

his Association or his own private opinions?" in which discussion Messrs. Knowles, Alexander, B. Hal. Brown, Chapman, Groh, Slater, Ballantyne, W. Linton, and C. B. Linton took part, when Mr. Chapman moved, seconded by B. Hal. Brown, "That in the opinion of this Association, a delegate or delegates appointed by the Association must represent the views, as he or they know them, of the Association he or they represent." Session adjourned till 1.45 p.m. At general business in afternoon Mr. Alexander put his question, "How long a pupil," &c., which excited a lively discussion, a great diversity of opinion being expressed, the time in all cases being modified by the age of pupil when starting and regularity of attendance. A motion to strike out certain words in the constitution (fixing the place of meeting) was discussed and lost. On motion, Messrs. Moyer and Martin were appointed members of Library Committee in place of Messrs. Gray and Steuernagel. Moved by Mr. Chapman, seconded by B. Hal. Brown, That the Library Committee be instructed to prepare a scheme for supplying the members of association with the leading educational periodicals at a reduced rate, the balance of the price being paid out of the association funds.—*Carried*. The Secretary was instructed to procure sufficient copies of minutes of the Provincial Association of 1881 to supply each member with one. Discussion about delegates' duties resumed, and after an amendment being brought forward, followed by a long war in words, the original motion carried. The topic, "Methods of improving our Association," was introduced by Mr. W. Linton, in an able essay, in which some very useful hints were thrown out. Mr. Alexander then opened up for discussion the "Galt half-time system," by giving a brief sketch of its origin, workings, and the objects aimed at. Messrs. McIntyre and Chapman asked questions regarding apparent objections or difficulties in the way of its general introduction, which were satisfactorily replied to by Messrs. Alexander and Groh, the latter giving some illustrations of the plans adopted by him in carrying out the scheme. Moved by Mr. Suddaby, seconded by Mr. Knowles:—That in the opinion of this Association, the "Galt half-time system," employing, as it does, the restless activity of young children as a means to secure their physical, moral, and intellectual education, is sound in principle, and that its adoption in all schools in which pupils under nine years of age are taught would immensely promote the interests of a properly balanced education.—*Carried*. After a few remarks by Mr. Bingham, the meeting adjourned until 7:30 p.m. In the evening a large audience gathered to listen to a debate on the subject, "*Resolved*—That it would be advisable for all English educationists to countenance the present reform movement, and to lend their influence in reforming the present irregular orthography of language." The chair was filled by Mr. Suddaby. Messrs. B. H. Brown and Knowles maintained the affirmative, and Messrs. Morrison and Herner the negative side of the question. At the close of a very interesting and instructive debate, the audience (by a very small majority) gave its decision in favor of the affirmative. At intervals during the evening vocal music was supplied as follows:—Duett by Misses Groh and Linton; solo by Miss Jones; duett by Misses Ziegler and Weaver; solo by Mr. C. B. Linton; duett by Messrs. Chapman and Winter. Miss Woodsend presided at the organ, which was kindly supplied by Mr. Bingham. After singing the National Anthem, the meeting closed. *Second Day*.—After routine business, Mr. Hilborn gave a short exposition of his method of teaching "Arithmetic" (from reduction), which was followed by an interesting discussion between Messrs. Groh, Alexander, Brueckner, Weismiller, and Hajey, during which Mr. Alexander drew special attention to the great want in most schools of the necessary weights, measures, and other appliances to properly teach reduction. Mr. Alexander presented the Association library with three volumes sent him by Col. Eaton, Esq., Commissioner of Education in United States. Mr. B. Hal. Brown read a well prepared essay on the "Teacher's influence over pupils before and after school hours." The subject, "To what extent should politics be introduced in the public school curriculum," was then opened up for discussion in an able essay by Mr. G. Lewis, followed by a very interesting and instructive discussion between Messrs. W. Linton, B. Hal. Brown, Chapman, Rogers, McRae, Ballantyne, Groh, Connon, and Knowles. The Secretary of Promotion Examination Committee presented their report as follows:—That the subjects for entrance to the Senior Third and for entrance to the Fourth be the same as they were last year. That the subjects of examination for entrance to the Fifth and entrance to the Sixth Class be the same as they were last year, except in the following:—(a) Reading to be tested on some selection other than those contained in the readers; (b) Literature for both entrance to the Fifth and entrance to the Sixth the same as that required for entrance to the high schools; (c) History of the Roman and Plantagenet line (to end of Richard II.'s reign) for both classes; (d) That an option should be allowed in the examination for entrance to the Sixth in the subjects of Algebra and Geometry. If Algebra be taken, the simple rules and simple factoring; if Geometry, the definitions, postulates, and first twenty propositions. The report also recommended that there be no examination for promotion higher than that for entrance to the Sixth Class. In the afternoon an amendment striking out the last clause of report was proposed, and that an examination of Senior Sixth Class pupils similar to that of last year be held. After a spirited discussion between Messrs. Bean, Linton, Erb, Ballantyne, Brown, and

