

Children's Department.

At the earnest solicitation of many of our young friends—old friends they are too, from whom we shall be glad to hear every month—we have decided to commence this department anew. We cannot, however, promise to present many attractions before New Year's, but after that time we shall be able to present a greater variety of Puzzles, &c. In this number we, therefore, give all an opportunity to manifest their profundity by presenting a *Word-hunt*, as follows:—

"Find the greatest number of words that can be composed of the letters in '*Children's Department*.' If the plural of any word ends in *s*, the singular only will be taken. The words to be arranged alphabetically when sent to us—that is, all beginning with *a* in one column," &c.

Lists to be forwarded to us not later than the 15th November, enclosed in an envelope, *unsealed*, and with the words "For the Press" written thereon, and one cent stamp attached. *Please follow these directions closely, and save us a great deal of unnecessary trouble.*

Christmas Prizes.

To the boy or girl who sends us the best reply to the above, and such puzzles as may appear in our next number, we will present a pair of our beautiful premium chromos. One chromo will be sent to the boy or girl sending us the second best list, and a crayon to the one that sends the third best list.

DEAR CHILDREN—It will be the duty and pleasure of the editor of this department to correspond with you from month to month through the COMPANION AND TEACHER. He desires that you will manifest your interest therein *at once*. Send in your list even if it be a small one, if it is the best you can do. *None can do better.* We promise to make the department interesting just in proportion to the amount of encouragement we receive at your hands. After New Year's, better premiums and more of them will be offered, if the competition for those already offered proves lively. The long winter are before us. Your parents should provide for your amusement, and not insist on your studying lessons for school next day. "You can surely study enough in six hours per day *if you try*; and if you don't try, there is no reason why you should be compelled to *appear to try* day and night. Tell your Parents and teacher that you will *try very hard* during school hours, and, our word for it, they will not ask you to do more. If they do, let us know, and we will give them a free lecture some time. You study too much and read too little, and should, therefore, induce your parents to provide plenty of books for you; or better still, ask your teacher to get up a good School Library, and then many poor boys and girls, who otherwise would seldom have a good book to read, would be as happy as yourselves.

We will not promise to insert in our columns the name of every one who competes for this prize, but will do so with all whom we think worthy of the distinction.

We have just decided to ask our young friends to write us a letter next month; so that the prizes will be given for *Word Hunt* and *Letter*.

Publishers' Department.

Introductory. With this number we commence under the title of OUR HOME COMPANION AND CANADIAN TEACHER, formed by the amalgamation of the *Ontario Teacher* and OUR HOME COMPANION. We have, therefore, now to introduce ourselves to many new readers, and we trust our humble endeavors to produce a good, readable magazine may merit their hearty approval. We have to admit that in this number we have made a mistake by inserting in full the report of one or two Teachers' Associations as forwarded to us. Our arrangements with those who have undertaken the supervision of the Educational Department were not completed in time to permit them to do their work this month. It has therefore fallen upon our shoulders, and the result is as stated above, and a large number of interesting educational items are crowded out. Our readers may, therefore, expect a marked improvement in our future issues.

Club Rates.—There are so many different publications that it is almost impossible to get even a small club of any particular publication in many small towns, or even large ones. Our plan is this. We get a few hundred subscribers, here and there, all over the country, and upon the whole receive a very large list for most of the papers we place on our list. We, therefore, receive from the Publishers their very best terms, and can actually afford to give subscribers better terms than the publishers themselves. Another advantage to subscribers is, that when ordering three or four different periodicals, as many do, they have only got to write one letter if they order through us, and, besides, they save the postage and registration fee on two or three letters. We invite all to examine our list on last page of cover, and if satisfied with our rates, to order through us.

Editorial. Messrs. J. Dearness, I. P. S. for East Middlesex, and Samuel R. Brown, Teacher, of this city, have undertaken the supervision of the Editorial Department, and will assume the entire control of the same, commencing with our next number. Both gentlemen are eminently qualified to perform the duties required of them, and under their management we expect to see the COMPANION AND TEACHER gain increased favor at the hands of Inspectors and Teachers everywhere. Communications on any subject of general interest are especially invited from all, and Inspectors and Teachers are especially invited to join hands with the above, and by forwarding them such information as may be available to them, make it comparatively easy to perform their work.

Three Good Reasons Why you should subscribe for the COMPANION AND TEACHER. 1st. It is printed in smaller type and contains a good deal more reading matter than the *Ontario Teacher*. 2nd. It is offered to subscribers for less money; and 3rd. We give a handsome crayon to each subscriber. We invite your co-operation on account of the unsurpassed liberality of our offer, and, likewise, from the merit and solid work of the publication itself, its freedom from all trashy reading, and avowed aim to improve, benefit and instruct. Now is the time to subscribe, letting your subscription date from the present number.