

The report on the preparation of a text-book on Canadian history was of the most satisfactory character, winding up with the announcement, that on account of the munificent gift of two thousand five hundred dollars made by a gentleman, there will be offered a series of three prizes, open to the world, for the best Dominion text-books of Canadian history; and it is believed that since the first prize will be not less than one thousand dollars, and the others proportionally great, the ablest historians will be induced to take part in the competition. The donor is a Canadian who is proud of his country, who has faith in its future, and who is sufficiently generous at heart to contribute materially to its educational needs. Although his name will not be announced at present, his noble gift will be highly appreciated, and it is to be hoped that its purpose will be realized. The Committee, in making this report, begged to recommend that it be allowed to sit again for another year, with power to invite the co-operation both of the departments of education and of teachers' associations in all the provinces to agree upon conditions upon which the \$2,500 may be offered in prizes, and for other purposes incident to the opening and closing of the said competition. Dr. Harper said that such a report should not be allowed to pass in the usual formal way. He was of the opinion that the Committee had succeeded in solving a difficult problem. (Applause.) There will be no more running hither and thither about this subject which has engaged us so long. This Committee is now in a position, without reference to sub-committees, or the Government, or anybody else, to set the brains of our experienced writers to work, and get this question settled. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. Robins presented the report of the Pension Commission, which dealt exhaustively with the whole subject. In connection therewith he made some characteristic remarks. The pension fund was administered with the utmost care to prevent dissipation of the funds. He had heard of a man in Japan who applied for a pension four years after he was dead. (Laughter.) He had signed his certificates in advance, and his friends had presented them. Now, it was no uncommon thing for teachers to present their claims for pension on the ground of ill-health, and then, in a brief space, these same teachers got married and appeared as blooming matrons. (Laughter.) Let it be understood that the pension commissioners regarded matrimony not only as an evidence of good health, but of superabundant health. (Laughter.) For his own part, he repeated what he had said years ago, that the