

The attitude of Mr. J. D. Chipman, M.P.P., in regard to superannuation of teachers in New Brunswick, is that of a progressive and enlightened representative, and will be duly appreciated by the best section of the population. The hearty support given Mr. Chipman by Mr. Veniot, member for Gloucester, is not only creditable to his own enlightenment, but to that of his people. Mr. Chipman is understood not only to be in favor of superannuation, but to have a plan in view by which it can be brought into effect. Mr. Ganong, Charlotte's representative at Ottawa, some time ago expressed himself in favor of the principle, and many will remember his paper read at the Institute in St. Stephen last summer upon the subject. Charlotte County and the friends of education in the province generally are to be congratulated upon having as representatives two such broad-minded men.

A WRITER in the *Chautauquan*, the organ of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circles, tells its readers that

"Most of the Canadian harbors, for instance, are closed to winter navigation, and even those that are usually open are sometimes closed for many days by ice-fields, an experience that, this year, has greatly inconvenienced the shipping at St. John's. This is to the advantage of Portland, whose fine harbor on Casco Bay becomes the winter ocean terminus of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada."

Of course the writer should know that St. John's is in Newfoundland; St. John, the rival of Portland, is in New Brunswick, and its harbor is *always* free of ice. Any Halifax school boy would have been pleased to impart that information.

THE following is the testimony of A. E. Winship in the New England *Journal of Education* on vertical writing, and such testimony can be corroborated in our own schools:

I have seen no better vertical writing in first and second grades than in the Scottdale, Pa., schools. It seems impossible for children of six and seven years, the former in school less than six months and the others less than twelve months, to write so gracefully and distinctly as these little people do.

### The University of New Brunswick.

The resolution of Mr. Fowler, to withdraw the grant from the New Brunswick University, will do good if it leads to inquiry with a view to reform, or it will work evil as a bad advertisement for that institution of learning. Notwithstanding that large classes from the high schools matriculate at the University each year, it attracts few of them to enter upon a full course; and while the other colleges in the Maritime Provinces are said to be flourishing, the one in Fredericton does not progress in the matter of attendance at least, as its

friends would desire. Various reasons are assigned for this, among which may be mentioned: the change from a three years' course to one of four years, which was regarded by many as being in the interests of the faculty rather than of the students, many of whom can not well afford the extra year's attendance. The abolition of residency for a time, coupled with some unseemly wrangles between students and faculty, had a tendency to cause uneasiness on the part of many parents who desired supervision for their boys. The failure of some of the faculty to observe the signs of the times by showing themselves in public to uphold the claims of the University for recognition and to reach out and canvass for students as is being done by other seats of learning. The adverse criticism of the newspapers from time to time regarding the management, which carried more weight as it was believed to emanate from within the University itself. The failure of the college to command the sympathy and support of the teachers of the Province, who should be its most powerful allies, by denying, to all except graduates, the right of representation in the senate and by permitting matriculation by two examinations, the papers for which are set by different examiners and are believed to vary greatly in difficulty. Want of discretion in conferring honorary degrees and the eagerness with which they have been conferred upon some who have doubtful claims upon them, and the denial to others who have been life-long friends to the university or who have spent their lives in preparing students for it.

It can be placed to the credit of some of the members of the faculty past and present, that for three or four years at least, they have by means of university extension lectures, demonstrated their individual strength as instructors, and in conferring benefits upon the public have, at the same time, added strength to the college. The University, however, has not kept pace with other institutions of learning, in attracting students from the schools, which have been drawn largely to other colleges in Canada or the United States.

The REVIEW has nothing but the best wishes for the University and would regard any diminution of its resources as a calamity for secondary education in the Province, but in pointing out some of its weak points in the past hopes to add to its strength for the future.

We would like to see criticisms on the University and its work take a somewhat higher tone than in the recent discussions in the halls of the Assembly and elsewhere. The value of such a training as the University gives cannot be measured by mere dollars and cents; so that when it is said it costs the province so many hundred dollars to educate one student, we venture the humble opinion that those who make such statements