

University Confederation. Dr. Nelles explained in genial and humorous terms the various steps taken towards the federation of the Universities of Ontario, and urged upon the attention of the educators of Ontario, in harmony with the view taken by him in the address published by us in the July-August number of this magazine, the far-reaching results of the scheme now under consideration. Dr. Dewart followed in the same line of argument, reading extracts from a pamphlet lately published by him on this subject and adding other pertinent remarks. Mr. Macallum, B.A., justified the action of Queen's University refusing to enter confederation on the ground that it is not in the interest of the higher education of the country to have all the colleges in one place, but he would be pleased to see public aid given to the University of Toronto.

Samuel Woods, M.A., spoke as a graduate of the University of Toronto, pointing out the concessions which that institution was called upon to make in entering such a scheme as the proposed one.

The first item on the order of business Thursday afternoon was the election of officers. These are the following for the ensuing year: President, Samuel MacAlister, Esq., Toronto; Recording Secretary, R. W. Doan, Esq., Toronto; Corresponding Secretary, D. H. Hunter, M.A., Woodstock; Treasurer, W. J. Hardy, Esq., Toronto. Mr. Thomas Swift, Ottawa, read a paper on "Reading as a part of Elocution," the discussion thereon exhausted the business for this session.

At the evening meeting two scholarly and valuable papers were read, one by the Rev. Dr. Body, Provost of Trinity College, Toronto, on "Education and Character," the other by

Dr. Allison, Nova Scotia, on the "Development of Education." We hope to find space for these timely contributions in the pages of THE MONTHLY. After some routine business was attended to, the Convention was brought to a close by all present joining heartily in singing the National Anthem. Space forbids our attending in any form to the work done by the different sections of the Association, another time may present a more favourable opportunity.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

THIS question has been repeatedly before the Teachers' Association. Two years ago a paper was read in the High School Masters' section, and a committee appointed to consider the whole subject. The Minister of Education is proposing to treat the professional training of teachers for High Schools after the manner in which it has been dealt with for Public Schools. It seems to us unreasonable to ask schools whose special function it is to foster and promote sound scholarship to undertake also the onerous work of showing teachers how to teach. To men so actively engaged as the principals and masters of those schools the proper preparation of teachers for our secondary schools would be a most serious task. We will not follow the subject further at present; and we do this all the more readily, because a co-worker of much experience, and well qualified to speak on the question, has kindly undertaken to write a series of articles for this magazine, beginning with the September number. We invite discussion on the question of professional training of teachers.