

# The Educational Review.

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## THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.

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THE reminders that are sent to subscribers this month will, it is hoped, meet with a ready response. The prompt way that our patrons have responded in the past has always enabled the REVIEW to meet its obligations.

THE Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia intimates that henceforward he intends to publish any new official notices which it may be desirable to bring to the attention of teachers before the semi-annual publications of the *Journal of Education*, in the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW, which he thinks all teachers should endeavor to make a worthy as well as an independent organ of the teaching profession in these provinces. Every teacher with the true professional *esprit de corps* must feel the necessity of keeping in touch with his or her fellow-worker's progress; and if the organ is not up to the mark in any respect, there is a good chance to benefit one's self and others by helping it up; and if that cannot be done, the alleged defect can be particu-

larly pointed out to one of the editors who will naturally be glad to have such hints as may lead to further improvement.

THE University Extension course of lectures has opened in St. John, Prof. Downing and Rev. Dr. Macrae giving parallel courses, to be followed after New Year by Prof. Stockley, and Dr. Murray MacLaren. Rev. Dr. Macrae's lectures on Education and Great Educators, have deservedly attracted great attention from the interest with which he invests his subject. We hope to refer to them at greater length in a future issue.

WEBSTER'S INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY, which is a thorough and complete revision of Webster's "Unabridged," and is really a new book, approaches most nearly the ideal of what a dictionary should be. Although we have tried to become accustomed to other dictionaries, we have invariably come back to Webster for these reasons: We find what we want in the shortest time; its vocabulary is sufficient; its definitions models of clearness and conciseness; and its methods of indicating pronunciation so plain that they can be taken in at a glance.

A few months ago the REVIEW advocated the formation of a teachers' union similar to that which exists in England. Such a union was formed at the recent meeting of the N. S. Provincial Educational Association.

Teachers have often been grossly imposed upon simply because they were too poor, and were compelled to contest their rights against unreasonable and arrogant parents and partial magistrates. When it is known that there exists a teachers' union each teacher will receive more consideration. Offences against them will be less frequent, and when they do occur they can be appropriately treated. Of course it will be necessary for the union to establish a code of ethics bearing upon the punishing of pupils, and any teacher acting well within this code must be protected. It frequently happens that teachers apply for situations already occupied by other teachers, or perhaps they underbid each other. Such breaches of professional etiquette should receive the attention of the union. There are other fields also open to its operations. We hope to see it such a power for good as the National Union of Teachers in England, where at the last election they sent to Parliament two able representatives from their ranks.