

interest to do this rather than pay three cents per foot to send cargoes to be shipped from Montreal. It was finally agreed "That a joint committee be named to confer as to the propriety of amending or repealing certain by-laws of the Ship Labourers' Society, said committee to consist of Messrs. Dobell, Rae, Burstall, Hans Hagens, R. H. Smith, F. Carbray and W. M. Macpherson, representing the Board of Trade and shipping community; and Messrs. Dinan, Fitzgerald, Roberge, Dube, Guenard, Fortin and Shanahan, representing the Ship Labourers' Benevolent Society."

On the action of the above committee much will depend. Commerce is keenly selfish, and, indeed, can hardly be anything else in these days of sharp competition; and there is no reason in the world why Quebec may not secure and hold the carrying-trade if those who control her destinies have only the wisdom to see the direction in which her true interests lie. She has unrivalled water accommodation for every kind of ship, and miles of wharfage practically useless at present. If the movement just inaugurated is not interfered with by somebody working in the interests of Montreal it will result in permanent good to Quebec; but this is just what thoughtful people dread, notwithstanding the severe lesson that has already been taught to the ship labourers of this port.

THIS winter promises to be one of no ordinary severity both here and in Montreal, and it requires no prophetic eye to discern trouble ahead for us in this Province. The small-pox has so far made no lodgment in the city: it is true there have been a few bad cases imported from Montreal, and these have terminated fatally, but the disease has not obtained any foothold; and yet we have no quarantine against Montreal, nor for that matter are we likely to have, and it is more than probable that the rapidly approaching winter will drive hundreds in this direction from the plague-stricken city. The mayor and corporation take things very quietly, but their general incapacity even to keep the streets clean is so glaring that we have not much hope for protection from small-pox in that direction. They have thought well to start an opposition Board of Health, and as this action on their part has involved them in a lawsuit, and as the average city councillor is not burdened with any surplus brains, the lawsuit will give him about all the excitement he can safely bear. Mayor Langelier is not a bad fellow at bottom, but he is a confirmed politician, and by far too busy a man to attend to such hum-drum duties as seeing to keeping the streets in a healthy state, and he has besides no undue anxiety about the small-pox, so that altogether we have good reason for serious apprehension. We have two Boards of Health, but as matters stand we might as well have none, for neither Board appears to be making any serious effort to prevent the introduction of the disease from Montreal. To the citizens generally it is a matter of absolute indifference which Board does the work provided it is done efficiently. We can ill afford a lawsuit for the amusement of two rival Boards; but if they must have the pastime let them first give us a strict quarantine against Montreal. There is no disguising the fact: Montreal is rapidly becoming a danger to the whole Dominion, and in all directions the quarantine is insufficient.

NEMO.

### EDUCATION NOTES.

It was hoped when the Education Department took in hand the preparation of selections from the Bible to be used in schools that these would be so strictly in accordance with our non-sectarian system of education that they could be used without any restriction in enforcing moral teaching in our schools. That they should be of this character was the main reason for making the selection. The book of extracts prepared and authorized by the Department is now in the hands of our teachers, and while they are permitted, and, indeed, encouraged in the intelligent and unrestrained use of text-books authorized for mental training, their lips are sealed with regard to the book specially put into their hands for moral teaching. By Regulation 250 of the Department they are told that "The portion of Scripture used shall be taken from selections authorized for that purpose by the Department of Education and shall be read *without comment or explanation.*" What practical good any one, who is not a monomaniac on the subject of Bible reading, hopes to follow from such daily automatic performance before children, whose attention is prone to wander from the most attractive lesson, in the absence of intelligent effort on the part of the teacher, we fail to see. But we do see how the adoption of such a book of garbled extracts, hedged by the restrictions placed upon its use, will drive the Bible altogether from our schools. Not only are the extracts garbled but the teacher is hindered from securing the reverence that should accompany the reading of any portion of the sacred volume by the omission of any reference to the particular part of the Bible from which the extract is taken. Of course this makes such a useful exercise as responsive reading practically impossible, unless the scholars as well as the teacher are supplied with the text-book. In view of these defects it is not to be wondered at that already teachers and trustees are beginning to ask why such a text-book, with the restrictions attached to its use, has been authorized for use in our schools. It would be interesting to know if the clergy-men who approved of this book were representatives of the various denominations.

By the Regulations recently issued the Education Department assumes control of the copyright of all public school text-books that shall hereafter be authorized. The Minister no doubt feels this measure necessary for a variety of reasons, amongst others that it will be a means of protecting the public against the extortion of booksellers, from which there will always be danger until the number publishing text-books in this country is large enough to secure reasonable competition. In this connection it is pleasant to know that Mr. Ross is inclined to look with encouragement and approval upon the efforts of home talent in the production of school books.

