

are too far apart. The teacher should know the parents; the parents the teacher. The teacher must be far more than a hearer of lessons. We would have the principal and the teachers active in social beneficence in the district tributary to the school.

The discovery of a great tract of fertile country in the Province of Ontario, north of the height of land, adds one-sixth to the area in that province available for cultivation. This country extending to the shores of Hudson Bay, was, until recently, an almost unknown wilderness, and was supposed to be too cold for cultivation. Now, however, it is stated that, owing partly to its lower elevation, the climate on the south shore of James Bay is more moderate than that of Manitoba. A railway is under construction from Sault Ste. Marie northward, and is

expected to reach Moose Factory within three years, opening up rich forest and meadow land as it goes, and finally giving access to the valuable fisheries of Hudson Bay.

Prof. Earl Barnes, in a recent address before the London Sloyd Association, spoke strongly of the advantages of country life, in education. The training a country boy gets is, he said, simple, concrete, persistent and natural; the city boy's education is complex, abstract, variable and artificial. The country lad learns the true relations of cause and effect. He does not grow up with the notion that water comes from a tap; he knows that it must be sought in veins of the earth. Though rural education has its defects, the children in the country have, by reason of their every-day contact with the simple things of life, a great advantage over the children of the city.

#### BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

The opening paper in the November number of *The Studio* is a criticism of the work of A. D. Pepper-corn, written by R. A. M. Stevenson, the art critic who was a cousin of Robert Louis Stevenson's, and whose name is familiar to those who have read the Stevenson letters. Mr. R. A. M. Stevenson's death occurred early in the year; it was stated frequently at the time that his work had not received its proper appreciation. Its balance, earnestness and seriousness will be found exemplified by this article on a modern landscapist.

The November number of *The Philistine* contains an esoteric account of a meeting on a railway train, or perhaps one should rather say an esoteric meeting. There is also a

diverting description of Mr. Bliss Carman's present Bohemian surrounding.

"The Rhyme of the Tory Tollevers" is one of the prettiest contributions to the December number of *St. Nicholas*. It is written by Ethel Parton, and the illustrations, in color, are by Guernsey Moore.

The most important article in the December *Cosmopolitan* is an account by Sir Robert Hart of the Chinese uprising of the last summer. The same article appeared in England in the *Fortnightly Review*. It would be difficult to over-estimate the consideration which ought to be given by the English and American Governments to what Sir Robert Hart has felt himself compelled to write.