

CURRENT EVENTS.

IT was a matter of the greatest regret to those who have known the interest with which the Hon. Dr. Ross, Minister of Education for Ontario, has watched over the first beginnings of the Educational Association of Canada, that on account of the pressure of parliamentary duties, thus early in the year, he was unable to be present. If the living voice of "the Orator of the West" was not heard, his message was well received, and, when his suggestion in favor of "an Empire Day" was announced, there was no dissension heard against it. It was also a matter of regret that Dr. George Parkin, of the Upper Canada College, failed to put in an appearance, although his name appeared on the programme of one of the public meetings held in the Academy of Music. There is no doubt but the many old-time friends of Dr. Pope, made when he was one of the prominent teachers in New Brunswick, were sorry to miss the opportunity of giving him a hearty welcome amongst them again. Manitoba also failed to send a representation, although the traverses farther west did not fail to do so, notwithstanding the unrest which seems to prevail at the present time in British Columbia. If we are not mistaken, Dr. Pope, the Superintendent of that Province, is a native of the Lower Provinces, and, though he was not able to be present himself, he succeeded in securing a substitute in Principal Eaton, of the High School of Victoria.

There are many teachers in British Columbia who hail from the Eastern Provinces, and had the distance not been so great they would, no doubt, have taken the opportunity of refreshing the recollections they have of the school systems by the sea. One of these teachers is Miss Williams, the Lady Principal of the Girls' High School of Victoria, a trained teacher

of Prince Edward Island, who has held her present position for a number of years with acceptance amongst the citizens of that city.

The little, red island in the Gulf was fittingly represented at the great convention by the Superintendent of Education of that province and by several of the teachers from the city of Charlottetown. The reports from Prince Edward Island are very gratifying, especially in connection with the city educational affairs, where the Government have decided to erect a new and spacious building for the accommodation of the students attending the Prince of Wales College and the Normal School.

This institution is one of the oldest in the Province, having been known as the Central Academy previous to the visit of the Prince of Wales in 1860, when, in honor of his visit to the "tight little island of the gulf," it has ever since borne the title then bestowed upon it. The educational system of this part of the Dominion has undergone many changes since the days of the first inspector, Mr. John McNeill. The present Superintendent is a native of the Province, and his presence in the high position he occupies may not only be taken as an evidence of his fitness for the position, but as an exponent of the feeling which prevails in that sequestered nook, that they need no new blood from the neighboring provinces to introduce changes.

The Normal School, as it was constituted after the time of the inauguration of the present free school system, was organized under the principalship of Dr. Harper, now of Quebec, but, under the plan of amalgamation, it now forms an annex to the Prince of Wales College proper. Principal Miller, of the Kent Street School, was also present at the convention.

As an old and faithful servant of