

The Concord System.

Fred B. Meagher, Inspector of Schools for Carleton, Victoria, and Madawaska, in his annual report to the Chief Superintendent, writes as follows:

I am frequently urged to divide districts. Where such requests are acceded to, the result is generally two schools inefficiently supported and conducted, instead of one good school in the centre of the district. Of course it is a hardship for children to be compelled, as they often are, to walk two miles or more to school, but to weaken the district by dividing it is not the way out of the difficulty. It seems to me that the tendency should rather be toward consolidation than division. Four or five adjacent districts could easily be thrown together for school purposes. A house could be erected at some central point, and conveyances hired at public expense to take the children to and from the school, in connection with which several graded departments might be operated, and better and more effective work be done, with I believe, a very material saving in taxes. If such a plan could be put in practical operation (and I see no reason why it could not), it would prevent the multiplication of small and weak districts, and do a vast amount of good along educational lines generally.

The above is an outline of what is known as the "Concord System" of providing educational privileges in country districts, and our leading educationalists are now giving it their closest attention. The plan in brief is to substitute large districts for small ones and graded schools for ungraded. The Province of Quebec has taken up the system and a committee of twelve educational experts embracing some of the best known specialists in the United States has given it complete endorsement. In sections where this plan has been tried statistics are given showing a saving of more than 33 1/3%. This would seem to be a very conservative estimate for we are told that there are many districts in this country where the average daily attendance of pupils does not exceed fifteen or sixteen and in some cases it runs as low as twelve and eight. In a graded school one teacher could do the work that is now being done by two or more teachers in districts where the attendance is so small and beyond any question could do it more effectively. The demand for high grade teachers, too, would be greatly increased for the combined districts could easily afford to place a first class teacher in charge of the advanced department and thus enable all the children to obtain a good education at home without being obliged to go abroad for it. It should also be borne in mind that the closing of a school for six months or a year with its disastrous effects upon the educational welfare of the children would cease as under the new order of things schools would be operated continuously during the year. In this connection we might call attention to a casual remark of our Coldstream East correspondent last week, who said "After fourteen months vacation our school has been re-opened."

The Chief Superintendent in his annual report has this to say concerning the system:— In any attempt to introduce this system into New Brunswick it may be anticipated that serious practical difficulties will arise. But the anticipation of difficulties ought not to deter from a vigorous effort to remove an existing cause of weakness in our school administration. Special legislation will probably be necessary to enable us to try the experiment even on a small scale. When the trustees and ratepayers of contiguous districts are favorably situated for consolidation. The experiment having been once successfully tried, it will be comparatively easy to induce others to follow the example.

Mr. Stanley and His Work.

The career of Mr. Stanley the celebrated piano builder has been a varied and wide one, in the cities of New York, Boston, Chicago and Baltimore where his well known work has found ready call. The Evening Star of Toronto says of him "The instruments that now bear his name certainly stamp him as one of the foremost piano builders of the day, for brilliancy of tone, and the wonderful qualities that are brought forth through the medium of an excellent touch, elegantly chaste designs pleasing to the eye. The Stanley Piano certainly stands unrivalled. A trip through the factory will convince anyone that the "Stanley" while a thing of beauty is a joy forever."

Again it is said of his work:—"Without doubt the instruments the Stanley Piano Company are turning out stamp it as one of the leading piano firms of the country. An investigation will well repay anyone who inspects their extensive factory plant, situated on Niagara street, in this city. Mr. Chas. Stanley holds a diploma of honourable mention, granted to him at the World's Fair in Chicago, in 1893, for scale drawing and piano designing. He is a Canadian, born and brought up in Toronto."

The Stanley Piano is sold by H. H. Lockwood, Queen St., Woodstock, N. B. The New Music Store.

The Interior Decoration

of your home should have some of your attention at this season. Mr. Turner has just returned from the Toronto Art School, and he will be glad to place at your disposal what he has learned there. Ask us about Alabastine. It is a good thing. Let us give you estimates on Papering, Painting or Plain Work.

TURNER & FIELDS.

Orders left at Aberdeen Hotel, or W. F. Dibblee & Son's Store.

WOMEN IN SUNDAY SCHOOL.

They Are Infinitely Better Than Men as Teachers of Children.

"The chief and underlying cause of 'The Decay of the Sunday School,' says Edward Bok in the March Ladies' Home Journal, 'is the selection of incapable and incompetent men as superintendents. If men of broader views and keener perceptions were superintendents of our Sunday schools, the necessity for a few changes in the teachers would at once be apparent, and they would be promptly made. One of these changes would be that the masculine element in the active conduct would begin and end with a superintendent, a competent assistant or two, and a systematic librarian. The sooner that our churches realize that women, and women alone, should be the teachers of the young in their schools, the nearer they will come to the ideal condition. The more a woman has to do with a child, the better for the child. And the more sympathetic, tender and well bred women and the fewer men we have as teachers in our Sunday schools, the better it will be for the children and the schools."

