

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Toronto Humane Society has decided to offer \$100.00 in prizes for the best essay written by the school children of Toronto on the following subjects:—(1) The duty of kindness to animals; (2) Why birds and their nests should be protected.

THERE are few better ways of teaching national history than by setting up monuments to the memory of national heroes, and the proposal of Dr. Ferguson, of Welland, which was endorsed and enlarged upon by the Minister of Militia, in the Dominion House, that suitable monuments should be erected on Lundy's Lane and other battlefields of Canada is one that we feel sure the country will approve and heartily support.

JOHN MILLAR, ESQ., B.A., Principal of the Collegiate Institute and Public Schools, St. Thomas, has been appointed Deputy Minister of Education, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Alexander Marling, LL.B. To attend to the duties of Deputy Minister of Education, it was most fitting that an experienced educator, who has given such long and faithful service in the schools as Mr. Millar, should have been selected, and the position we may say of right belongs to the teaching profession. Mr. Millar's personal acquaintance with the work which comes to the schoolmaster in both public and high schools will enable him actively to sympathize with those who are carrying the burden of the day in these institutions. THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY wishes him satisfaction and success in the discharge of the duties of his office.

EARLY last month, upon the invitation of the Senate, a well-attended conference was held at the University

of Toronto for the purpose of agreeing upon the works to be read by candidates for matriculation as well as the standard to be exacted at the preliminary examination. All classes of secondary schools were represented—public and private—and the following colleges and universities: Knox and St. Michael's, Toronto, Trinity, McMaster, Victoria and Queen's. The draft scheme of work for matriculation sent out by the Senate of Toronto University was carefully, critically considered, and amended in many particulars. There was the greatest freedom and harmony in the conference, all the members working heartily together in order to have the best possible scheme of study for the Collegiate Institutes and High Schools in the Province of Ontario.

THE death of Mr. Alex. Marling came as a shock to his many friends, most of whom were quite unaware of his illness. The late Deputy Minister of Education died on his birthday at the age of fifty-eight. The family came from England in 1842. Master Alexander got his preliminary training in Upper Canada College, and graduated LL.B., Toronto University in 1862. He has been connected with the Education Office since 1854; under the Hon. Adam Crooks he was made Secretary of the Education Department, and, as we noticed in a late number of this magazine, was very recently appointed Deputy Minister of Education. Mr. Alexander Marling was a first-class officer, accurate, painstaking, kindly, courteous and honourable. Upon many occasions he had delicate and difficult duties to perform, but never have we heard of his doing anything with which either Minister, teacher or publisher could justly be dissatisfied. His