

The honorary degree of LL. D., recently conferred by the University of New Brunswick on Chief Superintendent W. S. Carter and Principal H. V. B. Bridges of the Provincial Normal School is a fitting acknowledgement of the important educational work that these two gentlemen are doing:

The REVIEW has been requested by the Chief Superintendent of Education for New Brunswick to say that the statement in the press, that first class teachers would in future require two years training, is unauthorized. He states further that such change has not been considered by the Board of Education, nor in so far as he is aware, is it contemplated.

The N. S. *Journal of Education* (official) in its semi-annual number just issued warns teachers, especially the young or inexperienced, not to have any dealings with agents of expensive and generally useless books or other nostrums. If a teacher wishes to add to her library, it will be safer to buy through a reliable local dealer, rather than from irresponsible itinerant agents who should never be permitted to interrupt the school for a moment.

The announcement that Dr. Allison, President of Mount Allison University, is about to retire from that position is heard with regret in all parts of the Maritime Provinces. There comes a time, to all of us, when the years exact more than the vital forces can give. No one could realize from the sturdiness and mental vigour of Dr. Allison that such a time had approached. His many years of effective administration as superintendent of education of Nova Scotia and as president of Mt. Allison—over forty years in all—have earned a well deserved rest which we hope he may long enjoy.

Closing.

The colleges have closed for the year and the list of graduates is larger than ever before. The normal schools are graduating an increasing number of teachers who look forward with bright anticipations to the work they are to enter upon. The academies and high schools will close in a few weeks, the graduates rejoicing, some of them, that school is over, others that they are to enter upon higher work to which the colleges and special

schools are beckoning them. And the great army of children in the common schools, they are looking forward to vacation and the work of another year in higher grades.

Vacation.

Vacation will come as a happy relief to all these students, and to their faithful teachers who must need the rest. But rest may not mean idleness; it means rather a change of occupation, a leisurely occupation with the feeling that "school doesn't keep" for the next two months. To get away to some place where the country, pure air, wholesome food, refreshing sleep, and plenty of it, will be enjoyed to the utmost, with agreeable companionship, especially the companionship of good books. But two months will call for more variety; so the summer schools come in with their wholesome physical drill in the open air, their quest of nature in new places, and with new companions, and the feeling that this recreation is building one up physically and at the same time preparing for better school work next year.

Summer Schools.

The Summer School is an excellent means of better equipping teachers who cannot afford the time or money to attend college. The educational powers-that-be are, year by year, showing greater financial appreciation of the services of those teachers who have the "go" in them to attend a summer school. They realize that these schools do not impart information so much as skill in teaching, a mental alertness, and a broader outlook on education.

The most of these schools happen to be in Nova Scotia—this year at least. But the boundary at the Isthmus of Chignecto is every year becoming fainter, and by-and-by only those people will look for it who have nothing better to do.

The pages of the REVIEW have for months past contained information about Summer Schools, and this year the indications are that they will scarcely be able to accommodate the eager students who will flock to them.

Both the Rural Science School and the Summer School of Science (see Regulation on p. 24) have courses in School Gardening which should stimulate teachers to take up this useful branch of work.