"But no woman occupied in business during the week should, either of her own volition or under pressure, allow herself to be permitted to act as teacher in a Sunday school. When a woman is engaged in business for six days of a week, her Sunday should be to her a day of rest. Her place in church or school on Sunday should be that of auditor, not of worker."

"A little higher order of intelligence is vitally necessary in our Sunday school classes. We demand this of our teachers in our secular schools, and parents have a right to it of the Sunday school. It is not enough that the Sunday school teacher should be spiritual; she must have intelligence wherewith to apply her spirituality to the very best advantage and by the most attractive methods. Young girls are today teachers who should be in classes; To bring home a spiritual lesson to the mind of a child is not play; it is art, and calls for experience with children, a knowledge of human nature, an understanding of the very highest and deepest truths of life."

Let The Town Have Them.

All the franchises in which the public are interested should be owned by the town. Woodstock is wise in the possession of its water and electric light plant. Says an exchange:—Bearing upon the question of wealthy companies going to the Legislature and asking for franchises that almost give them the ownership of our incorporated towns and municipalities, the Maritime Merchant most pertinently speaks as follows:

"There is not one town or village in the Province of Nova Scotia, that would knowingly oppose the progress of any industrial enterprise, which was proposed to be located in or near it, but when it comes to the question of a company going to the law makers of this Province, and asking for a franchise covering almost everything under heaven and below, it is a totally different matter, as each has its duly appointed officers, who are the best judges of what its needs are, and its measures best calculated to attain the benefits sought. They alone, through their representatives in the Local House, are the proper person to consult when it comes to the promotion of an enterprise bearing upon or affecting local conditions, and it is well that the power applied for, have not been granted."

Caught in a Blizzard.

Newdale, Man., March 26.—One of the saddest deaths in the history of Newdale took place in the bush sixteen miles north of here last week. A young man named E. Howey, went to Mervyn's lumber camp last Monday, and after dinner started to hunt birch. The blizzard came up in the afternoon, and the young man not turning up, the whole gang of men went to look for him. The next morning they continued their search without avail, until Saturday evening, when he was found about five miles from the camp, dead and frozen stiff. He had made frantic efforts to make his way out of the bush with his horses, which could be plainly seen by the tracks in the snow, but at the last had tied the horses to a tree and lay down and perished. His parents and family live near London Ont. He came to this country about 18 months ago.

France Was Notified.

London, March 28.—In the house of Lords the Earl of Selborne, Parliamentary Secretary to the Colonial Office, said that the Government had formerly notified France in 1895 that the towns of Boussa, on the Middle Niger, and Nikki, west of the Middle Niger, were under British protection, but both had since been occupied by French troops. The British Government, he said, had protested against their occupation by French, and the respective claims of the two Governments would not be settled by the Paris Commission. It is reported in the lobby of the House of Commons this evening that France had finally admitted the accuracy of the news of the French advance in Sokoto, West Central Africa, last month, which has been formerly denied. It is understood that the admission was accompanied by explanations and by an expression of regret.

The Lumber Trade.

Canadian lumber manufacturers have requested the Dominion Government to pass an Act imposing an import duty on lumber coming into Canada, this Act to remain in force until such time as the United States Government shall remove the duty on Canadian lumber. A leading article on this subject appears in the March issue of the "Canadian Lumberman" of Toronto, in which is also found a portrait and biographical sketch of Mr. J. William Willison, the newly appointed Crown Timber Agent for the Yukon District, who left for the scene of his duties a fortnight ago.

We Are About to Move

Our Drug Store to the Big New Store on PAYSON'S CORNER, directly opposite Carlisle Hotel, three doors above our present stand.

We desire to thank our many customers for the liberal patronage bestowed on us in the past, and respectfully solicit a continuance of the same. Our motto will be as it always has been,

Absolute Purity in Drugs and Chemicals. Accuracy in Compounding the same. Prices consistent with the times.

As we are at considerable expense in fitting up our new store. We earnestly request all those having long standing accounts, to kindly call and settle.

Where it will be

Payson's Corner, The New Store, The Big Store, Directly Opposite the Carlisle Hotel.

In our large new store we will have better facilities than ever to attend to our rapidly increasing business.

Our stock of

Drugs, Patents, Chemicals, Toilet Articles, Brushes, Sponges, Chamois, Cigars, Pipes and Tobaccos, Spices, Etc.

will be larger than ever. In regard to our Prescription Department, it is useless to say 'prescriptions a specialty', as our diploma from the Pharmaceutical Society is sufficient guarantee of our competency, accuracy and skill.

