
EDITORIAL NOTES.

WE remind contributors to these columns that we desire to know their names before their contributions can be inserted.

THE excellent and practical suggestions which our correspondents have made in regard to tree planting on Arbor Day, will, we hope, be carefully studied and faithfully carried out.

IN ANOTHER column we publish, under the head of "Educational Opinion," some of the views of inspectors and others, whose observation and experience enable them to speak with weight on the merits and defects of our common school education. Especially are school inspectors enabled to form accurate judgments. These opinions, which we hope to continue in next issue, while they are assuring and satisfactory in regard to our progress, are critical in pointing out where defects exist and what remedies may be applied.

THE various County Academies of Nova Scotia, according to the local newspapers, have had their terminal written examinations in April. Although not required by law, this procedure has, within the last few years, been adopted by nearly all the academies and many of the more advanced high schools.

ATTENTION is directed to the advertisement in another column of the Summer Course in Modern Languages which is proposed for St. John and Fredericton. The Berlitz Schools of Languages are deservedly popular, and we are glad that teachers and students here are to have an early opportunity to become acquainted with their methods.

THE death of Matthew Arnold removes from the English world of letters a notable figure. A poet, critic, scholar, his works are models of a pure and vigorous English. A son of Dr. Arnold who made Rugby school so famous, he was himself well known in educational ranks from the excellent service he rendered at different times to public education. He was for several years an Inspector of Schools in England, and afterwards was appointed a commissioner to visit the continent and report on the system of popular education in France, Germany, and other countries. He visited the United States in 1883, and again in 1886. His unfavorable criticism of American life and manners caused considerable irritation to citizens of the republic. During his later years Mr. Arnold had devoted himself to prose, of which he was an acknowledged master.

PROGRESS, the new weekly published in St. John, is a journal of considerable promise, and gives evidence of marked ability on the part of its editors, Mr. E. S. Carter and Mr. W. L. Sawyer. We wish its talented editors that success which their enterprise deserves.

THERE appears to have arisen some trouble about the choice of an Arbor Day for the City of St. John. The day chosen for New Brunswick is the 18th of May, a public holiday for the cities of St. John and Portland, and the regulation provides that the day set apart for that purpose shall be a regular school day. We hope that Arbor Day will not be allowed to pass unobserved in the two cities.

What better way of commemorating the landing of the Loyalists than to make a Memorial Day in which the school children would take part, one of the features of which would be the decoration of our bare streets and squares by the planting of trees in remembrance of those sturdy fathers who planted homes here a century ago? Cannot our energetic Board of School Trustees, aided by public-spirited citizens, take the matter in hand at once and assist the school children to make Friday, May 18th, 1888, the initial day in this movement?

NO ONE who visited the studio of Mr. J. C. Miles and his son at the recent exhibition of the work of their students could fail to be impressed with the importance of what is being accomplished there in the way of technical training. For several years the Messrs. Miles have, in their free school, taught many young persons the elements of free-hand drawing. Among these are young men engaged in mechanical pursuits, who have derived great practical benefit from the valuable course of instruction given. Among the pupils whose work called forth favorable comment at the recent exhibition, there were representatives of many industrial occupations, as well as teachers, and students preparing for courses in engineering and architecture. What an excellent opportunity does such training give to those who are ambitious to excel and become leaders in their occupation, and how it points out the necessity of the Government and the City assisting to make some provision for technical training, by the establishment of a school for that purpose. The "Daily Sun," a few days since, pointed out that "If the Messrs. Miles, without financial assistance, have been able to accomplish much and to continue the school so long, it is evident that the school board, or some such association as the Mechanics' Institute, could take up the work, give it a wider scope, and greatly enlarge its usefulness."