

CURRENT EVENTS AND NOTES.

AT the recent convocation ceremonies of Dalhousie College, Halifax, reference was made to Mr. George Munro, the publisher, who did so much for the institution, his benefactions amounting in all, during his lifetime, to over three hundred thousand dollars. What has been done for McGill through the munificent liberality of the Smiths and Macdonalds and Redpaths, Mr. Munro attempted on a smaller scale to do for Dalhousie, and under his fostering care the school has made remarkable progress. Mr. Munro, it seems, was a native of Nova Scotia, having been educated in Pictou, from which so many of our eminent men of the Maritime Provinces had their earlier school experiences. An old teacher himself, he always took a deep interest in educational movements, and when he had prospered in his publishing enterprises and had thus acquired a large fortune, he gave liberally of his means to what he considered the most important of the educational institutions in his native land. It is said that he was a school-mate of Dr. George Munro Grant, Principal of Queen's University, Kingston. The institutions of his adopted city, New York, are also said to have received liberally from his purse, especially the University of New York. His name is known by the readers of the past generation as the publisher of the "Seaside Library."

THE general elections have left behind them many sighs of relief and many sighs of looked-for misfortune. The office-holder going in is in the highest feather over the result, while the possible office-holder going out is not able to hide his trepidation. What the change may do for edu-

cation, except in the Manitoba school question, it is difficult to forecast. And yet we cannot but express a hope that something will be done to nationalize our school systems, as has been done on the other side of the line. The Ontario system of schools is a system of which every Canadian cannot but feel proud; and the same may be said of the systems in Nova Scotia and the sister provinces by the sea. But the Ontarian who would declare that the Ontario system is perfect, or the Nova Scotian who would say the same of the school system of his native province would be classified as the most boastful of provincials. There are defects in all our systems and the task for the central government is to institute some co-ordinating force that will lead these systems all towards a national focus-point, rather than to separate them still more widely from one another, while at the same time existing defects are corrected. We have reason to believe that it is within the function of the Federal Government to inaugurate a movement in this direction, and, if not considered too audacious, will endeavour to give our advocacy further point in future issues.

ONE of the most prominent of later educational events is to be found in the convention of the N. E. A. at Buffalo. The most distinguished of American educationists were present at the meetings to give of their advice in essays, papers, and addresses to the thousands of teachers who had come from all parts of the continent. One remarkable feature of the convention lay in the fact that the fadist had no place given to him in the discussions. The broad questions of child nature, the true function of the