

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE AND  
DEPARTMENTAL REFORM.

THE readers of THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY, no less than the contributors to its pages, will be grateful to the writer of the appreciative and sympathetic review of our first year's volume which appears in the present issue, from the June number of the *Canadian Monthly*, under the title of "The Literature of Education in Canada." Our own feeling of gratitude, we should here first frankly admit, was not a little tempered by embarrassment in having presented to us for publication in one magazine under our editorial care, a critical review of a year's work in another, for which we were also responsible; but we were soon reconciled to the seeming impropriety of this when we reflected upon the fact that the success of the present magazine was mainly owing to the amount and character of the aid which we had received outside of our office in establishing THE MONTHLY, and in maintaining it through a twelvemonth's career, and not upon the humble work we had ourselves done for the publication. In this view, it seemed to the present writer that any compliment he could be the means of paying to those associated with him in his enterprise, and to such of the profession as had kindly contributed to the pages of his magazine, it was seemly for him to pay. The only question that then pressed itself was, whether he should permit reference to be made to his own share in the work of the volume reviewed; and in deciding to allow what had been written to stand, he was actuated by the conviction that had he expunged it, the opportunity would have been lost to reach the public ear with a criticism of abuses, connected with the administration of the educational affairs of the Province,

which he and the writer of the paper felt was most important to have published. With this personal explanation over, we can ourselves join in the expression of thanks for the kindly service "An Old Headmaster" has done to this magazine in bringing its work and its aims before the general reading public of Canada, and for the hearty and intelligent interest he manifests in Canadian education and literature, in preparing so admirable an analysis of the first year's round of contributions to THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY which we have transferred to our present pages. The satisfaction with which our readers will peruse the critique will, we doubt not, be enhanced by noting how thorough is the writer's grasp of educational questions, how keenly he sympathizes with the profession of the Province in their effort to relieve themselves of the incompetence of the Central Committee, and the arrogant assumptions of the Senior Inspector, and how honest is his denunciation of bookselling rings and literature-degrading authorship. The vigorous manner in which these abuses are dealt with, as well as the publicity given to them, is encouraging to those who have long fought against them, and to the large and increasing number in the profession who earnestly are seeking for their redress and will not be satisfied until the remedies are applied. For the good repute of our educational system, for the well-being of the profession, for the prosperity of the schools, and for the honour and wholesomeness of our native educational literature, Mr. Crooks will do well to give his instant, his serious, and if need be, his prolonged attention to the matters urgently claiming reform which are again brought before him, and to deal with them as becomes one in whom the people have reposed a responsible, a sacred trust.