

## QUESTION DEPARTMENT.

C. I. R., Arlington, June 6th. Can you tell me the names of these birds? The following are the descriptions as seen by my scholars:

1. Bird had grey breast, grey tail, back black and grey, under part blue and white, black spot on head, and white stripes over eyes.

Ans. — It may have been the white-throated sparrow, if the white over the eyes was yellowish, and the throat was white, and the bird was nearly seven inches in length. Or the chipping sparrow, if it were but little over five inches in length. The song might decide the question.

2. Another bird was seen which was all yellow, with black bars across its wings.

Ans. — There can be no mistake about this one. It is the male of the American goldfinch.

3. Another scholar describes a bird with grey breast, black back, red spot on head, under parts grey, wings dark.

Ans. Can this be a woodpecker which has a red spot on the back of its head? If so, the rest of the description is very defective.

4. Please solve from Kirkland & Scott's arithmetic, question 8, page 166 (examination papers for 1892). "A runs a mile race with B and loses; but had A's speed been one-third greater he would have won by 22 yards. Find the ratio of A's speed to B's."

Ans. — When A's speed is one-third greater than it was at first, it is four-thirds of its original speed, and he covers 1760 yards when B covers 22 yards less, that is 1738 yards. Then 1760 divided by four-thirds of A's speed is the time of the race, and is therefore equal to 1738 divided by *once* B's speed. That is 1738 times the speed of the one equals 1320 times the speed of the other. The speeds are therefore to each other as 1320 : 1738. Reducing the ratio to the lowest terms by dividing by 22, we have the ratio 60 : 79.

## SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

Thanksgiving Day — Thursday, November 21.

Through the efforts of Miss Eliza G. Crawley a fine flag has been procured for the school at Chamcook, Charlotte County.

Miss Mary J. Herbison, teacher at St. Croix, Charlotte County, assisted by pupils and friends, has been able to furnish her school room and to supply it with much needful apparatus.

Truro Academy seems to have led the province in academic work last year. This year it opened with 14 studying for Grade A, 31 for B, 59 for C, and 83 for

D in all 187. Of these 56 are from beyond the section several being from other counties or other provinces. There will yet be considerable additions to these numbers.

We regret to hear of the serious illness of Mr. T. E. Colpitts, principal of the grammar school at Alma, Albert County, N. B.

Classes in music are given in the New Glasgow high school by Miss Tweedie and Mr. Logan. Painting and drawing are taught by Miss Graham, whose work there last year was so much admired.

By means of a school concert, Miss Inez Maxwell, teacher at Hayman Hill, Charlotte Co., has furnished the school with blinds and some very useful apparatus.

Many of the school rooms in St. Stephen are very full of pupils and some changes have had to be made. A few rooms are very much needed.

An additional room has been provided in Milltown by moving one of the unoccupied school buildings from the Union.

The work of enlarging the school accommodation at Welshpool progresses slowly, but when completed two fine school rooms will be provided.

Inspector Carter will be engaged during the first part of October in Charlotte Co.; during the latter part of that month and during the first part of November he will be engaged in St. John and Kings Counties.

Several of the Charlotte County teachers remained over Monday after the Institute and visited some of the St. John Schools.

Mr. Michael Kelly, formerly on the staff of teachers in St. Martins, is a candidate for the provincial parliament.

Principals Soloan and Robinson are still at work in their old sections, New Glasgow and Berwick, N. S., respectfully. These sections are fortunate in having their schools under the management of men who have done such good work in the past.

A. J. Pinceo, A. B., so well known to many of our teachers in connection with the Summer School of Science for the Atlantic Provinces, has been lecturing in British Columbia (where he now resides) on his favorite subject — geology — the geology of the primeval world. He believed that cosmic development as he traced it, proved the truth of the evolution theory; but not evolution without a God.