

EDITORIAL NOTES.

TOPICS OF THE TIME.

It is with pleasure that we announce that the call we made in this department in our last number, on behalf of *THE MONTHLY*, to secure for the publication increased aid and support, has met with a very gratifying response. Taking advantage of the Convention of the Teacher's Association of the Province, held a few weeks ago in Toronto, a number of friends of the Magazine took in hand the project, not only for extending its circulation, but of forming a Joint-Stock Company (Limited), with the view of placing *THE MONTHLY* upon a sound financial footing, and of securing the prosecution of the enterprise. This scheme met with the hearty and substantial support of many influential members of the profession present at the Convention, while others, absent from the gathering, have, since learning of the project, signified their willingness to take shares in the Company. This action is exceedingly encouraging to the promoters of the undertaking, and will no doubt be gratifying to many in the profession who, looking with favour upon the work *THE MONTHLY* was accomplishing, desired its permanent and satisfactory establishment. These practical evidences of sympathy and favour in the *MONTHLY*'s behalf, will now enable its originators to carry on the publication with vigour and with heart, while the extended range of proprietorship will assure it such further literary and professional assistance as should greatly increase its claims upon general support.

THE University of Toronto will part with regret with two distinguished members of the faculty, the President of the College, Dr. McCaul, and the occupant of the Chair of Chemistry, Prof. Croft. Both gentlemen

have been long connected with University College, have signally contributed to its renown, and now well earn what we hope will be a lengthened season of honoured repose. In many respects their superannuation is to be regretted, for it deprives the University, on which their rich scholarship and ripe experience shed so much lustre, of services it will be difficult to replace. Their retirement leaves vacant the Presidency and the Chairs of Classical Literature and Chemistry. To fill the first of these vacancies a name readily suggests itself—that of Dr. Wilson—whose claims to the Presidency should be favourably considered by the Government. The names of many graduates of the Institution also suggest themselves to supply the Professorial Chairs. But in appointments so important as those to be made, no considerations should weigh with the appointing power but those of pre-eminent fitness, whatever the quarter in which it may be found. At present a great deal is being said of the qualifications of Canadian aspirants to the Chairs, and the spirit of nationalism is invoked to advance their interests. True patriotism, however, will, in this case, subordinate sentiment to duty, and will seek the men we want whatever their nation. At any time the responsibility would be great of filling the vacancies that have occurred; at the present, no appointments call for the exercise of graver deliberation. We trust that Mr. Crooks and his Government may, in the interest of the University, be fortunate in the men on whom their choice will fall.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

Manuals for Teachers: No. 1. The Cultivation of the Senses. Philadelphia: Eldredge & Bro. This is an American reprint of the first of a series of "Manuals on the Science