

TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

CHRONICLE OF THE MONTH.

WENTWORTH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

—The semi-annual meeting of this Association was held in the Collegiate Institute, Hamilton, on Friday and Saturday, the 15th and 16th of October, Mr. W. H. Ballard, President, in the chair. The programme was both interesting and practical. Mr. Cruikshank delivered an excellent address on Mathematical Geography, illustrating his ideas by a set of instruments. Mr. Smith, Public School Inspector, addressed the Association on the Best Methods of Teaching Reading to the junior classes. Dr. Hare followed with an excellent paper on the Schools of Germany, in which he traced the growth of the educational system of that country, and explained the curriculum of studies pursued in the different grades of schools. He gave special prominence to the severe training to which teachers are subject, before they are permitted to take charge of a school. Mr. G. W. Ross, M.P., took up and discussed fully the subject of "Mistakes in Teaching Reading."

The Association met in the evening and after listening to a choice musical programme, provided by Prof. Johnson and the Glee Club of the Collegiate Institute, Mr. G. W. Ross came forward and delivered an able and instructive lecture on "Intellectual Forces." The lecture lasted about one and a half hours, and was frequently applauded.

The Saturday morning session was opened by a discussion on the Best Method of Teaching Composition. Mr. McLean, of Dundas, opened the discussion, and was followed by Messrs. Bissonette, Haralsh, Sheppard, Johnson, P. Smith and Inspector Smith. Mr. G. W. Johnson, of the County Model School, read an excellent paper on Teaching History,

after which the length of school hours was briefly discussed by Inspector Smith. The attendance was very large, about two hundred teachers being present from the county and city. After the usual routine business had been concluded, the Association adjourned.

NORTHUMBERLAND TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

—The semi-annual meeting of this Association was held in Cobourg on Thursday and Friday, 28th and 29th November. It was well attended, and on the whole proved one of the most successful ever held in the county. The subject of "Recent School Legislation," was ably introduced by Mr. J. Swift. After a somewhat animated discussion, the following resolutions were carried unanimously. 1. Resolved, that we the teachers of the County of Northumberland, in convention assembled, do deprecate the action of the Local Legislature in the Province of Ontario, in permitting the shortening of the school holidays at midsummer, for the following reasons: 1. The best educators of the day are unanimous in their conviction that the interests of education will be better served by shortening, not only the school term, but also the hours of daily teaching. 2. That the depressing influence produced by confinement in the school-room during the period referred to is more apt to retard than promote pupils in their studies, and is destructive to the physical well-being of both teachers and pupils. 3. That statistics shew that the attendance during that period, especially in country sections, is smaller than during any other portion of the year. 4. That as there is no Government grant allowed for attendance during the per-