

Cherriman was the only one who communicated anything on the higher Mathematics.

In the Mathematical subsection, Prof. Cherriman read a paper on the "Rotation of a Rigid Body," which was a review of Poinso's *Memoire sur la rotation du corps*, in which he pointed out a class of analogies and properties that had escaped the notice of Poinso and his followers. Among which was the existence of a point in a certain case of motion, for which he proposed the name of the "centre of parallel rotations," being the analogue of the "centre of parallel Forces" in the case of equilibrium.

Professor Cherriman also read a paper "on the Interpretation of certain cases of apparent geometric discontinuity." This paper referred to the mode of interpretation of imaginary quantities in the tracing of curves, which was proposed by Gregory, but whose legitimacy has since been disputed. Prof. Cherriman here brought forward a class of cases which appeared to show that this interpretation was not only legitimate but absolutely necessary. The subject is one of much interest among Mathematicians, but is too purely abstract to admit of description.

In the subsection of Physics and Meteorology, Professor Cherriman read a report on the present condition of the Observatory at Toronto; giving an account of its history since its abandonment by the Imperial Government, its present organization, and the mode of observation carried on.

At the close, it was agreed that the next meeting of the Association should take place in Montreal, on the 12th August, 1857. It was also resolved that invitations should be extended to foreign savans to attend the future meetings. The following gentlemen were next elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:—

President—J. W. Bailey, of West Point.

Vice-President—Alexis Caswell, of Providence, R. I.

General Secretary—John Le Conte, of Columbia, S. C.

Permanent Secretary—Joseph Lovering.

Chairman of the Local Committee—Sir Wm. Logan.

For Local Committee—(with power to add to their number)—Sir Wm. Logan, the Mayor of Montreal, the President of the Natural History Society, the President of the Board of Trade, the Hon. Sir L. Lafontaine, the Hon. Mr. Chauveau, Luther Holton, Esq., M. P. P., A. A. Dorion, Esq., M.P.P., and Messrs. Beaujeau, Lyman, Viger, and Judge Day.

ALGONQUIN LANGUAGE.

The following are notices of interesting papers read to the Association:—

Mr. Henry Schoolcraft read a paper on the structure of the Algonquin language. Language, he said, was one of the best and most reliable means of ascertaining the mental organization of the natives. There are few architectural monuments of the Indian race. Its lingual structure is its chief monument. The introduction of the animals and implements of civilized life made a great change in Indian habits. Peaceful Mexican tribes, by the adoption of the horse, had been converted into the warlike Camanches. The conquering Iroquois, surrounded by civilized men and customs, now harness the ox and follow the plow. It is only by tracing their linguistic connections, that we learn that a large genus of Indian tribes speak languages all derived from one stock.

The Algonquin language has been more cultivated than any of the Northern Indian dialects. It has been called the Court language of the Indians. The French early learned it. The English colonists found its varied forms among the Chippewas, the Kickapoos, and numerous other Northern and Western tribes.

The musical cadences of Ontario, Ticonderago, and other Algonquin names, will perpetuate their memory long after the race has vanished.

The Indian is always fearful. He fears all things and persons around him. He is cautious in speech; alert to hear and watch whatever occurs around him.

The similarities of conception and thought among the different tribes, are even more indicative of the one origin of the language, than its coincidences of sound. No Indian is an analyst. He looks at things in the gross, and speaks of them in the same way.

In speaking of loving, hating, &c., he distinguishes the class of objects to which the emotion refers.

The Algonquin cannot say, "I love a woman," and "I love a pipe," with using inflections to distinguish that the word applies in one case to an animate, in the other to an inanimate object.

He puts the main object first, thus, "Fish give me." "A man I see." "Bread I want." "Wampum, have you any?" and not the reverse form used in English.

There is no accomplishment he values so highly as oratory. Even the greatest warrior's reputation is inferior to that of Red Jacket. The Indian orator sways his excitable auditory with immense power. He alluded in conclusion to the effect of the Christian religion on the tribes.

CONNECTION OF GEOMETRY AND LANGUAGE.

Prof. Gibson remarked upon a curious connexion of geometry and language. Three letters occur in almost all primitive languages. They are a line, an angle, and a circle—thus: I. A. O. In almost all languages these letters are used in the word expressing Divinity. In Hebrew I O A is a name of Divinity. Greek, A I O the root of *aionios* "the eternal." In Hindoo, Japanese, and other Asiatic tongues, the same letters are used similarly. In Indian, these letters occur in *Manito*, the word for Spirit. These letters in the old Greek or Phœnician alphabet are the first, last, and middle letters, (Alpha, Iota, and Omega.) There they signify the beginning, middle and end.

Departmental Notices.

NOTICE.—SCHOOL TRUSTEES WISHING TO SECURE THE SERVICES OF A NORMAL SCHOOL TEACHER,

Should apply to the Chief Superintendent of Education, Toronto, before the 15th of October, as the Summer Session of the Normal School will close at that date, and some fifty or sixty teachers will then be prepared to take schools. Each application should state whether a male or female, a first or second class teacher is desired, and what amount of salary will be given. The trustees making the earliest application, and offering the highest salary, will be most likely to succeed. The applications for teachers trained in the Normal School have been much more numerous than the teachers thus trained; and persons intending to teach, ought by all means to avail themselves of the advantages of the Normal School, as teachers trained in it, and going forth with its certificate, are authorised to teach in any part of the Province—are able to teach with more success and satisfaction than they could otherwise do, and are most eagerly sought after, and offered the highest salaries. The Winter Session of the Normal School will commence on the 15th of November, and close on the 15th of April.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO TEACHERS.

Public notice is hereby given to all Teachers of Common Schools in Upper Canada, who may wish to avail themselves at any future time of the advantages of the Superannuated Common School Teachers' Fund, that it will be necessary for them to transmit to the Chief Superintendent, without delay, (if they have not already done so), their annual subscription of \$4, commencing with 1854. The law authorizing the establishment of this fund provides, "that no teacher shall be entitled to share in the said fund who shall not contribute to such fund at least at the rate of one pound per annum." This proviso of the law will be strictly enforced in all cases; and intimation is thus early given to all Teachers, who have not yet sent in their subscriptions, to enable them to comply with the law, and so prevent future misunderstanding or disappointment, when application is made to be placed as a pensioner on the fund.

To Municipal and School Corporations in Upper Canada.

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

The Chief Superintendent of Education is prepared to apportion one hundred per cent. upon all sums which shall be raised from local sources by Municipal Councils and School Corporations, for the establishment or increase of Public Libra-