

In quantity there is a fairly good comparison, but upon examination of the collegiate records of these instructors we rarely find, outside of Ontario, a man who has had special training along purely educational lines.

While none except the French Catholics expressed themselves as entirely satisfied with the prevailing conditions in Canada, all the inspectors who expressed any views on the situation agreed that progress was slowly, but surely, being made.

After all, in a country larger than the United States, with unlimited resources, even with a population less than twice that of New York city, we have every reason to believe that the cause of education must go forward in order to keep abreast of the industrial and commercial development which is bound to take place in the near future.

Christmas Selections.

The following extracts will do for readings or exercises on the Friday afternoons during December:

The Alphabet's Christmas Tree.

The Alphabet a meeting held,
As Christmas-tide drew near,
And voted each a gift to bring
To please the children dear.

"They tried so hard," the letters said,
"To learn us by their names;
We'll give them presents every one,
Of candy, balls and games."

A brought an apple, round and red,
And B a bouncing ball;
While C a bag of candy gave—
Enough to feed them all.

D carried in his arm a doll
With shining, golden hair;
And E a cotton elephant
Came bringing with great care.

F had a fan from far Japan,
And G a funny game;
H boldly rode a hobby-horse
A racer of great fame.

I held an inkstand in his hand,
"A useful thing," he said;
J waved on high a jumping-jack,
All painted black and red.

K thought a kit the proper thing;
A lamb L held aloft;
M's present was a little muff
Of fur so warm and soft.

N proudly bore a Noah's ark,
Filled up with creatures queer;

O felt that yellow oranges
Would bring the best of cheer.

"A purse," said P, "will look so well
Up there upon the tree;"
Q brought a quilt for dolly's crib—
A thoughtful Q was he.

R gave a pretty ruby ring
With sparkling deep-red glow;
S dragged along a brand-new sled
To coast upon the snow.

Loudly upon a trumpet blew
The valiant letter T;
U held a strange umbrella up,
Unfurled for all to see.

A dainty vase V's gift appeared,
Of crystal glass so clear;
"A whip," said lively W,
"Is handy to have near."

But X's present was so large
He sent it by express,
And what was in it no one knew,
Although they tried to guess.

Y had a gaily painted yacht
With every part complete;
Z bore a zither, "which," he said,
"Would furnish music sweet."

How merrily the children danced
Around the tree next day;
While safe within the primer all
The little letters lay!

—Selected.

Quotations for the Christmas Season.

Three good cheers for old December!
Month of Christmas trees and toys,
Hanging up a million stockings,
For a million girls and boys.
Oh, dear December, hurry on;
Oh, please—oh, please, come quick;
Bring snow so white,
Bring fires so bright,
And bring us good Saint Nick.

—Selected.

Ah, this is the merriest month of the year,
Filled with gladness and joy and with rousing good cheer,
'Tho' there's ice on the ponds and there's snow on the
ground,

Green holly and mistletoe ever abound.
To tell us of Christmas, of hope and of light,
When hearts are all merry and happy and bright.
So we laugh at the winds and we scoff at the snow,
And we chuckle the louder the harder they blow.

—Selected.

Down through the snow-drifts in the street
With blustering joy he steers;
His rubber boots are full of feet
And his tippet full of ears.

—Eugene Field.