

The Educational Journal.

Consolidating "THE EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY" and "THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL."

VOL. II.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 15, 1888.

No. 15.

The Educational Journal.

Published Semi-monthly.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, AND THE
ADVANCEMENT OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION IN CANADA.

J. E. WELLS, M.A. Editor.
H. HOUGH, M.A. Manager Educational Dep't

Terms:—One dollar and fifty cents per annum. Clubs of three, \$4.25; clubs of five, \$6.75. Larger clubs, in associations, sent through association officials, \$1.25 each.

Individual members, subscribing at a different time from that of the formation of the Club, may send their subscriptions to this office. Their orders will be taken at club rates.

New subscriptions may begin at any time. Payment, when by mail, should be made by post-office order or registered letter. Money sent in unregistered letters will be at the risk of the senders.

In case it may be necessary to make change, please send it in one cent stamps.

The date at the right of the name on the address-label shows to what date the subscription is paid. The change of this date to a later one is a receipt for remittance.

Renewals of all subscriptions should be made promptly. Subscribers addressing the office on any business will, in all cases, please give the names of the post-offices to which their papers are being sent at the time of writing.

Rates of advertising will be sent on application. Business communications should be addressed to the publishers; those relating to matter for insertion in the paper, to the editor. These distinct matters should always be treated on separate sheets of paper.

PUBLISHED BY

THE GRIP PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO.

TORONTO, CANADA.

JAMES V. WRIGHT - - General Manager.

Table of Contents.

	PAGE
EDITORIAL NOTES.....	229
EDUCATIONAL THOUGHT.....	230
SPECIAL PAPERS—	
Our Examination System.....	231
Teachers' Salaries.....	231
ENGLISH—	
Questions and Answers.....	232
LITERATURE—	
Merry Christmas.....	232
Keeping Christmas.....	232
BOOK REVIEWS, NOTICES, ETC.....	233
EXAMINATION PAPERS—	
Education Department, Ontario, Midsummer Examinations, 1888.....	234
July Examinations.....	234
MISCELLANY—	
Christmas Carol.....	234
HINTS AND HELPS—	
Notes and Drafts.....	235
Singular and Plural Subjects.....	235
Avoid Suspicion.....	235
Things for the Teacher to Remember.....	235
EDITORIAL—	
Order in the School.....	236
What is Wrong?.....	236
A Pioneer Gone.....	236
Unprofessional Underbidding.....	237
LITERARY NOTES.....	237
SCHOOL-ROOM METHODS—	
Work in Primary Numbers.....	238
Articulation.....	238
A Good Exercise.....	238
Letter Writing.....	238
CORRESPONDENCE—	
The Self-Reporting System.....	238
Teachers' Institutes.....	239
Public School History.....	239
FOR FRIDAY AFTERNOON—	
Christmas Time has Come.....	239
Growing.....	239

Editorial Notes.

To our readers one and all we wish a Happy Christmas!

OUR friends of the teaching profession have now in their hands the first copy of *School Work and Play*. They will judge of its fitness as a boys' and girls' paper; and we believe they will decide it useful for school purposes. The publishers promise that future numbers shall be better—this copy being necessarily issued in a hurry. We call their attention to premium offers for clubs. The time is now very short.

MR. F. D. MONK, a member of the Board of Roman Catholic School Commissioners of Montreal, states that the school accommodation of the city is far from sufficient to accommodate the whole school population. He asserts that at a low estimate there are in the city from 4,000 to 5,000 children of school age who do not go to school. This ought not so to be. Four or five thousand children growing up in utter ignorance in a city no larger than Montreal cannot fail to lower very seriously the average level, intellectual, social, and moral, of the whole city.

THE following "notice of motion" was given at a meeting of a School Board in Swansea. Resolved,—“That, in the opinion of this Board, the time has arrived when the services of all married men employed as teachers by this Board should cease, and that three months' notice be given to all such teachers to terminate their engagements, and that no married men shall be engaged as teachers, and that, in the opinion of this Board, marriage is a failure and a fraud.” There is some reason to suppose that the mover has a turn for sarcasm.

THE *Universal Review* has come to the rescue of the competitive examinations, with a battalion of 400 schoolmasters. This formidable corps of defenders is said to be composed of teachers of all grades, from city and country. Speaking with the authority of educational experts, they all agree that the competitive examination system is not harmful in any way. As we have not yet seen the article we are curious to know what line of argument, if any, is followed by these teachers; whether they take higher ground in favor of the system than the merely negative position that it is not damaging; and to what extent they can be accepted as fairly representing the views of the profession in England.

IT is stated that members of the Winnipeg Normal School staff, and probably other educationists in the employ of the Manitoba Government, have received notice of the intention of the Government to materially reduce their salaries. The *London Journal of Education* says that the *fons et origo malorum* which degrade the teaching in the schools is in the incurable stupidity of the human race which supposes that any one, even if good for nothing else, is good enough for a teacher. The members of the Manitoba Government, in common with the trustees of all the School Boards in Canada, would do well to study the *London Journal's* dictum, in its relation to false economy in the matter of teachers' salaries.

WHO would not like to be a teacher in Japan? A correspondent of the *Educational Review*, writing from that wonderful land, says, amongst many interesting things in the description of a Japanese school, “There is one command not needed here, and that is, ‘Pay attention.’ They would consider it very impolite to be inattentive while a teacher is talking.” * * * “Whipping a pupil is unknown here. No teacher would think of doing such a thing. It would be looked upon as a dreadful insult.” By the way, either the correspondent must have made a slip or their school buildings are pretty lofty over there. He (or she) says, speaking of a designing room visited, “the ceiling was between two hundred and three hundred feet from the floor!”

THE Wisconsin *Journal of Education* admits that in two or three particulars the American schools seem to be behind the English. Special reference is had to vocal music, in regard to which it observes:—

“Professor MacAlister said his attention had been especially attracted to the singing in the Board schools and to the excellence of the scientific instruction. Instruction in the former is very thorough, the ‘Tonic Sol Fa’ system being universally used throughout England. ‘So far as my observation went, the results are very striking. Universally the children sing well, and in the higher standards difficult part music was sung by the children at sight quite readily. The English people, I think, value this training quite highly. It is a feature of the schools which more than any other reaches the home, and is having a marked effect upon the general culture of the great mass of the people.’”

IF Cornell University is not embarrassed with riches, it must be plagued by the limitations of law which prevent its becoming so. By a decision of the Court of Appeals it is debarred from accepting a bequest of a million and a half of