

Miss Alberta Roach of the teaching staff of the St. John city schools, recently received the degree of M. A. from the Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Mass., after a successful examination.

Nineteen pupils of the Mount St. Vincent Academy, Halifax, have received diplomas on their ability to write short hand at the rate of eighty words a minute—the result of a speed examination provided by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Bath, England.

The results of the University of New Brunswick matriculation examinations were announced on the first of August. Three students were in the first division, as follows: Mildred Wallace, Fredericton grammar school, 782; Margaret O. Palmer, Dorchester superior school, 772; Mary Beatrice Gosnell, St. Vincent's Convent, St. John, 761.

Miss Marguerite M. Norrad who has taught the school at Boiestown, N. B., for the past two years was presented at the close of the term with a handsome fruit dish and brass stand by her pupils. Miss Norrad has since been wedded to Mr. Angus Edney, Taymouth, N. B., and the REVIEW extends its best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the couple.

Miss Jessie D. Henry, St. Stephen, N. B., was presented by her pupils with a pretty gift at the closing of the schools in June. The REVIEW extends its cordial congratulations on an event which has since taken place.

### RECENT BOOKS.

A new edition of Professor W. F. Ganong's *Teaching Botanist* has been published. (Cloth, pages 439, price \$1.25 net). The new book is on the same plan as the old, but considerably enlarged and almost re-written throughout. This is necessary, Dr. Ganong writes in his preface, for the reasons that he has learned a good deal in the interval and that there has been great progress in botanical education in the past decade—nothing, however, he predicts, to what the next decade will witness. The reader finds the promise in this prefatory note amply fulfilled in the pages which follow, every one of which is in the concise and illuminating style that marks the wise and progressive teacher.

One great merit of Dr. Ganong's book is that the main portion of it is as useful to the general teacher as it is to the teaching botanist. His intense energy and his clear understanding of what is vital in teaching have made him examine theories and reject what is superficial and of less value. The real teacher will be absorbed in the pages of the new book as he was in the old, but in a different degree,—it is full of pedagogy, and pedagogy with progress, as well as of advanced plant study. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)

*The Common Weeds of Canada* (paper, pages 139, price 50 cents.) is a convenient pocket guide that will be useful to the teacher and agriculturist. It is compiled by Dr. D. Wiley Hamilton, of the Provincial Normal School, Fredericton, N. B. The common and scientific names of weeds are given with descriptions and pictures which will help

very much in their identification. Dr. Hamilton has done his work very well and the result is a useful and convenient manual for the identification of the more common weeds, especially those of eastern Canada. (The Macmillan Company of Canada, Toronto).

Students will welcome the volumes, *Questions on Shakespeare*, by Albert H. Tolman, associate professor of English in the University of Chicago. Volume I (cloth, pages 215, price 81 cents, post paid) consists of a general introduction, a study of Shakespeare's language and verses, with a bibliography and index. Volume II (cloth, pages 254, price \$1.09 post paid) takes up the play of Henry VI, the early poems, and the first comedies. This is to be followed by volumes on other plays and the tragedies.

The work is something more than "questions." It is in reality a concise scheme for the study of Shakespeare's works by school and private students, in a manner that shall be interesting and stimulate thought. The author does not believe in making the road too easy for the student. He insists on the pupil's self-activity,—he must grapple with Shakespeare for himself; the poetry, humor, pathos, the abounding diversified life of the plays must be appropriated by each individual reader. With each new drama a "new planet swims into his ken." It is the author's plan to lead his students to do this for themselves, rather than that the results of some other man's reading and thinking shall be poured out upon them in lectures. Mr. Tolman's modesty about his own work and his insistence on the rights of others to interpret for themselves will impress his readers favourably.

Teachers everywhere are asking for practical directions for the use of the school play-ground. In *What to do at Recess* (cloth, 33 pages, illustrated, list price 25 cents) the teacher is told just how to begin, what apparatus to provide, and what games to play. The book considers in turn the needs of the primary, the intermediate, and the grammar school children, both boys and girls. The teacher who makes use of the directions and suggestions given in the book will find that many trials of discipline have disappeared, and that the children have received from the wise use of the school playground a physical, mental, and moral tonic that helps to make teaching both effective and pleasant. (Ginn and Company, Boston).

*The Apollo-Collection of Songs for Male Voices* (cloth, 264 pages, price \$1.00) has been prepared especially for boys, and is intended for use in preparatory schools, colleges and glee clubs. Only such musical selections are included as have proved attractive and beneficial to students of the high school and college age. These selections are classified as follows: Miscellaneous Songs, Familiar Songs, Anthems, Hymns and Patriotic Songs. Careful attention is paid to the range of each voice, and directions of the classification of voices are given in the foreword. (Ginn and Company, Boston).

A collection of French Anecdotes (cloth, pages 138, price 40 cents) contains many amusing stories, arranged for translation conversation and composition, with