

## Educational Intelligence.

### ARBOUR DAY IN NOVA SCOTIA.

THE Grange Arbour Day (Tuesday, 18th ult.) was observed at Woodville section. Wellington Grange, located in this section, entered with much enthusiasm into the project—recognizing fully the practical as well as the aesthetic bearing of the observance, and appointed a committee to make all necessary arrangements. The trustees of the section, who are all members of the Grange, were of course in full sympathy with the project.

At the usual hour the scholars assembled at the school grounds in holiday attire, bringing trees and bushes, and evergreen for decorating the school house. Apparently most of the parents had left their work and come too. How many trees were planted, the writer of this notice cannot say, but as every scholar had a tree besides several memorial trees for the present and past teachers and a hedge of evergreen to the north, there must have been a goodly number. Merry games also were indulged in and the scene was one that might well make the heart of a zealous advocate of and worker for Arbour Day rejoice and feel abundantly repaid. By the time the trees were all planted, the afternoon was well advanced, but all cheerfully responded to the school-bell and took seats in the handsomely evergreen-decked schoolhouse. A chairman was duly elected, a programme was placed in his hands, and speeches, recitations and readings, interspersed with music, all more or less appropriate to the occasion, were given.—*Halifax Critic.*

### SCHOOL POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

IT appears from the last report of the Commissioner of Education, that the school population is, for 38 States, 16,510,463; for ten Territories, 283,939—er a total of 16,794,402. Enrolment in public schools, 38 States, 10,572,751; 10 Territories, 165,441, or a total enrolment of 10,738,192. Daily average attendance, 38 States, 6,590,382; 9 Territories, 103,346—er a total daily average attendance of 6,693,918.

If to the enrolment of public schools be added that of private schools, as reported for 23 States and 2 Territories, viz.: 606,517, it will be seen that 11,344,709 youth, or 67 per cent. of the school population, have been brought under instruction during the year.

It should be observed that school population bears to total population a ratio varying in the different States and Territories by reason of the variations in the legal school age. Eighteen different school ages are reported—the longest being from 4 years of age to 21, the shortest from 8 to 16. The school population is 16,794,402, and that the total daily average attendance is only 6,693,928.—*American Journal of Education.*

### POPULAR EDUCATION IN SAXONY.

THE leading position which Saxony holds among the educating countries of the world gives peculiar interest to her educational statistics. According to the census of 1880, the population of the kingdom was 2,972,905. Recent reports give the

number of primary schools as 2,147, attended by 472,000 pupils, taught by 5,654 masters and 143 mistresses. The schools are mixed as to sex; and the law fixes the maximum number of pupils in a class at sixty, and the maximum number that can be entrusted to one teacher at 120. The rule is for these to be divided into two sections, each attending school three hours a day. School attendance is compulsory for all children from six to fourteen years of age. Boys are further obliged to attend during three years—i.e., between the ages of fourteen and seventeen—adult classes for two hours a week; the local committee may extend the time to six hours a week. The minimum salary of a licentiate teacher is \$130.25 with lodging and fire; of a titular teacher, \$202.65 in the smaller communes. In towns of more than 10,000 inhabitants, the minimum salary of a head master is \$651.37½. In the six chief cities of Saxony the salaries of head masters range from \$68.50 to \$1,230.37½. The elementary school belongs chiefly to the commune, upon which devolves the burden of its maintenance. The sources of income are: school fees—which are very variable; special imposts, paid half by the proprietor of the soil, half by all the inhabitants of the commune above fourteen years of age; a permanent school fund. The total annual expense for primary schools, excluding normal schools, is about \$3,500,000, which gives an average of \$7.34 per child.—*Education.*

### HINTS FOR A SUMMER HOLIDAY TRIP.

THE following letter, which was addressed to the *Schoolmaster*, London, Eng., is not only interesting in itself, but contains suggestions on a method of making the best use of holidays which teachers in Canada might make use of during the summer vacation:—

SIR,—A few years ago I arranged with Messrs. Langlands & Sons, of Liverpool and Glasgow, to send their magnificent steamship, the *Princess Royal*, on a trip round Scotland and back in Whit-week. I asked, through your columns, for a number of teachers to join me, and the result was we made up a party of more than 120, among whom were twenty ladies. The trip was a great success, everyone on board declaring that they had never had such an enjoyable trip before.

As Whit-week is this year very late, and the days at their longest, I thought it would be a good time to arrange for another trip, and thus afford some of my fellow teachers an opportunity of seeing, at a moderate rate, some of the most delightful scenery in the world. Messrs. Langlands & Sons have arranged to send the same magnificent vessel through the Western Highlands, to Shetland, Aberdeen, and Dundee, and back to Gairloch, Oban, and other places of interest if time permits. To visit these delightful spots by the usual routes would cost a considerable sum of money, and be practically out of the reach of many teachers; but this affords an opportunity of enjoying fresh air and grand scenery at a moderate cost.

For those who wish to see Balmoral, I shall be able to arrange a marvellously cheap trip, in first-

class carriages, to Ballater, and coaches to Barmar.

The vessel will leave Liverpool on the evening of Friday, 11th of June, at nine or ten o'clock, and return to Liverpool on Sunday afternoon, the 20th of June, so that the passengers can catch the trains for the south and be at work on Monday, the 21st.

A trip like this gives those teachers, who have worked themselves down and are not very well, a good chance to restore their health by a pleasant voyage. Two teachers have already written me, saying that their doctor advises them to take advantage of such a trip.

The number is to be limited to 110, so that everyone can have a berth, and at meals there will only be two relays. At the last trip there were 135 on board, and this necessitated dining in three relays, which was the only unpleasant circumstance connected with the whole voyage.

As there will be a piano on board, and we shall have concerts and dancing in the evenings, I shall be glad if those who propose to join and can sing, will bring their music with them.

The fare will be £3, and the meals 2s. for breakfast, 2s. 6d. for dinner, and 2s. for tea. I may say that the food is good, and it is only those with very good appetites that can eat three such meals.

The maximum cost for the nine days, including food, will be £6, and many will find that five pounds will cover their expenses from Liverpool to Liverpool.

As we shall allocate the berths in order of application, those who wish to secure the best must make early application either to me or direct to Messrs. Langlands & Sons, 5 Rumpf-place, Liverpool.

I have omitted to say that time will be given at the various places of interest for the passengers to land, and see some of the inland beauties within easy reach.

The captain is one of the kindest and most skilful on the coast, and will, I feel sure, do his best to make us all comfortable. Let me impress upon all those who think of joining to write at once.

OHIO'S public schools cost \$10,093,931 last year.

THREE million pupils now attend the free schools in the southern states.

TUTORS of Harvard receive salaries of from \$800 to \$1,200 a year, while the trainer in athletics gets \$2,000 a year.

THE Blair Educational Bill has been reported upon adversely by the House Committee of Labour, to whom it was referred.

PROF. MAX MÜLLER has accepted the presidency of the English Goethe Society, and preparations are making for quite a celebration when he delivers his inaugural address. Several of the German choral societies have promised their co-operation.

“THE Vienna correspondent of the *Times* reports that Dr. Gautsch, the new Minister of Public Instruction in Austria, has prohibited the use of ruled paper in square or diagonal lines, within all public schools. The reason for this is, that such paper has been found to injure the eyesight of pupils. It has been largely used hitherto in prim-