

THE ter-centenary of Champlain's exploration of the Bay of Fundy will be celebrated at Annapolis Royal, St. John, and on the St. Croix river by appropriate ceremonies during the week beginning the 20th of June. The meeting of the Royal Society in St. John, the public gatherings at Annapolis, St. John and Calais, the addresses and proceedings in which many eminent men will take part, and the presence, which is expected, of ships of war of Great Britain, France and the United States, will lend impressiveness to the ceremonies. The June number of the REVIEW will give some space to the historical aspects of Champlain's discovery.

A Plan for Local Teachers' Institutes.

A combined institute of the teachers of Cape Breton and the adjoining counties of Antigonish and Guysboro, on a plan different from what is usually followed, has been proposed. Instead of the reading of papers and discussions thereon, the members of the institute will observe the teaching of classes of pupils during the mornings, on the subjects of the common school course, to be followed by discussions in the afternoons of principles underlying the methods observed in the morning. The institute will be held in late September, and the schools on both sides of the Straits of Canso—at Port Mui-grave, Port Hawkesbury and Hastings—will be utilized for the purposes of the institute. This excellent scheme has the hearty concurrence of Supt. A. H. MacKay. A committee consisting of Messrs. Macdonald, McKinnon and Macneil, the inspectors of the districts interested have the matter in charge. The government of Nova Scotia is willing to aid by providing a fund to assist in defraying the travelling expenses of C and D teachers.

This plan is somewhat similar to one proposed on a smaller scale by Inspector Mersereau at the Northumberland County Institute last year. It is a stimulus to the teachers, in whose schools the object lessons are given, to do their best; and the visiting teachers will be quick to assimilate the best and to catch the spirit of emulation. The REVIEW has at times pointed out that the papers and discussions at our local institutes have become monotonous and threadbare; and though the proceedings are often enlivened by the teaching of lessons, yet this plan is not so practical as the one proposed, for the reason that the teacher and scholars are strangers to each other.

The Dominion Educational Association.

The meeting of the D. E. A. at Winnipeg, a synopsis of the programme of which is given on another page, is already attracting the attention of a large number of our readers. The meeting of the Dominion Exhibition at the same time and place, and the display of school work and school supplies, together with a visit to the rising city of Winnipeg, and possibly to the Pacific coast and intermediate places, should draw a great many teachers of Eastern Canada to the West during the approaching vacation.

We look forward to this meeting as one which will establish on a firm footing the Dominion Association and give it the permanence which it should possess. During its thirteen years of existence, its gatherings have not been as thoroughly representative of the teachers of the Dominion as one would like to see them. But this year the point chosen for the meeting is midway between the Atlantic and Pacific; the organization is now more complete, and better business methods have been adopted to secure a larger attendance and a more successful meeting; there will be a strong desire among Eastern teachers to see the Great West, and among many Western teachers to meet and consult with old friends from the East.

The educational value of the gathering cannot be overestimated. It will help to overcome provincialism in education; it will give teachers an opportunity to realize the greatness of Canada and the necessity of getting rid of narrowness and exclusiveness; it will tend to bring about a certain unity in educational affairs; it will bring together teachers of different schools and colleges, from different provinces, and promote a closer and more sympathetic relation with each other.

Champlain and DeMonts.

The New Brunswick Historical Society, at its meeting in St. John, May 3rd, 1904, decided on the erection of a tablet in commemoration of the ter-centenary of the discovery of St. John by the above named explorers. In order to give all desirous of so doing an opportunity of contributing to the cost, subscriptions to the above object, from any part of New Brunswick and elsewhere, in amounts varying from five cents and upwards, will be received by G. U. Hay, St. John, N. B., who has been appointed treasurer of the fund. Suitable acknowledgment of every contribution will be made in the daily press.

J. F. ARMSTRONG,
Chairman of the Meeting.