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SUBSCRIBERS AND ADVERTISERS are hereby requested to pay all arrears and also amounts due for the present year before May 1st. It is exceedingly important for us that this request be complied with by all indebted, as we have heavy bills to meet before the date mentioned.

OUR February number was delayed just a week by the boat which runs between St. John and Digby. Our printer in St. John sent the paper on the 15th, and we received it on the 22nd. We heartily agree with the wit of the W. & A. Railway, who calls the boat a "tri-weekly." "She crosses one week," he says, "and tries to cross the next." We are not particularly fond of punning, but owing to the numerous delays this little craft has caused us, we are compelled to sympathize with the punning conductor. We hope that our subscribers will also sympathize with us who have thus been frustrated in our endeavors to give them their paper earlier in the month.

We gather from the *St. John Telegraph* that Mount Allison has an Agricultural Course. This progressive step, we presume, is largely due to the enterprise of Prof. Goodwin, whose lectures in that department of science are published in local and provincial journals.

It argues well for the vitality of an institution when it can thus apprehend and meet the growing needs of a country. That there is a science of agriculture, that there is advantage in knowing the constituents of soils and crops, and the conditions of growth, that there is intellectual pleasure in understanding and observing the process of reproduction, that increased intelligence in farming will be followed by increased happiness and wealth—are now recognized facts. While societies and exhibitions have done much to stimulate activity, and enquiry after right methods, for lack of a sound scientific basis experimenting has been, for the most part, a blind system of guess-work—a sacrifice of capital for minimum returns.

The Boards of Education in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have recently authorized the use of agricultural primers in the common schools. But, unless supplemented by intelligent teaching, text-books may be a curse rather than a blessing; and since instruction in any subject presupposes knowledge as well as teaching fitness, the enactments of Government Boards will be to a great extent inoperative unless the higher institutions afford adequate instruction in the subjects of the school curriculum.

THE custom of wearing the college regalia at public exercises seems to be fast fading away. The members of the upper classes distinctly remember that the Faculty passed a resolution, with the concurrence of the large majority of the students, that the cap and gown should be worn not only in all classes, but also at all college exercises of a public character. It will also be remembered that the Athenæum resolved that the regalia be worn at all lectures or other entertainments given under its auspices. In regard to college classes, the rule is well observed; but the same cannot be