, the country, and the mountains, with new vigor and energy they take up the burden again. Take a parting look at the vanished vacation. Give one sigh for the past pleasure of the dying summer and then look ahead. *Make your work count this year!* Start in with the determination to do the best work you have ever done. Inspire your pupils with energy and resolution. Avoid the mistakes of the past. Be progressive.