Erb, the original report was adopted. A Legislative Committee, composed of Messrs. Knowles, Herner, and Suddaby, was appointed to confer with the Legislative Committee of Provincial Teachers' Association. Report of Management Committee on programme for next meeting was read and adopted. After disposing of some formal business, the Association adjourned to meet on the last Friday and Saturday of January, 1882.

CHAS. A. WINTER, *Sec.-Treasurer*.

REVIEWS.

THE CENTURY MAGAZINE (SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY).—It is sad and strange that Dr. Holland should have died just when his magazine was changing its name. *Scribner's* will enter on its new era with a new editor as well as a new name. The management seem determined to keep it fully up to the best point it has reached in the past. Among many others, we single out the following as specially good articles: "George Eliot," with the only reliable portrait yet issued of the great authoress; "The So-called Venus of Milos," an able discussion of the probabilities as to the true position of the arms in the original statue, with numerous illustrations; "A Curious Experience," by Mark Twain, a story which must not be described, in the interests of the reader; and "My Escape from Slavery," by Fred. Douglas. Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of "That Lass o' Lowrie's," "Haworths," "A Fair Barbarian," &c., has begun a new story, "Through One Administration."

HARPER'S MAGAZINE, NOVEMBER.—The Editorial departments are as funny, as wise, and as instructive as usual. There are two good single-number stories, "The Sumach Gatherers" being a very delightful one. The illustrated articles of most interest to Canadians are, "Journalistic London," "In Cornwall with an Umbrella," "The Land of the Midnight Sun," by Paul B. Du Chaillu, and "A Week in a Dug-out." The latter recounts the adventures incident to a trip among the lakes of backwoods Canada. One gets a clear idea of the habits and customs of Cornish people from the second-named article; Du Chaillu makes one long to visit Sweden, Norway, and Lapland; and in "Journalistic London" we are favored with portraits and sketches of Sir Vernon Harcourt, John Walter of the *Times*, John Delane, Dr. Russell (the war correspondent), Edmund Yates, Labouchere, the society scandalist, and other noted London newspaper men.

HARPER'S WEEKLY for October maintains its reputation as an art and literary journal. Attention of teachers is respectfully directed to the Art department, in which portraits of men of note are given. Pupils will remember more concerning a person by seeing the portrait than if the facts are couched in the most eloquent language. The illustrations depicting the final honors paid to the dead President are very truthful. A timely article is given on "American Opium Eaters," which we would desire to see followed by one on "American Tobacco Eaters." The "Methodist (Ecumenical Council)," "Yorktown Celebration," "Baltimore's Supply of Water," and "Irish Independence," are timely and thoughtful articles.

CIRCULAR ON THE GRADING SYSTEM, FOR THE SCHOOLS OF WISCONSIN, BY W. C. WHITFORD, STATE SUPERINTENDENT, MADISON, WIS. *David Atwood, 1881, page 48*.—This work is an admirable compendium of the subject it professes to discuss. Unlike most programmes of study, which are but bare outlines, this gives a most excellent set of notes upon each subject, not only showing very clearly the amount of work to be done in each grade, but how to accomplish it, by giving very clear, if brief, explanations of the best method of teaching each subject, and also of teaching every stage of the subject. The reader is struck at once with the lively character of the methods recommended. Everything is fresh, crisp, and eminently practical, and recommended to be taught in a way that children love. While there are no hobbies in the work, the subject of Reading seems to be particularly well dealt with, and the advice to cultivate an agreeable voice in pupils a matter too often neglected. Mr. Whitford is evidently a practical teacher, and has done for his State what will no doubt obtain the praise of all interested in education. A similar work for the programme of our schools, with that programme in some respects changed, would be a boon to Canadian teachers.