

The Educational Journal.

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

Subscription, \$1.50 a year.
In advance.

TORONTO, APRIL 1, 1891.

Vol. IV.
No. 22.

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* Editorial Notes. *

FROM the Report of the Minister of Education for 1889 it appears that in that year twenty-one per cent., or more than one-fifth of the rural school population of Ontario attended school less than one hundred days in the year. In towns the absentees numbered about fifteen per cent.; in cities about five per cent.

AN educational exchange referring to the coming great International Teachers' Convention, pertinently says: "There will be more of a "reciprocity" feeling on both sides after this meeting." The remark is suggestive of the great power making for peace, friendship and righteousness between the two nations which ought to be, and we trust will be the outcome of this and similar meetings. Why should not two peoples with so much in common, not only trade freely with each other, but live side by side in perpetual peace and mutual good will?

WILL the Inspectors, or the Secretaries, do us the favor to notify us two weeks or so in advance, of the times and places of meeting of the associations or institutes? We are especially desirous of having THE JOURNAL represented at every meeting, but are often unable to find out when and where they are to meet. This fact will explain why we had no representative and no sample copies at one or two recent Associations. We shall be grateful for this kindness.

IN reply to enquiries from various quarters we may explain that under the new arrangement between the Education Department and the University Senate, the High School Leaving Examinations are accepted *pro tanto* for Junior Matriculation. On any subjects in the University curriculum not included in the Leaving Examination, the student will still have to pass the University Supplementary Examination. The University curriculum remains as before.

AN exchange says:

New York city talks of pensioning her male teachers at the age of sixty, if they have taught in the city thirty years, and the women at fifty-five, if they have taught twenty-five years. The pension is to be half salary, and is to be paid the same as other salaries, during the natural life of the teacher. At sixty-five and sixty respectively the board may retire a teacher on pension without application. The lowest pension is to be \$500.

While we are scarcely prepared to express disapproval of such an arrangement, a much better one would be, in our opinion, to pay teachers such reasonable salaries as would enable them to make provision for old age during a reasonable term of service, without becoming pensioners upon the public funds.

MR. TAIT, one of the members of the Local Legislature for the city of Toronto, recently submitted a petition from ninety-one citizens of that city, asking for compulsory school regulations for the attendance of children between six and fourteen years of age; for the appointment of truant officers; for free school books, for the election of trustees on the day of the municipal elections, and for compelling Public School Boards to provide accommodation for all children of school age. The wonder is why only ninety-one signatures, when presumably it would have been easy to secure the names of twenty times that number. Probably it was thought that that number would be sufficient to bring the questions before the House.

PROFESSOR GEORGE E. HOWARD has in the *Atlantic Monthly* for March an article on "The State University in America." Professor Howard believes that the work of higher education in this country will in

the future be divided among three classes of institutions: the State University, a group of richly endowed private institutions, and a small body of denominational colleges. Of these he believes the State University to be, from a national point of view, the most important, thinking that eventually every new State and perhaps every State will have a University, which, as a rule will outrank every other school within the borders. Professor Howard should be in a better position to form an opinion than we, but we shall be a good deal surprised if other observers of equal penetration, looking from other points of view, are not able to discern a tendency in just the opposite direction. It would be strange if, in a Republic, the lines of educational development do not trend more and more towards voluntarism and the freedom of discussion and the fairness in regard to taxation which it alone can bring.

THE editor of the English department is making tremendous demands upon our space. In fact we are obliged to hold over some portions of his "copy" almost every time. Well, we do not complain. We like enthusiasm. Moreover, if we have an educational hobby it is an English hobby, for we believe that to teach our boys and girls to read, appreciate and enjoy the unequalled classics of our own vernacular, is to do the very best educational work that can be done from almost every point of view, intellectual, æsthetic, social, or moral. Our readers will not, we are sure, fail to appreciate all that is being done for them in this and other of our special departments. The reputation of our Mathematical department and its editor is of long standing, and too well established to need that we should even call attention to it. The voluminous correspondence of the department proves that it gets a very liberal share of attention. The papers of "Arnold Alcott" and "Rhoda Lee," in the Primary Department and those of "Bebe," for the Public School generally, cannot fail, we are sure, to be very helpful to those for whom they are specially intended. We are sure, too, that these editors will be glad to receive questions, suggestions, and criticisms, and will give them their best attention.