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J. E. WELLS, M.A. Editor.
H. HOUGH, M.A. Manager Educational Dep't

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Editorial Notes.

SEPTEMBER and October are months of great stir in educational matters. Our exchanges during the past few weeks have abounded with accounts of the re-opening of the schools of all grades, the enrolment of new pupils, the distribution of prizes won in last year's contests, etc. Opening addresses and lectures by prominent educationists, and similar manifestations of intellectual activity, have filled much space in the columns of Exchanges. On every hand are indications that the year is to be one of advance all along the lines.

THE establishment of a college for women in affiliation with Trinity University is a new departure which we are glad to chronicle. Moulton Ladies' College, affiliated with McMaster University, is now, we learn, in full operation, with all its available boarding accommodation taken up. These two Universities are in the van of a movement which should have been commenced long since in Ontario. Lady students ambitious of full University courses are no longer shut up to the alternatives of private study, or entrance into mixed classes.

WE omitted in last number to congratulate the Alumni and friends of Queen's University among our readers, on the prosperity of that progressive institution, as indicated by the recent additions to its staff. The appointment of Mr. John MacGillivray to the Chair of Modern Languages, and of Mr. Cappon to the Chair of English Literature, cannot fail to add materially to the strength of the University. Both these gentlemen have very high credentials of fitness for their respective positions, and both take charge of very important departments of modern university work.

WE call attention to the advertisement of Mr. R. Lewis, late Principal of the Dufferin school in this city, in this number. Mr. Lewis is well known as an able teacher of elocution, and the author of valuable treatises on that subject. He informs us that he intends to give readings as well as lectures, and that the readings will be selections of high class literature, and will be accompanied with such criticisms and explanations as will constitute instruction in Literature as well as in Elocution. Mr. Lewis has had wide and successful experience as a teacher of elocution in schools and colleges. His services will, no doubt, be in demand.

"ATTEND, above all things, to the meaning of words," said the Duke of Argyle, in a recent lecture at Oban. The advice is golden for all writers and thinkers, for all students and teachers, for all searchers for truth everywhere. An English contemporary thinks that "we live in an age that peculiarly needs the warning;" that in social life, politics, and science, "people are well-nigh 'eaten up by claptrap,' and by the misuse of words fall into all manner of fallacies." Whether this be true of the present to any greater extent than of other times may be matter for question. But all will agree that such current phrases as "evolution, progress, law and order, the social organism, and so forth," should be rigorously searched as we use them. As the Duke further said, "the more we cross-question the phrases used in science, philosophy, religion, or politics, the better for our advance in knowledge."

THAT was sound and sensible advice which Lieutenant-Governor McLelan gave the Nova Scotia farmers at the opening of the Provincial Exhibition, a week or two since, when he urged that they should bestow as much attention upon the education of the sons whom they intended to take up farming as upon that of those destined for the professions. Why not? It is clearly true, as he said, that often farmers and their wives stint themselves for the purpose of educating sons for the learned professions, to make them doctors, lawyers, or clergymen. He had all honor for those who did this, but claimed that the education of the lad who was to have the farm should have their first care. For the practical purposes of their life-work, as well as for all the higher ends of human life, it is important that the farmers of the future should be men of the highest intelligence and culture. Again we ask, Why not?

THE Lake Mohonk Conference on Indian affairs, at its late annual meeting, adopted a platform which, among other things, recommends that the United States ought at once to establish a comprehensive system of compulsory secular education for all children of school age on the Reservations, giving, of course, the liberty to choose a private or religious school, provided it comes up to the National standard. This is a move in the right direction, which we have often urged as a duty of the Canadian Government. The objection on the ground of expense is well answered by the *Christian Union*, by the statement of a single fact. The United States have for the last ten years spent \$27,000,000 a year