IN CONCLUSION

We extend a hearty invitation to all to call in and see our large and spacious store. It will cost you nothing to inspect and will give you ample opportunity to see our soda water department, the largest soda apparatus in the Province, with its life giving cool, refreshing beverages, made direct from the luscious fruits the aroma of which fills the air with fragrance.

Connell's Pharmacy, WOODSTOCK.

ROOM PAPER!

Call and see our New Line of Wall Paper

From 3c. per Roll up.

Our New Ingrains are Stylish and make an attractive wall. Borders to match everything.

MRS. J. LOANE & CO.

Opposite Carlisle Hotel, Woodstock.

Tobique River Log Driving Co.

CONTRACT FOR DRIVING.

There will be sold at Public Auction in front of the Court House at Andover, in the County of Victoria on TUESDAY the TWELFTH day of APRIL next, at two of the clock in the afternoon, the contract for three years for driving the logs, timber and other lumber down the Tobique River from the Forks (so called), and points below the Forks aforesaid to the mouth of the said River where some enters the River St. John.

The contract to contain such clauses and conditions as the directors may prescribe to secure the faithful and satisfactory performance of the work. The contractor is also given a bond with two sureties to secure the faithful performance of the conditions and terms of the contract, in accordance with the requirements of chapter 86 of 58 Victoria Acts of Assembly to the Province of New Brunswick.

Dated at Andover in the County of N. B., the 14th day of March A. D. 1898.
J. C. HARTLEY, Secretary for Company, A. J. BEVERIDGE, President.

Notice.

The fourth annual meeting of the Tobique River Log Driving Company will be held at the Village of Andover in the County of Victoria, at Beveridge's Hall in said Village, on TUESDAY, the TWELFTH day of APRIL next, at Eleven of the clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors, and for the transaction of such business as may legally come before the meeting. Dated the 14th day of March A. D. 1898.
J. C. HARTLEY, Secretary for Company, A. J. BEVERIDGE, President.

P. S.—Every owner of logs or other lumber or timber intended to be driven by said company during the coming season, must file with the Secretary a statement of the same on or before the day of the annual meeting, and no lumberman can become a member of the said company, nor be entitled to vote at its meeting until said statement has been filed.

Heart Spasms

DR. AGNEW'S CURE FOR THE HEART A WONDERFUL LIFE-SAVER.

No organ in the human anatomy to-day whose diseases can be more readily detected than those of the heart—and medical discovery has made them amenable to proper treatment. If you have palpitation or fluttering, shortness of breath, weak or irregular pulse, swelling of feet or ankles, pain in the left side, fainting spells, dropsical tendency, any of these indicate heart disease. No matter of how long standing Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart will cure—it's a heart specific—acts quickly—acts surely—acts safely.

"I was given up to die by physicians and friends. One dose of Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gave me ease, and six bottles cured my case of fifteen years' standing." Mrs. J. L. HELLER, Whitesboro, N. W. T.

Sold by Garden Bros.

WE WILL MAKE YOU

A Suit from Scotch, English, or Domestic Tweeds, at a lower price than you can get the same quality of goods in town. We excel in Style, Fit and Workmanship.

W. B. NICHOLSON, Merchant Tailor.

Just watch (THE HUB) our smoke.

We are still giving great bargains, and will continue to do so until May 1st.

A great surprise is in store for you. See our windows next week, dressed for Easter.

A. J. GREY, NO. 2 MAIN ST.

MAKE A RUSH,--EVERYBODY!

For the Main Street KLONDIKE,

And get rich by buying your

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware & Spectacles,

AT THE BLUE FRONT JEWELRY STORE.

Headquarters for (N. B. Telephone Co. (C. P. R. Telegraph Co.

H. V. DALLING, Woodstock, N. B.

MARRIED.

WOOLVERTON-RUSSELL.—At Andover, Victoria Co. N. B., March 23rd, at Baptist parsonage, by Rev. H. D. Worden, Elbridge Woolvorton, of Four Falls, Victoria Co., to Eliza Russell of the same place.

DIED.

GRANT.—At Four Falls, Victoria Co., March 22nd, Mrs. Albert Grant, aged 39 years. She leaves a husband and five children, the youngest is 2 years and 6 months old. She was a true Christian and a devoted wife and mother.—Sentinel please copy.)

FLORENCEVILLE, N. B., Dec. 15th., 1897. MR. W. B. JEWETT, Woodstock, N. B.

DEAR SIR,—The glasses you fitted my eyes more than a year ago are giving entire satisfaction. I have not been troubled with headache since using them. I could not do without them one hour.

Yours truly, NETTIE TAYLOR.

A schoolmistress asked a child what s-e-e spelt. The child hesitated. Said the teacher: "What do I do when I look at you?" "Squint," replied the pupil.