Letter Writing

FREDERICK H. SPINNEY

HE letters which were published in the January number of THE SCHOOL seemed to arouse a widespread interest, and pupils' letters have been coming in from all parts of Canada.

Some splendid letters were received from Valentia, Ontario, one of which is published herewith:

VALENTIA, ONT. Jan. 7, 1915.

Dear friend:

We take a magazine called THE SCHOOL, which published some letters written by pupils in Montreal and England. Our teacher read the letters to us, and we said that we would like to take part in exchanging letters.

The day before Christmas Holidays, our school had a debate. The subject was "Resolved that Manitoba has a more desirable climate to live in than Nova Scotia". Three other pupils with myself were on the negative side and the same number on the affirmative. The latter were victorious by 5 points.

What is the winter like in Montreal? This winter has been the coldest and stormiest for fifty years. The north and south roads are full of snow; but when the wind blows hard, the ground can be seen in many places.

We have heard that you receive letters from India and other foreign places. The pupils of our school would be very glad to receive letters from there.

Your Ontario friend,

OLIVE CASEY.

Another pupil told about a "Mission Band" to which she belonged. A little girl wrote a splendid description of her home. A boy told about what the village was doing for the "Patriotic Fund". In fact, the letters from Valentia treated of a variety of topics seldom found in letters from the one school. The pupils have also written to Australia, and are patiently awaiting answers.

The time that it takes a letter to travel from Australia to Valentia will be suggestive of the long distance through which it has to travel. To trace out the course of such a letter would furnish an interesting lesson in practical geography.

If teachers wish to send *five* or *six* of the *best* letters to 160 Sanguinet Street, Montreal, with from 2 to 5 cents in stamps, we shall endeavour to have them answered here, or sent to some distant school where the pupils are eager to receive and answer letters.

From time to time the most original and suggestive letters will be published, with the kind permission of the Editor of THE SCHOOL.