

A LADY TEACHER ON PRIMARY EDUCATION.

A "lady teacher" writes as follows: I have never been afflicted with the "rage for scribbling," but I cannot resist the impulse to send you a word expressive of my interest in and appreciation of your article on "Primary Education" in the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW for November.

You describe exactly, it seems to me, the lady fitted by nature and education to be the teacher of a primary school.

The points to be emphasized are: first, ladies so fitted are rare; second, they should be secured for this particular branch of the service; third, the emoluments should be such as to encourage them to remain in it.

The question arises: How is this to be accomplished? Is it by appealing to the parents through the public journals? or have the teachers the matter in their own hands? or is the Board of Education the proper quarter in which to represent it?

Would not a consideration of these questions be a step in the right direction?

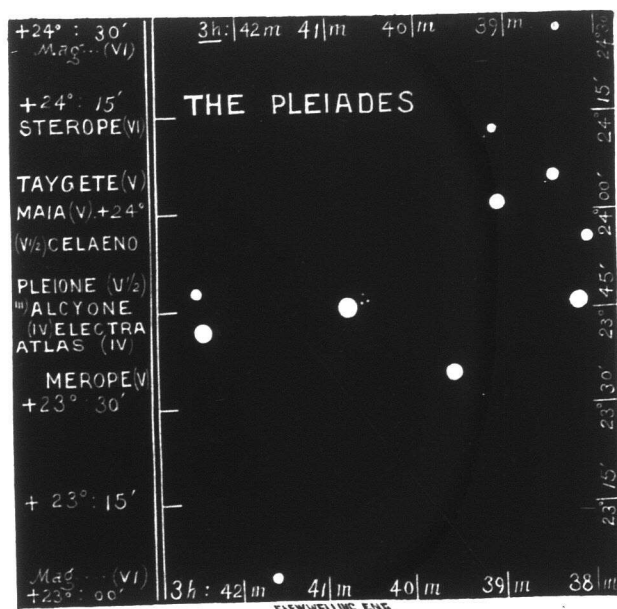
[Yes. Teachers have the matter largely in their own hands. First, by qualifying themselves for their work, entering upon it with enthusiasm and intelligence and making their influence felt in the home. The best way of reaching the parent is through the pupil. Intelligent and systematic effort in moulding the character and mind of the pupil *should* appeal to the parent more strongly than any possible way.—Ed.]

Teachers' Institutes.

York County, N. B. Teachers' Institute met at Fredericton on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 19th and 20th. Among the papers read was one by Miss Clark of the Normal School on the "Necessity of Physical Exercises in our Schools" which elicited favorable comment. A pleasant feature of the proceedings was an evening entertainment in the parlors of the W. C. T. U. at which addresses and music was furnished by members of the Institute and others.

The teachers of Victoria and Madawaska met at Grand Falls on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 19th and 20th, and organized a County Institute, with Inspector O'Brien as President. The Chief Superintendent of Education was present and took an active interest in the proceedings. A public educational meeting was held on Thursday evening, at which addresses were delivered by the Chief Superintendent and others. There was an exhibition of manual work from the Superior School, Grand Falls, and from the Grammar School at Andover. Papers were read by D. W. Ross, of the Superior School, Grand Falls; Mr. John Lawson, Miss Lea Dumas and E. M. Brundage. The teachers of the counties of Victoria and Madawaska are to be congratulated on the successful organization of their institute, which adjourned to meet at Edmundston in October next.

The Pleiads.



After the Sun and the Moon and the Big Dipper, no celestial object is better known than the Pleiads. Those who have never seen them have at last heard or read of them; for they have been figuring in song and story from the time that Ulysses steered his raft from Ogygia by them to the time that Amy's cousin watched them from the casement of Locksley Hall. They are mentioned too in our Bible, and perhaps rightly so; at any rate, the notion that the Kimah of Job and Amos is the Pleiads is a notion as old as the Septuagint.

If you don't know them, get some one who does to point them out to you. Or, failing that, go out the first clear evening and find them for yourself. Suppose you do so at nine on January 1st, or at eight on January 16th, or at seven on January 31st, or at any corresponding intervening time on any intervening evening. The hours here given are mean time, your own local time wherever you may happen to live. On the evening and at the hour as above, go out and face south and look up about 70° above the horizon. There! do you see that bunch of stars—half a dozen or so of little fellows huddled close together like a swarm of fireflies, or a brood of chickens, or like anything else that's like them? That's the Pleiads. Take a good look at them so as to be sure of knowing them again when you see them differently placed in the sky.

If you go out again on the same evening, from four to four and a half hours later, you will find them due west and at a more comfortable angle for your neck, just half as high as when on the meridian. Or if you wait until about March 7th you will find them due