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Extract from letter received from Hon. J. W. SIMMONDS, State Superintendent Public Instruction, New Hampshire.

Some weeks since I received the June No. of your Jour. J. at my home, Franklin, N.H. sent in answer to a request. That was a very valuable and instructive number. I read it with much interest. I ask you to send me the subsequent numbers, and enrol me as a subscriber.

Recommended by the Minister of Education for Ontario.

Recommended by the Council of Public Instruction in Quebec.

Recommended by the Chief Supt. of Education for New Brunswick.

Recommended by the Chief Supt. of Education, British Columbia.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1878.

THE CHAUTAUQUA LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC CIRCLE.

There are probably few Christian people in Canada who have not heard of Dr. John H. Vincent, the recognized leader of the Sunday School world. British as well as American people freely accord to him the position which his learning, experience, and administrative ability have earned for him. "Chautauqua," though an odd word, needs to be interpreted to few Sunday School workers in America. Every one knows that it means rest, enjoyment, invigoration, music, eloquence, progress, development, normal class training, &c. Many thousands annually spend their holidays at the educational watering place on its beautiful shore. But "Chautauqua," with all its past fulness of meaning, is to have a far deeper, and wider, and grander significance. Dr. Vincent aims at making it the centre of an educational work, which will give culture and mental power to the people of his nation, yea of his continent. Recognizing the fact that the vast majority cease to study or read with an aim after they leave school, and that the advantages of a "liberal education" are confined to a very limited number, he has instituted the "Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle" to remedy these defects in our system of secular education. The idea is a grand one. It means a change in the reading of a race, it means a unification and systematizing of study for the masses, it means the uplifting of a higher standard of general intelligence, it means the awakening of dormant powers of investigation. These are outlines of its meaning now. The shadows of its significance in the days to come are still more vast. What practical form has the idea taken? What is the "Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle?" Simply a class formed of men and women of all grades of society, from all parts of North America, who agree to take a course of four years' reading in History, Literature and Science, and submit to an examination or examinations with the view of receiving a diploma at the close of the fourth year. The works to be read are to be selected by the Chautauqua Department of Instruction. All must read the whole

of the course for the first two years. Options will then be allowed, so that each may choose for himself the special department of study in which he is most deeply interested, and read more exhaustively in it. The time to be spent in reading is about three hours each week. Postal cards will be sent to the members of the circle monthly, so that they may report progress to the central department. No charge is at present made for admission to the circle. A fine reference library and a large laboratory are to be established in the grove at Lake Chautauqua, and the finest apparatus and most learned professors of American Universities are to be pressed into summer service for the benefit of those who can spend the summer months, or part of them, at the "educational watering place." Two of the finest telescopes in the United States were used by the class this year under the direction of Dr. Warren of Philadelphia. It is not essential that members of the circle should attend the classes at Chautauqua. They may read at home exclusively, individually or in smaller circles, or friendly, social parties.

"Visionary," is it? Pause before deciding. It startles you. Look at it on all sides and in all lights, and you will find that it has strong, vigorous roots which are going to fasten themselves firmly in the hearts and minds of the people. It may aid you in coming to a just conclusion to know that several of the ablest University Professors, and most prominent literary men in America, have given the scheme their unqualified approval. The first member of the circle enrolled is a Professor in a University. Over 700 became members this year at Chautauqua, and many of them will organize circles at their homes. Four hundred copies of Green's History of the English People were ordered in a single day for the members of the class.

The circle will supply a want that has long been felt. Nearly every school section has its debating society, many churches and Young Men's Christian Associations have literary societies of some kind. These organizations show the desire of the people for united efforts for mutual improvement. They all fail to a considerable degree in accomplishing their objects, because they lack completeness of plan, definiteness of aim, and systematic connection with each other. The Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle is just the central and directing organization required to enable such societies to accomplish fully the work which they now attempt. Teachers throughout the country, who find too much time on their hands, should keep themselves from growing rusty and indolent by forming circles in their sections. The members of these circles might meet in turn at each other's houses to do their reading, regularly, or at least once a month for review. In this way the expense of purchasing the necessary books might be borne by the circle as a whole, instead of by each member. It would not then be necessary for each one to have all the prescribed books.

KINDERGARTEN TRAINING SCHOOLS.

Frequent enquiries are made regarding training classes for Kindergartners. In response to them the first advice to be