

EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE Hon. the Minister of Education has returned from Europe.

DR. HODGINS, the Deputy Minister, has been holding an Educational Convention in Parry Sound, and conferring with those interested in school matters in the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts.

THE Education Department, it is said, is preparing a new and enlarged map of the Dominion, of the dimensions of nine feet by five. This is much wanted by the schools, and it would be a boon to the public, while contributing to the cause of popular education, if the map could be had by anyone who desired to possess a copy.

WE notice with regret that a resolution has been passed by the Toronto School Board urging the Minister of Education to shorten the summer vacation by two weeks. We hope that Mr. Crooks will not agree to any such change, as the summer holidays are quite brief enough.

THE Matriculation Examination in Medicine for the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Ontario, was held in Ontario Hall, Kingston, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 19th and 20th August. Only fifty candidates presented themselves, very few of them being of those who failed in April last at the examination which was held at Toronto. The explanation probably is to be found in the important changes made by the Council of the College last year, which took effect at this examination for the first time. These changes are (1) that no part of the matriculation fee (\$10) is to be returned to any candidate who may have the ill-luck to fail; and (2) that any candidate who fails in one of the branches of examination is regarded as having failed in the whole, *i.e.*, he has to be re-examined in all of the branches. We understand that the practice which obtained hitherto, was to give credit to any candidate for every subject in which he passed. There is no doubt that the tendency of this mode of conducting the examination will be to secure a better class of candidates and to prevent those from presenting themselves for

examination until well prepared for it. The examiners were Archibald MacMurchy, M.A., and Archibald P. Knight, M.A., Rectors of the Collegiate Institutes at Toronto and Kingston.

THE MERCANTILE GRADED COPY-BOOKS.

To the Editor, Canada Educational Monthly.

SIR,—We have to thank you for your appreciative notice of our series of "Mercantile Graded Copy-Books" in the last number of your Monthly, and to say that the defects you pointed out have been remedied in a new edition now in press. Slight as those defects comparatively were, we set about removing them when indicated, and we will make any other improvements which may be needed to maintain our series of Copy-Books in the position of being the very best in the market.

Yours obediently,

COPP, CLARK & CO.

Toronto, 28th August, 1879.

[The above note, received from the publishers of the "Mercantile Graded Copy Books," is gratifying to us as an indication that the critical department of THE MONTHLY is helpful to the trade, and, with the Publishers' own enterprise, is instrumental in effecting improvements in the productions designed for school use, which cannot be too carefully nor too intelligently prepared in aiding the great work of education. Since the publication of our *critique* on the Copy-Books, Mr. Clare has added two new issues, Nos. X. and XI., to the series, which greatly increase its value and give it further variety. No. X. contains specimens of a free but near angular hand for young ladies who prefer this style to that given in No. IX. No. XI. presents a variety of elegantly-written notes, formal invitations, etc., made to run down the side of each page—as in actual correspondence—and not along the top, after the fashion of a read-line. The examples in this style make the number a very attractive and useful one, and it therefore promises to be in good demand. If the head-line in No. X., "Fame commonly accompanies merit," be a trustworthy maxim, Mr. Clare and the publishers stand a good chance of celebrity through their excellent series.]