

# The Educational Review.

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G. U. HAY,  
Editor for New Brunswick.

A. McKAY,  
Editor for Nova Scotia.

J. D. SEAMAN,  
Editor for P. E. Island.

## THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.

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No ONE who is interested in the study of plants or the beautifying of grounds should fail to subscribe for *Garden and Forest*. See its announcement on another page.

THE St. John County Teachers' Institute will meet in December. See the programme on another page.

THE deepest sympathy of many friends will be extended to Mr. Alexander McKay, the editor of the REVIEW for Nova Scotia, on the death of his wife, after a brief illness. In the family circle her loss is irreparable. The community mourns the loss of one whose life was marked by a self sacrifice and devotion to every good work which she undertook.

THE NEED of a good catalogue for school libraries is as yet unsupplied. Many of our teachers in New Brunswick are procuring libraries, but in the absence of a catalogue of suitable books many bad selections are being made.

A MEMBER of the Dominion Medical Association has drawn the attention of the REVIEW to the fact that the motion quoted in the September number condemning the school system, was not passed by that body at its meeting in St. John in August, and

he kindly sends the *Canada Medical Record*, which contains the following report:

“Dr. Bayard moved, seconded by Dr. Hingston, that the system of education generally pursued in the Dominion of Canada draws too largely on the brain tissue of children, and materially injures the mental and bodily health. Drs. Cameron of Toronto, and Powell of Ottawa, thought the terms of the resolution were too sweeping, that there was no specific statement as to what department of the school system was at fault, nor to what portion of the Dominion it more especially applied. Our young people, Dr. Cameron thought, were not suffering, the older people neither, from too much education. The educational system had been the subject of the best thought of our best men, and he considered the motion too condemnatory. A resolution was then passed, that the matter be referred to a committee consisting of Dr. Powell, Dr. Hingston, Dr. Graham, and Dr. Bayard.”

### LOCAL TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.

Are local teachers' institutes fulfilling all that is expected of them? Are they stimulating teachers, especially young teachers, to do better work, not only in school, but out of school? Do they attract the best teachers of the county? These are some of the questions that arise in reading the proceedings of local institutes. Sometimes the reading induces an answer in the affirmative, sometimes in the negative. The REVIEW is anxious to catch and reflect the educational spirit that pervades these meetings; to report of the “Twenty-first Annual Meeting of ——— Institute” what may show that the organization has come of age, and is not still in its swaddling clothes; to show that the work is not a re-hashing of the same old work in arithmetic, geography, history, etc., but to show what the latest investigation and the personal experience of the skilful teacher prove to be advanced and reliable methods of teaching these subjects. One lesson given by an earnest and experienced teacher to a class of pupils will do more to stimulate and set right the young and unexperienced teacher than scores of papers on the “how” and the “why.” To write a paper on the