

## GRAFTON FEMALE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Grafton on the 14th March. A report of the proceedings and progress of the Association during the past year, was read, and office-bearers appointed for the present year. The funds realized by the Association last year, fell very considerably short of the sums raised in former years; but this may be accounted for by the depressed circumstances of the community at large. It is gratifying to remark, that the interest of the Females connected with the Association, does not decline, but that, on the contrary, the prospects of the Association appear to brighten.

The Treasurer's statement is as follows:—

Amount raised by donations, subscriptions, and sales.....	£27 8 3½
Paid for materials.....	£9 0 0
Presbytery's Home Missions	3 10 0
Synod's H. Mission Fund.....	1 10 0
Burial Fund, Knox's Col- lege.....	3 0 0
Sabbath School.....	1 0 0
Church debt.....	5 0 0
In hand for purchase of ma- terials.....	4 8 1½
	27 8 3½

There was sent to the French Canadian Missionary Society a donation in articles of clothing, value £3 12s. 7d. There are also articles in hand to the amount of £35.

## OWEN SOUND.

The following letter from Owen Sound, recalls our attention to a subject on which we have often thought, viz: that Christians in migrating from one place to another, should make it a grand element in determining the place of their habitation, that they be so situated, as to enjoy the ordinances of grace. While we dissent from the doctrine of the letter, in regard to government interference in the matter, we hold that every Christian should see to it, that neither good land, nor the thirst for gold, should induce him to place himself and family, beyond the pale of the Church. Of course we do not include missionaries, or such as go to carry the Gospel to the dark places of the earth; but our substantial Canadian farmers, and immigrants from more highly-favoured lands, are often tempted to go themselves, or send their families to settlements in which, they have no reasonable prospect of enjoying the society of those with whom they can take counsel, in regard to eternal interest, or enjoy the services of the sanctuary.—We think it is an excellent precaution for such as are members of the same Church, to endeavour to place themselves and families in situations in which they may, in the best sense, be helpful to one another:—

To the Editor of the Record.

DEAR SIR,—  
I observe the improvement going on in many places mentioned in your very useful periodical. It is cheering to observe the great exertion making by the members of our Church in Canada generally. In justice to this place, I must say, it is not much behind many places of older date, (as to exertion and effort) in endeavouring to support the cause of God!

There is an evil existing, however, that is common in Canada, paying no attention to denomina-

tional distinction—the emigrants are allowed to settle promiscuously as the drift-wood on the shore.

I do not know why the Government should not set apart a tract of land—say a Township to one sect, and a Township to another—not regarding national distinction, but paying every attention to denominational distinction.

This, in my opinion, would have a salutary effect, not only in the people being more united, but able at once to support a minister.

In this place the Free Church are by far the most numerous; and I am happy to say, that through their spirited exertions, there is a Church erected and nearly finished—so much so, that we had preaching in it last Sabbath, by the Rev. John McKinnon, who delivered a very interesting sermon to an attentive audience of between two and three hundred hearers. I am happy also to inform you, that, through the kindness of the Hon. J. H. Price, Commissioner of Crown Lands, when here last summer, we obtained the land on which the house stands, sufficiently capacious to contain a manse, besides the church (two acres). The spot of ground is really beautiful—high and commanding: its equal could not be found any where in the bounds of the town-plot—no less an area than 6000 acres.

From this spot you have a full view of the town, and a great part of that beautiful bay, as also the Indian village, of much older date, stretched along the opposite side of the bay, at the distance of two miles. We consider ourselves greatly favoured as to the labours of eminent ministers who have visited this place,—amongst whom were the Rev. Mr. McIntosh, Rev. Mr. Smellie, Rev. Mr. McFavish, Rev. Mr. Sutherland, Rev. Mr. McPherson, Rev. Mr. Currie, Dr. Burns, Rev. William Ball, and the Rev. John McKinnon.

In the absence of ministers, it has been customary with the elders, Mr. McDermid and Mr. McCoy, who reside a few miles out of the village, to hold prayer-meetings on the Sabbaths; this, together with the Sabbath School of that neighbourhood, has had an excellent effect, especially with the young and rising generation, whose advanced state in the minor branches of education amply show.

I am also happy to inform you, that this congregation, in connection with the Lake Shore congregation, are about giving a minister a call, as the necessary means are likely to be made up.

I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,  
JAMES McNAB.

April 6, 1849.

## PROVINCIAL NORMAL SCHOOL.

The third session of this institution was closed with public examinations, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the 10th, 11th, and 12th of April. The number of students attending, was about ninety, nearly one-third of whom were females.

The examinations were conducted by questions addressed to students individually, and embraced the whole course of study pursued during the session, comprising Algebra, Arithmetic, Astronomy, Geometry, Mechanics, Hydrostatics, the Natural Sciences, Chemistry, Physiology, Grammar, Geography, History, and the Rudiments of Logic.

The proficiency shown in the different classes, was alike creditable to the students and the Institution.

The Governor General's prizes (of books valued at £5 and £3), for Agricultural Chemistry, awarded to two young men, both sons of Canadian farmers, were presented by the Chief Justice.

At the close of the examinations the students presented a respectful address to their teachers, which was replied to by Mr. Robertson, the head master.—Communicated.

We have very great pleasure in giving place to the above notice of the Normal School, as from the little we have seen, and from more that we

have heard, we believe it to be most creditable to the Province.

We believe that the training which the pupils in this institution are receiving, is of a superior kind, and that it will soon tell most powerfully and favourably on the education of the whole country, as so many of those pupils are to become teachers of our schools. Several of the ministers of Toronto attend the school once a-week, and devote two hours to the religious instruction of the pupils connected with their several churches; and from what we have seen of the way in which that instruction is received in one class, we anticipate much good from it. We think that the institution is a happy illustration of the only kind of union between Church and State in the matter of education, which, in these times at least, is practicable. The State gives the secular element, and that alone: the Church, through her ministers, gives the spiritual element; and that in the halls which the State has erected, and at the hours which the secular teacher might have claimed as his own.

We were prevented by the examinations in Knox's College, which were going on simultaneously with those in the Normal School, from doing more than taking a glance at the Model School, attending for about an hour at the exercises in Music of the Normal School. In the absence of time to report from personal observation, our readers may bear with us for noting the following things which struck us as being in many respects favourable indications of change and progress. First, we saw some children of the humbler classes in our city, working out algebraic equations in a way which, in our own boyish days, few in Scotland could have done but the students of Colleges or pupils of the higher Academies. Second. The large and convenient hall in which the Model School meets, had been at one time the stable of the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, as the principal hall of the Normal School had been his dining room.

Third. In the latter hall, where in other days we have seen the grandees, civil and military, of the Province, surrounding the Lieut.-Governor, we beheld one, who, at one time, as a newspaper Editor, had been a perfect scourge to Toryism and High Churchism, and is now Chief Superintendent of Schools for C. W., seated not ungracefully between the Right Reverend Dr. Strachan on his right and the truly worthy Chief Justice of the Province on his left. We note this in no envious spirit, but rather to express the pleasure which the spectacle gave us: as we were willing to believe that the meeting and grouping of the parties were the result of attachment to one great common object—the promoting the education of the Province. And some thoughts like these crossed our mind as we wondered at the sight.— Shall the cause of Education have such a uniting effect on jarring parties—and why should not the cause of the Saviour exert an influence still more powerful on all who profess to appreciate that cause? And how much have they to answer for, who, through pertinacious claims on the public funds for the support of their particular churches, which claims, both the truth and charity of