

embracing within its fostering care between one and two hundred children. The weather has been rainy up to date but this morning we opened our eyes upon Mount Baker bathed in sunshine. The robin's note has been heard and this tells us that spring is come."

On Tuesday evening, April 2nd, Mr. G. U. Hay delivered a lecture before the University of New Brunswick, on "Popular Education: wherein it has failed, wherein it has succeeded." Dr. Inch, Chief Superintendent of Education, presided. The lecturer pointed out the many advantages of our present system of education. The system is not by any means perfect. It has defects which legislators, educationists, and the people at large should unitedly endeavor to correct. The education that our common schools should seek to give, is one that should in the largest measure form the character and train the individual to think and to do. No matter how perfect the appliances in our schools, if they fail to accomplish this in the individual they fail in their function. The mere imparting of knowledge, without making fact correlate with fact, without adequate expression of this knowledge and power to use it in the manifold requirements of life, without making all school exercises help to form character, is one great cause of failure. But there are hopeful signs that more teachers are making education a study, that they are aiming to sift the important from what is less important in our courses of study, and that examining bodies are trying to find out what power the student has gained, rather than how many facts he may be ready to deliver to their inquiries.

The discussion which followed, lasted for two hours, and was taken part in by Profs. Davidson and Stockley, Dr. Bridges, Dr. Bailey, Prof. Dixon, Chancellor Harrison, Dr. Inch; by Mr. Brittain of the Normal School, and by Messrs. Allen and Hoben, students of the university. Many practical hints and suggestions were given during the discussion bearing on the material improvement in our system, especially how the system of examinations might be changed for the better. Mr. Brittain would make them tests of power by giving plenty of time to the student, and framing the questions in such a way that training would count for much. Chancellor Harrison said that students came to the University better prepared in mathematics than in former times—a strong argument for the present system, as the schools of former years gave much time to mathematics. The remarks of Messrs. Allan and Hoben were full of instruction, as showing how the rostrum and its occupant may gain the genuine and lasting respect of pupils—or otherwise.

### Recent Papers by Atlantic Province Men.

The "American Geologist" for March contains an article by Dr. Geo. F. Matthew of St. John, in which the researches of M. Cayeux of Paris among the early protozoa are described. These discoveries are genuine, and it is now found that foraminifera, sponges and other protozoa occur in the pre-Cambrian rocks of St. John.

Dr. W. F. Ganong, of Smith College, Northampton, Mass., has an article in a recent number of "Science," New York, read before the American Society of Naturalists, Baltimore, December 28th, 1894, on "Laboratory Teaching of Large Classes in Botany." The necessity of individual instruction is urged, and this can be secured by appointing as assistants those who intend to be teachers.

"A Cheap Form of Self-regulating Gas Generator" is the title of a paper, with cut, published in the "Journal of the American Chemical Society," for April, 1895, by Prof. W. W. Andrews, of Mount Allison University, Sackville. "This form of generator is so cheap and easily set up that it makes it possible for every teacher and experimenter in chemistry to have, at practically no expense, a set of generators capable of yielding, whenever called upon, a supply of hydrogen, chlorine, carbon dioxide, etc." Prof. Andrews will have one at the Summer School of Science in July.

### The April Magazines.

Two papers of educational interest in the "Atlantic Monthly" for the current month are The Expressive Power of English Sounds, by Professor Albert H. Tolman; and The Basis of our Educational System, by James Jay Greenough.... In "St. Nicholas" a cruise along Newfoundland and Labrador, and the occupations of the people in that desolate region, are described by Gustav Kobb, and Prof. Brander Matthews furnishes a genial criticism of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow for his series of sketches of great American authors.... In addition to the Napoleon history, the April "Century" has a variety of interesting articles, notable among which is that by Lyman Abbot on Religious Teaching in the Public Schools.... The "Popular Science Monthly" has several valuable educational articles, among which are Prof. Sully's Studies of Childhood, and Manual Training, by Dr. Henderson.... A paper of great interest to students of geography is the admirably illustrated article on Picturesque Papua in the "Cosmopolitan".... The March issues of "Littell's Living Age" give 315 pages of the choicest periodical literature printed in the English language. In all, these five weekly numbers contain thirty-six articles, of which, perhaps, the most valuable are The Court of Ferrara in the Fifteenth Century, Erasmus and the Reformation, The Evolution of Cities, Rural Scotland in First Half of last Century, An Unpublished Page in Madagascar History, Gen'l Boulanger: an Object Lesson in French Politics, The Crimea in 1854 and 1894.... The "Chautauquan" for April, is an excellent specimen of this educational magazine. There is a good article on "What the Stars are Made of," written in a very popular and untechnical way, by Garrett P. Serviss,