

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The following numbers are wanted: October, 1885; July, 1889. For these numbers we will pay cash, or credit their value on current volume. We will feel much obliged to anyone who will kindly send in these numbers.

It is not at all necessary that we should state that this magazine does not approve of the present method of making and authorizing text-books for our schools, of the non-existence of the Council of Public Instruction, (or a committee having its power and duties), of the chief in the Education Department being a political partisan. All this has been again and again repeated till our friends began to suspect and accuse us of political aims. We take it that the present discussion and discontent indicate that the public are beginning to see some of the evil effects of the present defective system. We do not think that there was any need of making Ontario an object lesson to educational administrators, but that is what it has been for more than twelve years. The question is, Will the politicians hold their present grip? Time will soon tell.

There was a very interesting gathering in the Library of Toronto University last Saturday afternoon, to witness the unveiling of a portrait of the late Chancellor William Hume Blake (the gift of Chancellor Edward Blake), and a portrait and bust of the late Prof. George Paxton Young. Portraits of Bishop Strachan and Rev. Prof. Croft were transferred from University College at the same time. Chancellor Blake presided. Addresses, making fitting reference to the eminent men whose portraits were unveiled, were delivered by President Loudon, Mr. Maclean, Mr. J. A. Patterson, Mr. W. J. Robertson, Chancellor Burwash, Professor Thomson, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell and Chancellor Blake.

The requirements regarding history for the Fourth Form of the Public Schools as adopted August 3rd, 1893 were as follows:

"The outlines of Canadian History generally, with particular attention to the events subsequent to 1841. The municipal institutions of Ontario and the Federal Form of the Dominion government. The outlines of British History shall also be taught without a text-book; but there will be no questions in British History at the High School Entrance examination."

This has been amended by the substitution of the following Regulation:

The outlines of Canadian history generally, with particular attention to the events subsequent to 1841. The municipal institutions of Ontario and the Federal form of the Dominion Government. The outlines of British history shall also be taught; *there will be suitable questions in British and Canadian history at the High School Entrance examination.*

It will be noticed that the amendment makes no change in the course required to be taken up in the Fourth form, and where the Regulations have been followed by teachers no addition is made to the work of the pupils. It was feared, however, that without questions in British history at the Entrance examination the subject might be slighted. The questions at the examination will correspond with the course made obligatory last August.

JOHN MILLAR, *Deputy Minister.*
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,

Toronto, January 12th, 1894.

We have been asked to publish the above circular, which we do with pleasure. The marvel is that an occasion should have arisen which would make it necessary for the Education Department of Ontario to issue such an announcement to the teachers of this Province.