

The Educational Review.

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G. U. HAY,
Editor for New Brunswick.

A. MCKAY,
Editor for Nova Scotia.

J. D. SEAMAN,
Editor for P. E. Island

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THE death of C. W. Weldon, Esq., D. C. L., Q. C., took place at his residence, St. John, on Sunday, January 12th. Mr. Weldon had been for about two years chairman of the Board of School Trustees, and found time, amid the many active pursuits of a busy life, to give to the educational affairs of the city a large share of attention. His judicial mind, large experience in business matters, and the careful attention which he gave to the many details of this important office, caused his opinions to have great weight among those with whom he was associated, while his kindly nature and genial disposition caused him to be greatly respected by the teachers of the city.

The Week, of Toronto, has entered on its thirteenth volume. It is an excellent paper from a literary standpoint, and its calm, non-partisan discussion of political and current topics, makes it a very desirable paper for the general reader.

The death of Mr. Edward Jack, C. E., of Fredericton, occurred on New Year's day. He was a gentleman well known at home and abroad for his intimate knowledge of the timber and mineral resources of New Brunswick. His contributions to the press on these subjects,

as well as on the river fisheries and the history of the province, have been many and instructive. He was at all times ready to impart his knowledge in a genial and entertaining way, that made for him many friends.

An educational article of considerable importance appears in the January *Atlantic*. It is in a measure introductory to the discussion of certain educational questions in subsequent issues, and is written by Mr. Scudder, the editor of the magazine. It treats of the School-house as a Centre.

It is understood from some remarks made by the Chief Superintendent of N. B., at a recent teachers' institute, that it is contemplated to regulate the employment of teachers according to the ability of the districts. If this plan be carried out there can be no doubt but that it will meet with the approval of all ratepayers who are interested in schools, and teachers as well. At present some of our ablest districts employ the cheapest and lowest class teachers they can engage, greatly to the disadvantage and annoyance of many ratepayers.

Sewing in the Schools.

The latest idea is to add sewing to the school curriculum for girls and take away algebra and geometry. This reform is understood to have taken its rise in Fredericton. No one will deny that sewing is a very useful branch of knowledge; so are cooking, sweeping, washing and ironing. Algebra and geometry are also very useful, and even necessary for girls who contemplate teaching or entrance upon any duties requiring a liberal education; in fact we are becoming more and more dependent upon our girls for the education of our boys as well as girls. It must also be borne in mind that the majority of the higher departments are filled with boys and girls, not girls alone, and that while the girls were receiving the teacher's undivided attention in sewing the boys would be left to themselves and could receive instruction in neither algebra, geometry, nor needle work. The instructors in algebra and geometry are in many cases men, and few of them are qualified to deal satisfactorily with all the intricacies of needle work. In one quarter a demand is being made upon