

has much to recommend it, because commercial geography may then be built upon physical geography as a science; and the pupil, from the first, realizes that his purpose is not so much to remember facts, as to understand them, and think how his knowledge can be applied. All the collateral attainment which can be added, for example, to a discriminating acquaintance with the ores of metals, is a technical training by means of scientific processes which have to be understood. And, whether such further attainment is made in school-days or later, it is made at sometime, if the foundation was well laid by the men who extended the demand for British goods.

This suggested limitation of the subject, as a school study, overcomes the chief difficulties which have been indicated as affecting the teacher, while it reduces the difficulty in obtaining the necessary materials for practical work. I may, therefore, claim that there is no reason why commercial geography should not become a recognized study in all schools in which technical training is encouraged.

For the present, the complicated conditions of manufacturing and distributive industries seem more suitable

for study when the young man is fairly engaged in the battle of commercial life. And it is rather in University institutions, than in schools, that he may be advised to follow out such an examination of the ultimate history of raw materials and manufactured goods as accounts for their distribution by merchants and traders.

There is practically no limit to the enterprize of the English merchant in discovering markets, and profiting by new commodities. Probably no discovery he could make would be so welcome as clerks who to their other attainments added that practical grasp of their work which would follow from adequate mastery of this branch of knowledge. On that account the merchant's aid may be desired in co-operating to further organize formal recognition of commercial geography, as a suitable subject not only for Government examinations, perhaps under the Science and Art regulations, which would give new intelligence to the rank and file of traders, but also for professorial teaching in Universities, so that the employers of labour may be not less well prepared for their share in this educational effort to cherish and, if possible, advance the prosperity of our country.—*The Educational Times*.

AMERICAN EDUCATIONISTS IN TORONTO.

IN the early part of November, an important educational convention was held in Toronto. For many years, it has been the practice of the principals of the State Normal Schools of New York to hold an annual conference at some point, usually in their own state. Seventeen years ago, their meeting was held in Toronto, and this year they returned to pay the city

a second visit. The following gentlemen were present:—E. A. Sheldon, Ph.D., Oswego, President; W. J. Milne, Ph.D., Albany, Vice-President; C. D. McLean, LL.B., Brockport; J. M. Cassety, Ph.D., Buffalo; F. J. Cheney, Ph.D., Cortland; F. B. Palmer, Ph.D., Fredonia; Jno. M. Milne, Ph.D., Geneseo; F. S. Capen, Ph.D., New Paltz; Jas. M.