

# The Educational Journal.

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## The Educational Journal.

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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, AND THE  
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Editor.

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## Editorial Notes.

THE "English Department" is crowded out of this issue. It will appear in next number, when questions relating to that department will be attended to.

THE essay on "The Schoolmaster in Fiction," which is given as our "Special Paper" in this number, was read before the Wentworth Teachers' Association, in Hamilton, on Feb. 20th, by Mr. J. Harold Putnam, the President of that Association. It will be found suggestive of some of the most striking phases in the evolution of the present day idea of the schoolmaster.

THERE are now 5,626 school houses in the Province, distributed as follows:—5,209 in rural districts, 230 in towns and 187 in cities. The log school house is fast disappearing, there being only 584 in 1888 as against 1,466 in 1850. In the same period brick school houses have increased from 99 to 2,086. 5,497 school houses are freehold and 129 rented. The number of maps now used amounts to 44,971. In 1850 there were only 1,814.

WE are informed that it is proposed to hold a school of music for teachers in the Normal school building for one week during August next, under Prof. H. E. Holt, of Boston. One hundred and fifty teachers attended Mr. Holt's class in 1887, and it is thought that the attendance will be equally large this year if arrangements are completed. A number of teachers in various parts of the Province have written to Mr. Preston, Teacher of vocal music in the Normal school, asking to have their names enrolled.

MANY of our readers will, no doubt, be interested in the pleasure excursions for members of the profession, advertised in this number. We invite attention to, and a careful perusal of this advertisement, in which the different tours, dates, terms and all particulars will be found clearly set forth. These excursions offer a tempting opportunity to all teachers who can manage by any means to secure for themselves the pleasures and advantages of a trip to the Old World. Such a tour would be, to the wide-awake teacher, an education in itself.

EVERYONE is looking forward, we suppose, to the publication of Stanley's forthcoming book, which will contain the only full and authentic account from his own pen, of his wonderful

journey. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, are the American publishers. Our readers will be interested to know that Messrs. James Murray & Co., whose office is in this building, have agreed with Messrs. Scribner to manufacture the large Canadian edition of this work, including the binding, etc. The Presbyterian News Co. have undertaken the sale of the work in Canada. The book will be announced very soon.

IT may well be doubted if there is any wiser work of philanthropy than that which aims at the maintenance and enlargement of industrial schools for the education of poor boys and girls who have either lost their natural protectors, or been deserted by them and left to carry on the unequal contest alone. The promoters of the Boys' Industrial School at Mimico are engaged in a noble cause, and we are glad to hear that they are receiving encouragement in the shape of some liberal donations. There is equal need of a similar institution for girls, and a committee of ladies of Toronto are making an earnest effort to supply the need. A deputation of these ladies, the other day, laid before the Attorney-General the claims of their undertaking. It is to be hoped that the appeal will be favorably considered. We do not know how a few hundreds or thousands of surplus could be more worthily bestowed.

IN our "Methods" department will be found a timely and useful article on "Model Reading," by Mr. Clarkson, Principal of Seaforth Collegiate Institute and the able editor of our Mathematical Department. We thank Mr. Clarkson sincerely, as we do all who kindly contribute to the interest and usefulness of our pages. At the same time we have to confess to a pretty deep taint of the "heresy" against which Mr. Clarkson's article is directed, not that we doubt the necessity of giving the pupil models for imitation, but that we question the utility of any method which does not aim first and chiefly at developing the intelligence. We dare say, however, that closely analyzed, our correspondent's view and our own would come to about the same thing. The use of the model is to enable children to learn by imitation to give the peculiar inflections and intonations which they have been led, or will be led, to see are the natural mode of expressing the shade of thought to be conveyed. We admit that good reading cannot be taught without the imitation of good models, but we also claim, and no doubt Mr. Clarkson would agree with us, that it cannot be taught by imitation alone. The justification of the model must be found in nature, through the intelligence.