



Mr. J. D. Seaman.

Joseph Downing Seaman, whose portrait is given above, is so well known to patrons of the Summer School of Science for these provinces, that he needs no introduction to them. For the past seven years he has discharged the duties of secretary-treasurer in a manner that has left nothing to be desired. His obliging manners, capacity for work, and attention to details, has won for him each year the deserved esteem of every member of the school. If, at the close of any session in the last half dozen years, a vote had been taken on the most popular officer of the school Mr. Seaman would have had an overwhelming majority to his credit. Presidents may come and presidents may go, but Mr. Seaman stays; and the reasons for his staying powers have been already given. In faculty meeting when it comes to the election of a secretary everybody smiles at the thought even of going through the form. "Hadn't we better elect him permanent secretary," said some one at the last faculty meeting. "No," said Mr. Seaman gravely, "I expect to be president when you meet in Prince Edward Island." "Then we won't go to the Island," was the emphatic response.

Before one session is ended, Mr. Seaman is busily laying plans for the next. The continued success of the school, its growing influence and increasing membership from year to year, are largely due to his industry and successful business management.

The same qualities that have made Mr. Seaman a successful secretary have been at work to make him a successful teacher. Born at Suffolk, Queens County, he received his education at the district school. Graduating

at the P. E. I. Normal School with a third class or lowest license, he has steadily worked his way upwards by his own efforts, winning successively second and first class license, and steadily rising from one position to another until now he occupies one of the foremost educational positions on the Island—the principalship of the Prince Street School, Charlottetown. Mr. Seaman's force of character, integrity, and genial sympathy, have made him a power in the schoolroom. His opinions on educational topics, always having the impress of good sense and judgment, and expressed with moderation, are listened to with respect in educational gatherings, especially in the councils of the P. E. I. Association, of which he is a member.

Mr. Seaman was married to Sarah Jane Norton, daughter of Mr. John H. Norton, of Charlottetown. An hour spent in Mr. Seaman's home in the midst of his happy and intelligent family, is one that leaves a pleasant memory.

For the REVIEW.]

#### Parish Association Meetings.

A short time since I attended a parish meeting of teachers. The query arose in my mind,—institute *versus* parish association meetings; which are productive of greater benefits. True it is, that at institutes of the various counties, we are treated more or less to papers, or treatises which are largely theoretical, and are not suggestive enough to be applied practically. Hard to understand and readily forgotten. At parish association meetings it is to be inferred that the majority of the teachers are more or less acquainted with each other. And difficulties, which on account of shyness or from fear of appearing ignorant are withheld at an institute, are quite freely discussed at parish meetings. The practical side of questions here receives the greater attention and mistakes are discussed. These seldom receive attention at the larger gathering.

It is to the parish association movement that we are to look for the furtherance and improvement of our country schools, since the meetings can be held often. It is to this that we shall be indebted for the means by which we shall be lifted out of the old rut, and which shall prevent us from getting into the ruts of others.

MATTHEW G. DUFFY.

Sunbury Co., N. B.

THERE are many attractive features of the St. John Exhibition for teachers and schoolchildren. They should not miss the opportunity to spend at least one day at the Exhibition and take in especially the display in the natural history department which is more than usually interesting.