

of the little ones in the primary department. The classes have been resumed, though they are still deficient in numbers. We trust all will be well again after the Christmas holidays. The Berthier Grammar School has increased its numbers this year and is in an improved condition in nearly every respect. Lachine Model School is also well attended.

Literature, Historical Notes, etc.

University Extension, as a mode of popular culture, has entered on a new phase within the past few weeks. The "Canadian Association for the Extension of University Teaching," which was organized just a fortnight ago, bids fair to become an active and important educational force in the Dominion. Sir Donald Smith has promptly accepted the presidency of the association, and L'Abbé Laflamme has with equal promptitude and cordiality accepted a vice-presidency. This gives the Province of Quebec a fair degree of prominence in the executive direction of the society's affairs. No doubt when the Council of the Association meets in January next, both McGill and Laval Universities will be found represented by able educationists, some of whom will be chosen members of the Executive Committee. By a cautious stipulation inserted in the constitution, the Council must place only University men on the Committee, and as the membership of the latter body is not fixed as to maximum, each of the great universities, if not each university, is sure to be represented on the Committee as well as on the Council. The feeling at the late Conference was strongly in favor of maintaining as high a standard of teaching and examination as possible, so that the working of the scheme may not tend to bring any discredit on the term "university," which has been conventionally appropriated to it. Any such result would be as fatal as it is uncalled for. While the majority of those who attend extension lectures must, for a time at least, be contented with the lectures alone, there will always be a few who desire to take the class work, write the prescribed exercises, and pass the final examinations. The certificate, which is based on the class work and examinations jointly, should from the beginning mean something in the public view, and with passing years it should come to mean more and more in the way of work done and standing secured. Those who take a despondent view of the future of the "extension" movement should remember that extension work has for some years past been done in different parts of this province