

### MR. GANONG'S GIFT.

In the past, the occasions have been few on which could be chronicled private liberality in connection with state supported institutions. In New Brunswick, such instances are almost unknown, and Mr. G. W. Ganong's gift to the St. Stephen School Board is the first of the kind. He places at the disposal of the school board of that town the sum of one hundred and twenty dollars to be used in assisting students belonging to the town through the normal school, the preference to be given to female students. The local board may lend out the money to students. Male students who borrow are to pay back the amount they may receive in three equal instalments with interest; the women who use it are not required to pay interest. But the last instalment will not be asked from any borrower who takes within three years a first-class certificate on examination, and who pays in due course the first two instalments. Mr. Ganong hopes to make the sum a yearly one, until eventually a sufficiently large fund may be created, the interest of which will meet the expenses of board of one pupil each year while at the normal school.

Mr. Ganong is one of St. Stephen's brightest, most enterprising and prosperous business men. He taught school for a short time, and has for some time been a very efficient member of a progressive school board, under whose management the schools of St. Stephen have reached their present degree of excellence. Having been so long in touch with our public school system, Mr. Ganong has had opportunity to observe the struggles of many bright and deserving pupils to complete an education begun promisingly, but interrupted through lack of means, and it is known to a few that this is not the first occasion on which he has reached out a helping hand, but always as unobtrusively as his present gift has been made.

It will be noticed that females are given the preference—other conditions being the same—and that no students need hesitate to avail themselves of its advantages on the ground that it is a charity. Part of the amount only is made a gift dependent upon the holder's own exertions and advancement in scholarship.

### PROFESSOR DAVIDSON'S ADDRESS.

In his oration before the University of New Brunswick, Prof. Davidson discussed the "Economy of High Wages for Teachers." The address was a most important contribution to our educational literature, and one that we should like to find space for in the REVIEW, if only to discuss it at more length than we are able to do in this number. We are prepared to agree with Prof. Davidson, that the salaries of our teachers are

too low, but not that "our education is more in seeming than in substance."

What are the facts of the case? We have never had more schools in operation, nor a larger number of pupils in attendance, and this despite no large increase in population. The time of attendance at normal school is longer than formerly, and the standard of scholarship was never so high as at present. There were never before so many first class teachers engaged in the work, and probably never fewer third class teachers. It must not be supposed that because there has been provided partial training instead of none at all for third class teachers that they multiply indefinitely, when the fact is that in most instances, long before their licenses terminate, the great majority of them have attended normal school again, and obtained an advance of class. Whatever may be said as to length of experience, it can not be denied that the best products of our schools are to-day engaged in the work of teaching. Females have to a great extent superseded males as teachers, and this, combined with competition, has lowered wages. Our people, in common with those of older countries, have not yet been educated to pay women the same wages as men for the same work.

It may be asked: What have been Prof. Davidson's opportunities for judging the schools? Has he visited them to any extent outside of Fredericton, or even in that city? He comes in contact with some of their products in the students who attend the university. If the standard has fallen, why has the university raised its standard of matriculation? If our students fail at the university, they do not at McGill and other colleges where they come into competition with those from the whole of Canada. We are not ashamed of the products of our schools, even at the English universities.

### MCGILL'S PRINCIPAL.

After considerable delay, a successor to Sir William Dawson has been appointed. No doubt the great difficulty of discovering a man worthy of Sir William's place has been the cause of the delay. Sir William's rule has been long (nearly forty years) and exceedingly prosperous. The governors' choice has fallen upon W. Peterson, LL. D., Principal of University College, Dundee. Principal Peterson is an Edinburgh man. After completing a distinguished course in classics in that university, he went to Oxford, and thence returned full of honors to act as assistant to Sellar, Professor of Humanity, in Edinburgh. From Edinburgh he was called to reign over the newly organized college in Dundee. This position he has filled for at least twelve years.