

tors were the Crown and the Canada Company. It had then become necessary to abandon the free grant system, and regular sales of land by auction were held, the prices varying from one to three dollars per acre. In the few settled townships there was but one person to every thirty-two acres. About this time the real settlement of the Province began. Special inducements were offered to families, and just because the long sea voyage and the weary, expensive journey from Quebec were only possible to persons of endurance and resources the pioneer settlers of Ontario were the choice bone and sinew of the old land. If luxuries were scarce, good wholesome food was cheap; if clothing and travelling and postage were very dear, agricultural labourers and artisans could demand high wages, considerable additions to the population were made every season, and the 310,000 of fifty years ago has become the two millions of to-day—a God-fearing, sober people, in a land of plenty, with an unrivalled climate, enjoying all the amenities of civilization, and the most perfect civil and religious liberty.

THE GREAT CANALS OF THE WORLD.—The Imperial Canal of China is over 1,000 miles long. In the year 1861 was completed the greatest undertaking of the kind on the European continent—the Canal Languedoc, or Canal du Midi—to connect the Atlantic with the Mediterranean; its length is 148 miles, it has more than 100 locks and about 50 aqueducts, and its highest part is no less than 600 feet above the sea; it is navigable for vessels of upward of 600 tons. The largest ship canal in Europe is the great North Holland Canal, completed in 1825—125 feet wide at the water surface, 31 feet wide at the bottom, and has a depth of 20 feet, it extends from Amsterdam to the Helder, 51 miles. The Caledonian Canal in Scotland has a total length of 60 miles, including three lakes. The Suez Canal is 88 miles long, of which 66 miles are actual canal. The Erie Canal is 350½ miles long; the Ohio Canal, Cleveland to Portsmouth, 332; the Miami and Erie, Cincinnati to Toledo, 391; the Wabash and Erie, Evansville to the Ohio line, 374.

NOTES FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

THE appearance of another number of *THE EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY* suggests that I should send you a few "notes." The two leading educational events of the past few months are the examination of teachers and the organization of a Teachers' Institute for the Province. The examiners appointed by the Government for this year were the Superintendent of Education, Rev. D. Fraser, M.A., and Mr. F. G. Walker, B.A., Cantab. The examinations commenced on the 6th of July; seventy-one candidates sat, of whom fifty-seven were successful, although quite a number had to content

themselves with lower classes and grades than those for which they applied.

About thirty teachers applied for renewal of first-class certificates, which by law are renewable year by year, as long as one is actually teaching, and can furnish satisfactory proof of success in his work.

At the close of the examinations came the organization of the Teachers' Institute. The attendance was large and great interest in the proceedings was manifested throughout. The following officers were elected: President, S. D. Pope, B.A., Superinten-