

was that ninety-nine out of a hundred votes were apt to be led by one wire-puller. (Applause.) He thought he saw that disease coming with all its devastating influence on this Province especially. The cure was the public school. (Applause.) Our duty to God was first, and our duties to the family, the school and the state came next. Each depended on the other, and the fulfilment of these duties on the part of the future generation depended largely on the efforts of the teachers of the Province.

THE ONTARIO ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THIS is a society deserving the greatest encouragement. It has just completed its seventeenth annual convention at London. At this meeting many interesting suggestions were mooted; amongst others the removal of the headquarters of the society from London to Toronto. Dr. White, of Toronto, in an address to the society stated that on different occasions he had held conversations as to what was the best general course to adopt to popularize the study of entomology. Lately he had been conversing with various persons as to what effect the losing of Mr. Saunders would have upon the Entomological Society of Ontario, and as to what was the best plan to induce undergraduates of colleges and others to enter into the study of entomology. It was generally acknowledged that the best general course to adopt was a system of first-class lectures—not, perhaps, popular lectures, but scientific addresses. The lectures would furnish material for publication in the *Canadian Entomologist*. To his mind, much of the influence for good of the society was lost owing to its not being located in the centre of learning. He was confident that its headquarters should be located in Toronto instead of London. Capt. Geddes, however, thought it would be a little premature to attempt to remove the society bodily from London without first trying a branch in the place intended for its removal. A general informal discussion was entered upon as regards the advisability of moving the Society's headquarters to Toronto, which resulted in the unanimous support of Capt. Geddes' suggestion to form a branch there, Dr. White being a hopeless minority with his scheme to remove the headquarters of the society to Toronto. A motion to the effect that Dr. White and Capt. Geddes be requested to obtain all necessary information respecting public lectures on entomology under the auspices of the society, and to report to the editing committee at their earliest convenience, was carried;

A DEADLOCK was the result of the discussion on fees at the last meeting of the London Board of Education.

THE Ridgetown Public School Board have engaged Mr. Bingham as head master for 1887, at \$550 per annum.

THE Trustees of S.S. No. 7, Kincairdine, have re-engaged Mr. F. M. Mathers as their teacher for 1887 at a salary of \$410.

THE Orillia High School Board has selected Mr. Wm. Moore, B.A., of Smith's Falls High School, and Mr. John Waugh, of Kellsdale, as

second and third masters for next year. Mr. Waugh for a time acted as assistant master in Orillia High School.

THE first convocation day of the Orangeville High School, was held on the 8th inst. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Lindsey, chairman of the board. The first business was the presentation of diplomas to the pupils that were successful at the last examinations.

DR. ALBERT GUNTHER, of the British Museum, visited the Canadian Section recently, and made a careful examination of the natural history specimens from various parts of the Dominion. The Doctor evinced much interest in the collection brought under his notice, and is understood to have expressed great satisfaction at the comprehensive and valuable nature of the display.

THE Royal Scientific Academy of Turin has awarded to Prof. Pasquale Villari, of Florence, its prize of \$2400 for his "Life and Times of Macchiavelli." This prize is adjudged every four years to the author of the most important work in natural science, history, geography, or mathematics that has appeared within that period. Occasionally it has been given to a foreigner, as to Darwin several years ago.

OUT of about one thousand students who presented themselves for examination from the Liverpool centres, in connection with the science and art examination of South Kensington, upwards of two hundred were women. Two young ladies passed in magnetism and electricity, twelve in inorganic chemistry, and two in agriculture. One lady, who passed the elementary examination last year in machine construction and drawing, was again successful in a more advanced stage of the same subject.

AT the last meeting of the Carleton Place Board of Education, the principal of the High School, Mr. Johnston, was re-engaged for the ensuing year at a salary of \$1,000. Mr. Sheppard was re-engaged as assistant in the High School at a salary of \$750. Mr. Goth was engaged for 1887 at the same salary as the present year. Miss Girouard was re-engaged for the ensuing year at a salary of \$300, on condition that she teaches the department she now has only in the old town hall, taking charge as head teacher in the building. Miss McCallum was re-engaged for the ensuing year at a salary of \$225. Miss Burke was re-engaged for the ensuing year at a salary of \$250.

ONE of the most interesting features in connection with the proceedings of the Northumberland County Teachers' Institute meeting, held recently at Chatham, was the adoption of "Payne's Lectures on Education"—to be read thoroughly by members during the year and discussed at next year's institute. This departure from the somewhat routine methods which characterize the proceedings of our institutes, says the N.B. *Journal of Education*, seems to be progressive and judicious. Not only may the teachers during the intervening time read intelligently, but submit the author's theories to practical test in the every-day work of their schools. With such an excellent work as the one adopted, a livelier interest in improved educational methods should be the result, with a corresponding activity in the schools that are to receive the benefit of this new departure.

ON the 17th inst. 3,000 children belonging to the thirteen board schools in the parishes of Woolwich and Plumstead were, through the intercession of Mr. Gover, one of the district members, granted a holiday, for the purpose of visiting the Indian and Colonial Exhibition. Arrangements were made with the South-Eastern Railway Company, and four special trains conveyed the children from the Plumstead, Woolwich Arsenal, and Woolwich Dockyard stations. The voyageurs alighted at Cannon street Station, and proceeded by corresponding special trains to South Kensington, the girls taking the lead all the way. They were met at the Exhibition by several members of the London School Board, who dined with about 100 managers and teachers in H room, Mr. M. K. Braund presiding. To enable the large party of juveniles to have an opportunity of seeing the illuminations, the Commissioners kindly ordered the grounds to be illuminated at a much earlier hour.

THE Brockville Mechanics' Institute this year have made a new departure in founding an art school in affiliation with the Ontario School of Art. This, we think, is a move in the right direction, and one that cannot but commend itself to every person. During the past two winters drawing classes were held, the subjects taken up being geometrical, perspective and freehand drawing. This year to the above there will be added model and memory drawing in the primary department, and for which the fees will be but one dollar, to all members of the Institute, for the forty lessons. Arrangements have also been made for taking up the advanced course in drawing, including drawing from casts or nature, shading, drawing from flowers and ornamental designs, for which the fees have been fixed at three dollars for forty lessons. Provisions have also been made for drawing from the antique and painting in oil or water colours. The institute has secured Mr. Fred C. Gordon to take charge of the school.—*Ex.*

Correspondence.

SPELLING REFORM.

To the Editor of the EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY.

SIR,—I would like to warn your readers that Bishop Cox, in the extract you quoted last week from his recent article in *The Forum*, casts ridicule, not on spelling reform *per se*, but on that particular kind of reform which would make our spelling strictly phonetic. It is not my intention to defend the advocates of the system so vigorously assailed by Bishop Cox, and I need hardly say that they are quite able to defend themselves, as their progress in making converts shows. He admits that they "have gained some adherents among scientists and scholars," and I have no hesitation in asserting that their propaganda will be indefinitely facilitated by the use of the great Historical English Dictionary now in course of publication under the auspices of the Philological Society of England. Dr. Murray, its editor, has devised a strictly phonetic alphabet as a means of indicating pronunciation, abandoning the old defective system of diacritical marks. The use of this new alphabet for a special purpose will soon convince