UNIVERSITY Consolidation has advanced another step by the affiliation of Knox College, Toronto, with the Provincial University.

THE next High School Entrance Examination will take place on December 21st, 22nd and 23rd.

THE Board of Governors of the Industrial School Association, of which Mr. W. H. Howland is president, have decided to proceed with the erection of a main building for the educational and industrial training of two hundred boys, and a cottage to accommodate forty boys, on their grounds at Mimico, which are the gift of the Ontario Government. The main building will be devoted to the daily occupations of the lads, and will contain school-rooms, work-rooms, dining-room, etc., while the cottages, which will be under the charge of matrons, will serve as homes to which they will retire in the evening, and where they will be under the beneficent influences of judicious home training. The buildings in contemplation will cost \$26,000, of which \$15,000 has already been subscribed. This includes \$6,000 given by a benevolent Toronto lady for the erection of a cottage. We know of no Association whose objects more strongly commend themselves to the benevolent and patriotic feelings of our wealthy citizens than this one. Not only will the neglected and forsaken children it takes charge of be prevented from becoming a burden to the country as criminals in our gaols, but they will be made to contribute to its prosperity, by being taught some useful employment. A good deal of the success of this institution, however, will depend upon the person the Association can secure to act as superintendent. He should be skilled in the management of children as a successful teacher, and at the same time be able to exercise intelligent supervision over their manual employments, and above all, he should be thoroughly in sympathy with the Association in the aims it has in view.

A COLLEGE near Philadelphia has secured, as mathematical professor, Miss Charlotte Scott, D.Sc., who was eighth and the first woman wrangler at Cambridge in 1880. Girton College, where Miss Scott was very successful as a mathematical lecturer, presented her, on leaving, with academic robes and an illuminated address in token of admiration and esteem.

Two of the great English public schools, Eton and Harrow, have changed their head masters recently. In the former Dr. Warre succeeded Dr. Hornby, and the Rev. J. E. C. Weldon, late head master of Dulwich College, near London, succeeded Dr. Butler at Harrow.

THE present Parliamentary contest in England is not without its humorous incidents. It is interesting to know that several teachers are in the field as candidates, amongst them Mr. George Collins, a leading teacher under the London School Board. At a recent meeting held in Dulwich to further his candidature a gentleman, evidently opposed to Mr. Collins, asked, "Who killed General Gordon?" Before Mr. Collins could reply, another person in the audience showed his estimate of the question by asking "Who killed Cock Robin?" This was followed by peals of laughter.

FROM statistics of Switzerland recently published it is ascertained that the German language is spoken by 71 per cent. of the inhabitants, French by 21 per cent., Italian by 5 per cent., and the Romanic language by the remainder. It is also found that in the examinations for recruits, to which all young men who reach the age of nineteen must submit, the written exercises of those who use the French language are inferior to those who use the German. This is accounted for by the greater difficulty of the French orthography. The German orthography is so easy that the time occupied in the endeavour to master the mysteries in the spelling of French words can be devoted by the German student to composition, analysis, and other exercises of greater intellectual value. CENSOR.

### AN ESTIMATE OF GENERAL McCLELLAN.

WASHINGTON, November 9, 1885.

THE sudden death of General McClellan has, for the moment, arrested so much of the busy and rushing world as finds its habitation here, and set it to thinking and talking, during the pause, of the burning questions once associated with his name. Without ever coming into personal contact with General McClellan, it has been the fortune of the writer to serve in the army organized and for a time led by him; to form intimate relations with some of those chief among his friends and his enemies, and to study, for official and professional purposes, some of the leading topics of the great controversy connected with his military career.

General McClellan was less than thirty-five years of age when called to Washington and placed at the head of the military affairs of a government with a gigantic war on its hands, and nothing with which to meet it but an abundant supply of patriotic enthusiasm and the raw material of armies. The political and military situations were inextricably blended. The Government itself was not a unit in respect of its policy, but the dominant sentiment in it was that the war should be so conducted as to leave unshocked the autonomy of the several States of the Union, and to disturb as little as possible the institution of slavery in both the insurgent and the doubtful States. This policy was accepted in principle by all parties, but in respect of details the factions responded definitely to all the varieties and shades of what in modern parliamentary groups are known as Right, Left and Centre. Sympathetically, the young generalissimo belonged to the party of the Right and, with calm deliberation and purpose, set himself to the work of organizing and disciplining an army so numerous and efficient as to be absolutely irresistible when set in motion, intending thereby to summarily end the rebellion with as little bloodshed and uprooting of civic and social relations as the circumstances would possibly admit. To this end his earlier measures were admirably chosen. Advantage was taken of the public fervour to enroll volunteers as fast as the