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J. E. WELLS, M.A.

Editor.

H. HOUGH, M.A.

Manager Educational Dept.

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Editorial Notes.

THE Ontario Association of School Trustees passed a resolution recommending that there should be but one yearly examination for entrance to High Schools.

THE attention of teachers is respectfully called to the offers of premiums by the publishers, on page 12 of this paper. Very few will like to miss the chance of securing Dickens' complete works at less than the price of the book-binding.

A SERIES of interesting letters have appeared in the *Kingston News*, over the *nom de plume* of "Taxpayer," advocating the formation of a natural history museum in that city. The idea is an excellent one, and we should not suppose that in that university city there could be much difficulty in carrying it into effect. If space permit we may refer to the subject more at length in a future number.

THE publishers have still a number of copies of the bound volume of *School Work and Play*. It is a book of 96 pages, amply illustrated, and neatly bound. That the character of its contents is such as to meet the approval of teachers and pupils is abundantly proved by the favor with which the publication was regarded on all hands. In fact, it was one of the most entertaining and instructive little papers ever put into the hands of children; and those who have not secured a copy of the book containing the first twelve issues should do so without delay, as the balance of the edition is limited. It would be a capital book to circulate amongst children at Christmas. The price is only 10 cents, of which 4 cents is expended in postage, prepaid by the publishers. Send at once.

THE readers of the JOURNAL will, we are sure, sincerely regret, as we do, the necessity which compels Mr. W. H. Huston, M.A., to resign the management of the "English Department." We have always regarded that Department as one of the most important in the paper, and esteemed ourselves fortunate in being able to secure the services of so efficient a teacher to take charge of it. We will, however, make it a special care that there shall be no falling off in the work of the Department, which will be continued in each number. Until further notice, all communications and contributions for the English Department may be addressed direct to the

Editor of the paper. They will receive early attention. Meanwhile, lessons on the remaining portions of the Entrance Literature will be continued in each number.

Is any teacher in the three lower forms spending time and energy in conjuring up arithmetical problems for pupils? If so, he is living below his privilege; for the little work, "Practical Problems in Arithmetic," gives 700 of such questions, all properly arranged, and all of a character to interest the pupil as well as to save the labor of the teacher. The price is only 25 cents and it will last forever. Another "labor-saving" book is "One Hundred Lessons in English Composition." It is described as modern, practical, methodical and thorough; and its work is properly graded for all the forms in the Public Schools in which such work is done, and for the junior forms of the High Schools. It renders unnecessary any preparation of exercises by the over-worked teacher, and furnishes a practical and properly graded course for a full year's work. Price, only 25 cents. Send 50 cents to the Grip Printing and Publishing Co., and receive both of the above useful books post-paid by return mail.

AN interesting debate was called forth at the recent annual meeting of the High and Public School Trustees, by a motion presented by Trustee Hawley, of Trenton, to the effect that a complete English course should be made compulsory in the High Schools, and that all other languages should be made optional, with a fee attached for instruction in them, if the Minister could not see his way clear to strike them out altogether. The latter part of the resolution was rather radical, but the principle laid down in the first part is, to our thinking, sound. A course in English, as complete and thorough as possible, should be made, we believe, the basis of every High School course, and a *sine qua non* of a High School diploma. We have little doubt that so far the reform advocated by Mr. Hawley is coming in the near future. For the present the question was shelved by the following amendment, which is itself in the right direction, but is scarcely an amendment of the original motion. Moved by Mr. Wm. Houston, seconded by Mr. Wolverton:—

"That the High School programme be referred to a special committee with a view to ascertaining what can be done in the way of giving it more of an industrial character without making it less useful for purposes of general culture."