

# The Educational Journal.

CONSOLIDATING

"The Educational Weekly" and "The Canada School Journal."

Subscription, \$1.50 a year.  
In advance.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 15, 1892.

Vol. VI.  
No. 15.

## Table of Contents.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
ENGLISH—		EXAMINATION PAPERS—	
Aids to the Study of Macbeth.....	228	Educational Department, Ontario, Annual Examinations, 1892.....	233
Correspondence.....	228	FOR CHRISTMAS—	
SCIENCE—		A Letter to Santa Claus.....	234
Educational Department, Ontario, Annual Examination, 1892.....	229	Christmas Bells.....	234
EDITORIAL—		New Year's Eve.....	234
Dr. Rice and the American Schools.....	230	SCHOOL ROOM METHODS—	
Ethics in the School-Room.....	231	Work in Geography.....	234
Christmas and its Customs.....	231	Arithmetical Analysis by Comparison.....	234
PRIMARY DEPARTMENT—		HINTS AND HELPS—	
A Bright Workshop.....	232	Grading Country Schools.....	235
Co-operation.....	232	Suggestions to Teachers.....	235
SPECIAL PAPERS—		TEACHERS' MISCELLANY—	
Geography in the Public Schools.....	236	A True Story about a Newfoundland Hero.....	235
The Limiting of Teachers' Certificates.....	237	A Poet's Prayer.....	235
BOOK NOTICES, ETC.....	237-8	CORRESPONDENCE.....	238
		EDUCATIONAL NOTES.....	238
		FOR FRIDAY AFTERNOON.....	238

To all our subscribers and readers we most cordially wish a happy Christmas!

AT the recent meeting of the East Middlesex Teachers' Association a committee was appointed to report on what teachers may do to promote the observance of the recently-passed Ontario Act respecting the using of tobacco by school children and minors. This is a very good and, we have no doubt, very necessary move. Such a law unenforced is far worse than no law at all. We know not how it may be elsewhere, but in Toronto it is no unusual thing to see boys who must be within the prohibition age, openly smoking cigarettes, the very worse form of tobacco-smoking we believe, on the public streets.

A COMPARATIVELY influential School Board in England recently advertized for a head master "age between twenty-five and thirty. This is bringing down the age limit with a vengeance. The "deadline" for pastors is said to be drawn by some churches at fifty, which is bad enough in all conscience. But when it becomes general to superannuate masters at thirty, young teachers will be at a premium. They ought to be, if they are going to lay by for their old age—from thirty upwards—from the proceeds of the five years within which they are eligible as teachers.

TOUCHING the subject of learning to write with either hand, referred to in last number, Mr. John Preston True, of Boston, writes us that "a back-hand printing script is the easiest to acquire" with the left hand. Mr. True informs us that he

keeps a large ledger, in which the right-hand page is posted with the right-hand and the left-hand page with the left-hand. His card to us is written one half with the left-hand and the other half with the right-hand. It is hard to say which is the better specimen. Both are quite legible, but no one would suspect that they were written by the same person.

OUR thanks are due to the Copp, Clark Co. for a specimen copy of *The Canadian Almanac* for 1893. It is made even more valuable than hitherto, by the introduction of several new features, among them a list of barristers and solicitors of the province an enlarged clergy list, now including all denominations in the Dominion, etc. Of course all the old features are retained. Every teacher would find it a convenience and help to have access to this treasury of useful information. In it would be found the answer to many questions touching our Dominion and Provincial Governments and Legislatures and various other matters which are being constantly sent to us.

THE Educational Department has announced a session of the School of Pedagogy to begin January 17th and to close about the first of May. This will be a convenience for candidates who were unable to attend the present session, as well as for those who find four months too short to get up the large amount of work prescribed for the course. It will also be an advantage to the High Schools, as many of them engage new teachers in September. It is intended to have a practical examination in December for those who secure "Interim" certificates in April. The coming session will be held in accordance with the present regulations except that the requirements regarding age will not be exacted.

MR. ACLAND the new head of the Education Department in England and his coadjutors, find it sometimes difficult to secure the faithful observance of the new School Act, so far as it provides for free education. There is a tendency on the part of the denominational schools not only to retain their fees, but to associate the provision for free schooling with pauperism. For instance, Mr. Acland found it necessary

to address a parent who had written him on the subject, as follows:—

"I have read with surprise and regret the printed circular issued from Hyde British School, and bearing upon it the names of the managers. It is an astonishing thing that such a circular issued on the 11th of last month should contain these words, 'There is no such thing as free education,' and should add that upon proof of 'poor circumstances' a remission of fees will no doubt be obtained. It cannot be too clearly and widely understood that under the Act any and every parent in England and Wales, irrespective of any question as to his means, is entitled to claim completely free education for his children, and that it is the statutory duty of the Department to see that free education is provided accordingly."

Mr. Acland also hints that further legislation, making such a publication as the circular referred to impossible, may be found necessary.

THE Board of Education of the city of Detroit passed, a few weeks since, the following resolution:—

Whereas, It has been thoroughly and satisfactorily demonstrated that teachers in our schools who have not received their education in our public schools do not show as good results in their work as those who have secured their education in our public schools; now be it

Resolved, That hence no person shall be eligible to teach in our public schools who has not received his or her entire education in our public schools, and shall be a graduate of one of our higher schools.

The *New York School Journal* thinks that in point of narrow-mindedness this action is on a par with that of the strikers at Homestead. "Belong to our clan or you get no work," was their motto. "Graduate from our schools or you cannot teach here," says the Detroit Board of Education. This, it seems to us, is hardly fair to the Homestead strikers. Their action, however ill-advised it may have been, was in the direction of improving the condition of their fellow-laborers everywhere. Its underlying principle was, we must pull together or we cannot obtain our rights and elevate our standing." The Detroit resolution, whether the offspring of trustees or teachers—for the honor of the profession we hope the latter had nothing to do with it—is conceived in a spirit of the narrowest "Know-Nothing-ism." We assume, of course, that the ostensible reason is too absurd to be accepted as the real one.