

WE give up considerable space in this issue to the Rev. Dr. Milligan's letter in reply to an article which appeared in our June number on the School System of Newfoundland. The latter has provoked considerable discussion in the Island, and Dr. Milligan's letter shows the other side of the question.

THE University of New Brunswick opened this week. Thirty students presented themselves for matriculation, among whom are five young ladies who take a partial course. The number of students at the University the present year is a large one, and with the entrance upon a four years' course, there is every promise of increased prosperity for the University. The following are the winners of the county scholarships: York, Ernest Brydon Jack; St. John, W. H. Vanwart; Queens, Arthur L. Slipp; Kent, J. T. Hutchinson; Old Boys prizeman, David L. Mitchell.

THE death of Hon. Senator McMaster, of Toronto, removed from active life one of the few men in this country whose energy, abilities, and ample means were devoted unsparingly to the advancement of education. McMaster University, Toronto, is a monument to his unselfish devotion and noble benefactions. His bequests to this institution have been princely. Besides erecting fine university buildings, endowing chairs, he leaves an endowment which, at five per cent., represents an annual income of \$40,000. This, in addition to other gifts which he has made to education, is the noble example of a wise and generous philanthropist.

THE *School Journal* (weekly), New York and Chicago, is a capital paper. Accidents occur in the best regulated households; but the following from a leader, Sept. 24th, is more like a Yankee conceit than an accident: "The time will come when the government of Great Britain, like the United States, will be a government of the people, by the people, and for the people; but it cannot be so long as the right to rule is transferred from father to son." The fact is that the government of Great Britain is more responsive to the representations of the people than that of the United States ever can be until its constitution is changed. The British and Canadian governments can be changed in a day if the people's representatives deem it necessary. The United States, under the same circumstances, would have to endure a dictatorship for four years or have a rebellion.

THE PROVINCIAL NORMAL SCHOOL of Nova Scotia at Truro will open about the time of our next issue. The advance made by this institution of late is re-

markable. With a magnificent building, and a staff of instructors of more than provincial fame, built upon work which will ensure its permanency, and a growing demand for superior teachers on the part of our awakening school trustees, it could hardly be otherwise. What Nova Scotia wants more than any thing else, is the school-master who will disclose to the opening eyes of the future man the possibilities of his country and the possibilities within himself. A great deal of what is yet fashionable in our educational work will in the near future be looked upon as we now look upon what is called "the absurdities of Chinese civilization." Our normal schools, while paying all necessary deference to the hoary-headed pioneer principles of the past, are the natural guides to more economical and power-producing methods in the future.

METEORIC.

The meteor which passed over western Nova Scotia about 8.40 P.M., local time, 15th of September, is the most remarkable in the history of these provinces. Although it was so generally observed, we regret that so few accurate observations have been made. The *Morning Chronicle*, of Halifax, excelled all its contemporaries in taking in the situation. On the next morning it had from a number of distant points very complete telegraphic descriptions of the phenomenon. To-day, October 5th, after scanning nearly all our provincial papers, and waiting for private reports, which have only partially come in from several stations, we have but little more accurate observation to fall back upon. Many of the observations were necessarily inaccurate to a small degree, thus necessitating the averaging of as great a number as possible of those bearing evidence of the greatest precision.

The meteor, then, appears to have been a mass of matter over 1,000 yards in diameter, moving in an orbit around the sun, with a very great velocity, perhaps over 40 miles per second. If it could have been watched out in space a short time before collision with the atmosphere of the earth, it might have been seen moving from that portion of the sky near the head of Draco, which was high in the northwest at the time of its passage. Swifter and swifter it was falling, as if to cross the earth's track right in front of it. But the earth, with its ponderous steady swing, at the rate of nineteen miles per second, seemed determined to pass the line of the meteor nearly at right angles. The earth barely crossed this line ere the meteor struck the retreating rear of the earth's atmosphere over one hundred miles above