

EDITOR'S DRAWER.

—The publication of this number of the *ONTARIO TEACHER* has been somewhat delayed, owing to causes entirely beyond the control of the publishers. In future it will be issued as nearly as possible on the first of each month.

The publishers respectfully invite Inspectors, Teachers, and all other friends of education to send items of educational intelligence. Condensed notices of Teachers' Associations, presentations, &c., will at all times be welcome.

—The *ONTARIO TEACHER* will furnish an excellent medium for advertisements, particularly those relating to subjects coming within its sphere. A limited number will be inserted at ten cents per line, each insertion. A liberal discount will be made to those advertising by the year.

—It is our intention to open a department in the *ONTARIO TEACHER* to be known as the "Teachers' Desk." Its design will be to afford the teachers an opportunity to ask queries of all sorts in connection with school work, to which answers will be given editorially or otherwise. Short contributions, pertinent remarks, &c., for this department solicited.

—A meeting of Inspectors was held in the Theatre of the Normal School, Toronto, on the 8th inst. and two following days, at which some important alterations in the Law were discussed, and some amendments proposed. The result of their deliberations was laid before the Chief Superintendent, and we trust to see many of the changes recommended embodied in the New School Bill.

—We are pleased to know that the Government of Ontario intend providing facilities for the education of a class of idiots, hitherto very much neglected. At present there are between 200 and 300 of this class in the Province, of whom only 38 are now receiving any education whatever. It is proposed to increase the capacity of the London Asylum and furnish rooms for at least 100 inmates.

—We respectfully appeal to all friends of education to aid us in extending the circulation of the *ONTARIO TEACHER*. We are determined to issue a journal worthy of hearty and generous support, but as it is manifestly impossible to employ a travelling agent, we must rely very much on the voluntary assistance of Inspectors, Teachers, and others throughout the Province. Clubs of 10 and upwards will be forwarded at \$1 each, or 50 copies for \$45.

—We notice several important educational returns have been asked for in the Ontario Legislature. When they are brought down a great deal of interesting information may be expected.

—The *ONTARIO TEACHER* being designed to *DRAW OUT* as well as to *BUILD UP* the Teachers of this Province, we cordially invite contributions from members of the profession on any subject congenial to their taste, connected with education. We submit a list from which we trust some selection will be made and contributions forwarded for publication as soon as possible:

How to make Teachers' Associations profitable.

What is the true Philosophy of School Government?

What motives and incentives to study should be appealed to?

Are public school examinations and exhibitions advisable?

What are the prominent causes of failure in teaching?

What is the natural order of mental development?

Does the stability of a nation depend upon the universal diffusion of intelligence?

—Mr. Gladstone's speech at the Liverpool College last month, contains some very wholesome and important truths. The main object of education, he asserts, is "Not to stock the mind with knowledge as a shop is stocked with goods, that the wants of life can be met just like the wants of customers, but to improve the mind itself—to make it solid, elastic and capable of enduring wear and tear." His comparison of education in England with Scotland and Germany showed that Englishmen did not, according to their advantages, attain the high standard reached by those other countries. This disparity arose, in his opinion, not from any *INCAPACITY* in Englishmen, but from a lack of earnestness. "The beauty and the power of Knowledge," he says, "fill THEIR hearts with love and they go in quest of her from the ends of the earth, with ardent devotion, like pilgrims to a favorite shrine." His remarks further showed that enterprise and wealth have always been associated with educational advancement. "In Greece, that State which took its place at the head of literature, and philosophy, and art, was noted for its encouragement of trade." These are valuable lessons for the young men of our New Dominion.