

# The Canadian Journal

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

We take pleasure in presenting to our many friends and subscribers, the second number of THE CANADIAN JOURNAL. The orders for last month's papers, exceeded our most sanguine expectations, and according to the promise, made in that issue, we have enlarged to eight pages. This of itself is a vast improvement and makes the journal, well worth the subscription price, but, remember, we shall not stop with this. It is our desire to issue a paper which shall be second to none, but, in order to do this, we must receive renewed support. Half a dollar is a mere trifle to any one of our readers, and can easily be afforded by all, without the slightest inconvenience. Now let each one who has not already sent in his subscription, send it on receipt of this, and let us feel that our efforts in striving to supply a standard Canadian paper are appreciated. Before closing, we desire to thank those journals which have given us such kindly notices in their columns, and hope that ere long we shall merit the good wishes given us by them.

We would call the attention of our readers, to the advertisements which appear in the present No. of "The Journal." They will well repay perusal. When answering them, please mention where you saw them.

We were pleased to see an excellent article on "The Study of Canadian History" in a recent issue of our lively College Cotem, *The Varsity*. The Editorial referred to has the right ring to it, and we hope our College friends will not let this matter drop, as it is one of such vital importance.

It is now stated that the word Canada originated with the verdict of a party from the Basque Provinces, to the effect that the land was good for nothing. If Canada means good for nothing land, as claimed, our country is ironically named.

## THE STUDY OF CANADIAN HISTORY.

As the short notice on Canadian History in our public schools, which appeared in the last number of the JOURNAL, created considerable comment we purpose again referring to it. In

the present enlightened age, the great aim of the pupil seems to be to pass his examinations. While such a desire is to be commended, still he should bear in mind that the subjects he studies in school are to fit him to fight the battle of life when he starts out for himself. As the pupils of to-day are to make the statesmen of the future, it is absolutely necessary that, no matter what else is on the school programme, the History of Canada should occupy a pre-eminent position, and every scholar should be compelled to study it. Of course it is studied to a certain extent, but just enough to give the student a dislike to it. One reason for its not being pursued to a great extent is, that at the High School Entrance Examinations, British History receives about seventy per cent. of the marks on the History paper, while our own country's History is put off with the remaining thirty per cent., or to put the thing in a nutshell, the study of British History receives two and a half times the encouragement that of Canadian History. Now the fact is clear that this should be reversed. A pupil who has a difficult examination to pass would be certainly standing in his own light, were he to devote most of his time to studying a certain branch for which but few marks are given, while another subject receives nearly three times as much value. The remedy lies in the hands of the school authorities. Let them give the Canadian History papers a high value, not only at the High School Entrance Examinations, but at the Intermediate, and Teachers also, in fact, make it an *absolute necessity*, for a student to understand considerable of the History of his own country, and in a short time the happy results of it will be plainly seen. Another great drawback is the want of a suitable text-book, but let us have the high value set on Canadian History at the examinations, and we may rest assured that enterprising publishers will soon supply us with books suited to our wants.

## HIGHER EDUCATION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS.

Dr. Grassett in delivering the inaugural address to the Students of Trinity Medical School, a short time ago, remarked, that he believed a University education necessary to any one who engaged in the study of medicine. While agreeing with the worthy Doctor in most of the points brought forth in his lecture, we must take exception to this one. In the first place we consider a *first-class* High School education amply sufficient for any profession, but Theology. For this it is necessary to go back to the very beginning of things, and this can only be accomplished by a University training. Now in order to pass the examination required by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, a man must necessarily be fairly well educated, which is only right, as we don't believe in having boors in any of the learned professions. In entering upon Medical studies, a student needs to have his mind fresh, ready to grasp and take a firm hold of this all-important study. This is almost an impossibility if he has already given the previous four years, generally the best of his life, to killing himself by inches, while securing a University education. In the second place students who have not had the advantages of

such training, when they are studying Medicine, generally surpass those who have had. In the third place, the men without the handle of B.A. or M.A. to their names, invariably succeed better in after life than those who pride themselves on their University training. Let any unprejudiced person look at the practices of the medical men of this city, and he will find that in nine cases out of ten the simple M.D's take the lead. Again, a doctor, if he has the taste for reading, is far better able to converse intelligently and pleasantly, by reading the current literature of the day, than by poring over the fossilized efforts of ancient times. And lastly, if a man is in need of medical treatment, he will not pause to consider whether the physician has had a University training. What is that to the sick one? His question is "who can cure me?" he cares not for either M.A. or B.A., but at once sends for the man whom he thinks can be of the greatest service to him.

## OUR ENTERPRISE.

In the present number of THE CANADIAN JOURNAL, we present our readers with articles from the pens of two of the leading writers in Canada. "The Growth of Canadian Trade," was written for us specially, by a gentleman who has long been engaged on the contributing staff of "The Canadian Methodist Magazine." The other on "The Good Old Settler Days," we have secured at considerable expense from one of the writers on the celebrated "Century" magazine of New York.

The above speaks for itself. We are doing our part in striving to issue a live Canadian Monthly, and it now remains for our readers to give us that hearty support and encouragement which is necessary for the maintenance of such a paper. Let us be greeted with a host of subscribers ere our next number appears.

## PERSONALS.

L. Heyden, Esq., Toronto, is again forming a library of interesting and scarce works published in and relating to our Canadian Dominion. Mr. H. some few years ago presented the Canadian Institute with a valuable lot of books on Canada.

S. Nairn, Esq., of Toronto, a thorough Scotchman, but one interested in the Country of his adoption, is gathering together a fine Canadian Library.

Mr. G. E. Hart, Manager of the Citizens Insurance Company, Montreal, has a splendid collection of Canadian Books, Coins and Medals.

J. D. Barnett, Esq., Assistant Mechanical Superintendent G. T. R., has one of the finest libraries in Western Ontario.

F. Broughton, Esq., late Manager of the Great Western Railway, has a taste for old Canadian Works and has gathered together a large library of the valuable and scarcer Works.

Mr. J. G. Bourinot's article on "Canada as a Home" has been reprinted in England as a pamphlet. Such an article, by a man of recognized position and high personal character, is calculated to do a great deal of good, and we trust it will have a wide circulation in the old country.