

Notes and Comments.

WITH this issue the EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY completes its third volume. The Index, which is already in the printers' hands, will be published with the next number.

"EQUITY" has again favoured us with a communication on "Separate School Seceders." We are obliged to defer the publication of the letter together with an answer till our next issue.

IN 1887 a Greek National Exhibition upon an unprecedented scale is to be opened in Athens, contributions toward which are now sought. One feature of the show, which is likely at once to attract the pleasure-seekers and the archaeologists of other lands, is to be an exact reproduction of the ancient Olympic games. This curious revival, if successful, is to be repeated, as in ancient Greece, every four years. The games will take place at Olympia, in the neighborhood of Athens.—*Latine et Grace.*

A NEW educational paper, entitled *The New Brunswick Journal of Education*, which is to be devoted to the interests of teachers, has lately been established in St. John, N. B. The first number, which has just come to hand, impresses us with a firm conviction that it will not only be a welcome and valuable addition to educational journalism, but will meet with a warm reception at the hands both of teachers and all others connected with scholastic pursuits. The editors are Geo. U. Hay, Ph.B., and W. S. Carter, A.M.

A RADICAL change in hygienic methods is a vital subject of the present day. The actual requirements and needs of a healthy-growing human body is of primary importance to all parents and instructors of youth; to all of whom we urge a careful perusal of the article headed "Physical Education" in this present issue of our journal. We must certainly agree with the writer of this paper that the object of education is not to make women men or men women, but to draw out all that is best in men and all that is best in women.

IT is said that the late Lord Palmerston, during the conversation after a Cabinet dinner, dictated the following sentence to be written down by the members of his Government as a test of accuracy in spelling. Some of our readers, we think, will find it difficult to correct it as written thus:—"It is disagreeable to witness the embarasment of a harrassed pedlar gagi; the symetry of a pealed potato considered unparaelled in the leterogenity of the calosity of its periphery." His Lordship asserted his opinion that none of his guests would succeed nor did they.

MANY who discuss industrial education seem to forget that the only way the mind has of receiving knowledge is through the activity of the senses. The mind grows in

receiving, and then just as much more in giving. It is this continual receiving and giving that causes growth. Thinking without the activity of some of the senses is very unprofitable, in fact, there can be no *productive* thinking without doing. The aim of industrial education is not to teach trades, but to be a mental and physical preparation for all the work any one may be called upon to engage in during life.—*The School Journal.*

THE editor of the *Ohio Educational Monthly* writes of us as follows:—"The EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY (Toronto) says, concerning American educational journals, 'They are one and all full to repletion not with such matter as will broaden the views of their readers and point out to them what is true culture, but with various little details of routine.' That is a little too sweeping, Brother Haultain; there are honourable exceptions, among which we would name the EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY. Not so sweeping and more just is the following from the same article: 'The aim of too many masters seems to be to discover how a predecessor proceeded in some minor points in the minutia of teaching, some technical detail merely, instead of penetrating farther and trying to learn fundamental principles of tuition.' It is always a tendency of the human mind to be unduly occupied with the external and material, to the neglect of the inner and spiritual. We are sensuous—much more readily attracted by outward form and appearance than by inner substance or essence. The inner sense develops very slowly, and that only after a new birth. It is no marvel that we must be born again. Our eyes must be opened before we can see truly."

WE feel very confident in saying that no city on the continent is blessed with so efficient a police force as has Toronto, and that this is due to the remarkable ability of the chief, Major Draper, we are equally sure. The *Evangelical Churchman* writes:—"An animated discussion has been going on in the Toronto papers about the recent action of the Police Commissioners in having all loiterers turned out of the Queen's Park at nine o'clock in the evening, and in prohibiting ball-playing and kindred amusements there. The defence of the latter regulation is that it is only intended to deprive the boys of their play-ground temporarily, and that the action of the Commissioners will cause steps to be taken at once to supply the boys with suitable grounds for their amusements. Some, we hope not many, of those who have recently been playing in the Park have constantly offended the ears of passers-by by most foul language, and we are not sorry that these will have learned that the privilege is dependent upon good behaviour. The action of the Commissioners in having the Park cleared at nine o'clock is a wise and much-needed one. The amount of vice that

has in the past been openly flaunted in the face of passers-by at night is simply appalling. The parks in the English cities are closed certainly not later than nine. The workingman who has to be at his work at seven in the morning ought to be in bed by ten, and the new regulation cannot be said to bear very heavily upon him. If it is not to be continued permanently, additional police protection ought to be provided for the Park, for as things have been, respectable people have been deprived of its privileges except during broad daylight.

AT the West Kent Association one of the chief topics discussed was introduced by Mr. W. Nichol, P. S. I., who dealt with the desirability of a change in the Model School term, he held that at present there was too much rush and hurry, and that if the Model School term was arranged for the first half of the year he would be able to thoroughly study the art of school management, and pass an examination at the beginning of the term, and thus get much earlier introduction to actual work, instead of spending a great deal of time attending lectures, etc. Now, if the class is large, sometimes only 10 to 20 minutes is allowed each candidate to show his actual teaching ability, and then only in one subject. He thought more chance should be given. He advocated a change in the school year to determine engagements of teachers at midsummer instead of midwinter. He urged as reasons the longer time for parley in settling an engagement; better roads; commencing with the smaller children in midsummer and gradually getting acquainted with the older scholars. This applied more especially to the rural districts, where in winter no anticipated change of teachers would deter pupils from coming in. It would also be better for the inspectors who had always a lot of tangled reports to deal with while the teacher was leaving, and of course leaving the school and its affairs just as it might be at the time; whereas if the teacher remained past the New Year these reports could be more easily obtained. From 1879 it has been the duty of trustees to pay teachers quarterly, but it has not been generally known or observed. Now the new Act was in the trustees' hands and they were living up to it. Mr. Donovan asked the speaker what he thought of two Model School terms annually, as proposed by the Model School Inspector. Mr. Nichol was not in sympathy with it. He thought six months ought to show what a student could do. The two term system would be expensive. There might, however, be a scheme for grouping counties and gathering together rejected candidates and giving them a second trial. The President, Mr. Brackinder, suggested action as to Mr. Nichol's proposition, and Mr. Nichol said if the Institute endorsed his views he would issue a circular inviting opinions and co-operation.