

Science here this year, we now have departments of mechanical science and domestic science of the manual training schools. They have now been running for several weeks, and great interest is taken in them. Mr. V. Messenger, a graduate of the Macdonald Manual Training School for Nova Scotia, has charge of the mechanic science (woodwork), and Mrs. B. Turner, a graduate of the Truro School of Domestic Science, is in charge of the domestic science course.

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT DR. INCH has contributed to the N. B. *University Monthly* an interesting account of the King Alfred Millenary Celebration, in which he took part as a representative from New Brunswick.

THE sad drowning accident at Ottawa recently, by which two bright young lives were suddenly closed, has caused a widespread feeling of sympathy for the bereaved families. Miss Bessie Blair, daughter of Hon. A. G. and Mrs. Blair, had many school friends in St. John and Fredericton who will cherish the memory of a bright, frank and lovable character. She was a graduate of the Girls' High School, St. John, in the year 1896.

THE *Carleton Sentinel*, a valued exchange, has recently appeared in an enlarged form and new dress, which must add to the pleasure of its readers.

The St. John *Monitor* has commenced the second year of its existence without a dollar of debt and with excellent prospects of success for the future. At the outset it laid down for itself a firm and consistent policy from which it has not departed, a course which its readers have evidently appreciated. It deserves success.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a Happy New Year to all our subscribers. May greater sympathy and encouragement in your work be extended to you the coming year, and may you ever be animated by higher ideals and a truer conception of that work.

OUR advertising pages are always worth reading, and this month they are particularly interesting.

Christmas.

Christmas is the children's day—the season of mirth and gladness, of games, festivity and gifts. It carries the thoughts of the older people back to the time when they too were young; and the heart must be small and the life narrow indeed that does not share in the joy of the children's Christmas and feel its gentle influence.

The day recalls the sacrifice that was made for us when Divine Goodness gave a marvellous token of its love to mankind. There can be no thought of self, in the narrow sense, at this season, if we regard the greatness of this sacrifice. Our thoughts and our deeds must be for others, and especially for the destitute, the outcast, the mourner, if we would realize the full meaning of the day.

The spirit of Christmas will pervade the school-room during these December days in anticipation of the joys it will bring. Busy brains are conning over and busy hands framing the gifts that are to call forth expressions of wonder and gladness and gratitude. It is better to forego the home lessons and make the school lessons shorter on these days. Make the children acquainted with some of the beautiful stories, the gems of literature that have been written about this season. "Peace on earth, good will toward men," is the burden of every story and song. Aim to make the children realize the full meaning of this. If they do, the "good will" will shape itself, not only in kind words and wishes, but in numberless little deeds for others. Christmas will then be something more than a round of festivities, games, and wishes. It will be a season that will leave pleasant memories of good done to others, of making others happy, and thus, year after year, coming nearer to the likeness of the Christ who loved little children.

Educational Review Teachers' Bureau.

The scarcity of teachers and the increasing difficulty that many districts are experiencing to obtain them, has induced the REVIEW to establish a Bureau, by which it hopes to be of service to both teachers and trustees. Circulating as it does throughout the Maritime Provinces of Canada, the REVIEW has exceptional advantages in reaching all teachers and putting them in communication with trustees needing their services. During the past year many districts, in New Brunswick particularly, have had difficulty, or have failed altogether to secure teachers, and it is believed, if a better means of communication were established, that this difficulty would largely disappear. To this end boards of education, inspectors, trustees and teachers are invited to co-operate with the Bureau, which will make an honest and energetic attempt to supply schools with teachers, and to provide teachers with positions.

It is not proposed to supply inefficient teachers with positions, nor to provide parsimonious districts with cheap teachers; but diligent enquiry will in all cases be made as to the standing of districts and competency of teachers. For further particulars see the advertisement on another page.