

DISCUSSION.

DURAL, N. S. WALES,

March 16th, 1894.

DEAR MR. MACMURCHY,—Your note was duly received a few days ago, and on the eve of the Canadian mail going I write these lines about our colony and the times, as you requested.

The colony is the oldest in the group, and was discovered by Captain Cook in the year 1770; the first colony (New South Wales) being proclaimed in February 1778; but more about the colony in my next.

As some one says, *the times are out of joint*, and some of the teaching profession are greatly concerned; my own opinion after twenty years' teaching under the department is, that the New South Wales teacher is better off—on the whole—than similar officials in any other Australian colony, or even teachers in England, Canada, or United States. 'Tis true, we have some curtailment of liberty in certain matters; but we have security of tenure, a fixed salary, residence provided for teachers in charge (head teachers or principals—if the grander term is better liked), or some equivalent allowance. We are under the direct control of the Chief Inspector's Department, and we have no School Boards to make our lives a burden—in the British and American sense; of necessity we have our roses and thorns.

Political matters are in a state of transition, and until the next general election under the new law is over, I do not think any one can forecast events.

The Wesleyan Conference has been sitting and excluded one of their ministers of sound doctrine and good morals, because he refused to take a certain appointment, and

desired to run for Parliament, preach single tax and preach the gospel. Teachers have sometimes to administer very sharp discipline to a good worthy pupil, when he refuses to obey and asserts private rights in opposition to general discipline. But the Wesleyan Conference, as Spurgeon would say, "is orthodox."

The Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly has made a terrible attack on verbal inspiration—takes the extreme view and has just stirred up things. Rev. Dr. Clifford, of London, is orthodox, but not the Moderator. More in my next.

Yours truly,

HENRY E. PAGE.

THE PARSING OF LIKE.

To the Editor of the EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY

SIR,—I have read "Learner's" letter in your last issue, but his reasoning has failed to convince me that it is either necessary or proper to parse "like" as a preposition.

He thinks that I have unwittingly assigned to the word "like" the value of the phrase which it introduces. Now I am quite prepared to admit that the phrase 'like a fool' is adverbial, just as I should admit that the phrases, "agreeably to our instructions," "similarly to the rest," if put in its place, would be adverbial; but just as I should parse 'agreeably' and 'similarly' as adverbs, and not think it necessary to take 'agreeably to' and 'similarly to' as prepositions, so I parse 'like' as an adverb, and not as a preposition. The only difference is that the preposition 'to' is expressed after 'agreeably' and 'similarly',