

he did not succeed. One dissipation followed another; the poet's health began to fail. Anxiety for his own health also for the health of his wife (who was delicate, now haunted him. Added to this was the pressure of some small debts and wants. In this strait he was obliged to apply to friends for assistance, which was given. Soon he began to sink rapidly. When he found he could not get well he wrote his father in law, begging him to hasten to his wife, and speak words of comfort to her. He died in July, 1796, at the early age of 38. His burial was a mournful and impressive scene. They laid our poet in St. Michael's churchyard, where his grave remained for a time unmarked by any monument. After a few years, Mrs. Burns placed at his head a small, unpretending stone. Nearly twenty years after his death a huge unsightly mausoleum was erected by public subscription. This structure was adorned with an ungraceful figure in marble representing *Genius* finding the poet at the plough and casting her mantle over him. He died in great poverty, leaving a wife and four small children to mourn his early death.—By K. J. Kennedy.

UNRELIEF.

There is no unbelief;
Whoever plants a seed beneath the sod
And waits to see it push away the cloud,
He trusts in God.

Whoever says when clouds are in the sky,
"Be patient heart, light breaketh by and by,
Trusts the Most High.

Whoever sees 'neath winter's field of snow
The silent harvest of the summer grow;
God's power must know.

—Butler.

Teachers' Associations.

DUFFERIN The Dufferin Teachers' Convention met in the village of Shelburne, on the 12th and 13th inst. A. L. McIntyre Esq., presided and opened the proceedings with an interesting and practical address. Mr. K. Johnston, gave an exercise in Grammar, illustrating his method of teaching pupils to recognize and distinguish the parts of speech. Dr. McLellan dealt with the subject of Grammatical Analysis in an excellent address, characterized by his usual grasp and thoroughness. The subject of drawing was well treated by R. A. Gray, B.A., of Orangeville, and that of "Cultivation of Observation" by J. W. Gray B.A., of the same place. The subject of the Ontario School Law, was treated by Mr. McArdle, Principal of Orangeville Public Schools. Psychology was the subject of another able address by Dr. McLellan. Arthur J. Reading, of Toronto, gave an address on the subject of Drawing, and Dr. McLellan took up the A. B. C. of Fractions. On the evening of the 12th, Dr. McLellan lectured in the Town Hall, on the subject of education in Ontario, to a very large audience. During the session a committee was struck to prepare a memorial in reference to the late Dr. S. McCormack, so long Principal of Orangeville Public School. The Association was on the whole an enthusiastic and successful one.

ONTARIO In the absence of the President Mr. McGee of Uxbridge, Principal Embree was chosen chairman. Able and practical addresses were delivered by M. L. Nutting of Cannington on "Map Drawing," and by S. H. Preston of Toronto, on "How to teach music in the Public Schools." In the forenoon session. The afternoon session opened with an address on "Composition" by J. J. Tilley, Esq., Director of Institutes, which was listened to with great attention by the teachers, followed later in the day by a clever address on Reading and Education, by J. Orway Page, B.A., of Port Perry.

Thursday Evening.—By 8 o'clock when Principal Embree, of the Collegiate Institute called the meeting of teachers and their friends from town and the surrounding country to order, the town hall was comfortably filled with an audience that Inspector Tilley in his address paid the compliment of saying was perhaps the largest and finest he had yet met. Two college songs were sung by a detachment of Collegiate Institute boys under Mr. J. T. Fotheringham's leadership and piano accompaniment by Miss Lawder. Mr. Holliday sang several songs to Mr. A. N. Jewell's accompaniment and his melody of Irish and German comies was applauded roundly. Mr. Tilley spoke for an hour on the relation of the state to education, his remarks being listened to with the closest attention and at pleasing or stirring points enthusiastically applauded by the audience. Mr. A. H. Gross read an erudite essay on the educational department of Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, Md., U. S., where he has been since September last, attending lectures with a view to his qualification as a professor. Addresses, short and to the point, were given by the other gentlemen on the platform, and after votes of thanks had been carried and tendered to Mr. Tilley, the speaker of the evening, Mr. Gross, and those who had furnished musical entertainment, the meeting was closed by singing the national anthem. From 9 to 10:30 in the forenoon of Friday, Mr. Tilley again gave the teachers the benefit of his wide experience as a teacher in teaching "Fractions" to a class of five boys of from 9 to 10 years of age, pupils of the Model School. The auditors' report and the election of officers consumed the closing hour of the morning session. Mr. L. E. Embree B.A., the popular and talented Principal of the Collegiate Institute was elected President for the new year, and Mr. Jno. Spence, Principal of the Brooklin Public School, and who has so efficiently discharged the duties for the past year, was re-elected Secretary-Treas. Port Perry was selected as the next place of meeting and the sessions to be held once a year. The afternoon and closing session of the Institute was taken up with an instructive address on "Freehand Drawing," illustrated with models by Mr. A. J. Reading of the Art School, Toronto; and an exceedingly practical address by Mr. Tilley on "Relation of the Teacher to his Work." The afternoon exercises were varied by a cleverly rendered recitation from Mr. Kennedy of Toronto, and a song from Mr. Halliday, of Audley. The meetings throughout were an entire success.—Condensed from *Whitby Chronicle*.

Literary Review.

EASY SELECTIONS FROM THUCYDIDES, by E. H. Moore, M.A., Assistant Master at Plymouth College, Rivington; 1885.

This little book might have been styled, "Thucydides made easy." It is a Greek Reader composed of episodes of the Peloponnesian War neatly strung together. All speeches and all involved sentences of the narrative have been omitted. In English schools with a flexible curriculum, the volume will become popular, but our rigid Canadian System of text-book authorization forces us to look askance at all such new-comers, however attractive and valuable. We could almost pardon a teacher for conducting his boys clandestinely on a six months' jaunt, through this interesting historical course.

VARSITY BOOK, Prose and Poetry This little volume, to which we referred in advance of publication, quite fulfils any reasonable expectations raised by its announcement. It has been very neatly printed by the Macmillan Department Printers. Its contents are, as was intimated, entirely made up from past numbers of "The Varsity." From this tolerably wide and, of late, well cultivated garden, it must have been easy to cull this little hamper of varied and toothsome fruits. Most of the selections are brief. They consist of prose and poetry in about equal proportions. As was to be expected they vary considerably in merit, but almost all are sufficiently above the level of college journal mediocrities, to warrant reproduction in this more permanent form, while here and there one meets with little essays such as those on "Forgetfulness" and "Spectacles," which contain good thinking as well as neatly turned sentences, and little poems like "Livingston River" and "The Great North West," which are worthy of a place in the coming Canadian literature. It will not we hope, be thought ungracious if we suggest in passing that, possibly, the compilers could have afforded to adopt even a somewhat lower standard of excellence for the sake of introducing a larger number of writers and avoiding the frequent recurrence of the same names. But the book is of good omen and cannot fail to give a healthful stimulus to the most difficult and the most profitable of all college exercises.