

Miss Parker went to Quincy, as did thousands of others, to find out what was the cause of all the talk about the peculiar teaching done there. She took notes, and seeing there was really a revolution in progress, gave up her time for three years to gather materials for the exposition of the movement. Her book clearly explains the reasons why the Quincy schools were visited so much, and why they have been talked about so much. It is a work of 688 pages, and is really a manual for the primary teacher. It is a reproduction of not only the methods but of the spirit of the Quincy schools.

Miss Patridge found a joyous life there, a delightful comradeship between teacher and pupil, an atmosphere of happy work, no scolding, fretting or snubbing, a growth in moral power, marked attention paid to so-called dull children, an encouragement of original thought in the place of the reciting of set phrases not comprehended. The old order of things seemed to have passed away.

All this is beautifully told in the volume. The pupils and their teacher can be seen in their happy work. The best of it is that the underlying principles are explained. Not only are we told how a teacher taught reading, but we learn why it was so taught. The book abounds with hints. We are pleased to learn that the work has been placed by the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction upon the list of books authorized and recommended for the use of teachers of the Province of Quebec.

LOCAL ITEMS.

The Annual Meeting of the Quebec Local Association of Protestant Teachers was held May 29th, at 7.30 p.m., in the National School Hall. The Rev. Robt. Ker, occupied the chair.

After the usual formal proceedings had been gone through, Miss MacDonald, secretary, read the annual report as follows:—

In looking back again upon the efforts which have been made during the past year to promote the object for which this society has been established, the retrospect is encouraging. Our society claims for its object, "the mutual improvement of the teaching of the city and district, the discussion of all subjects pertaining to education, and the introduction of new methods in school work." In other words, we meet that we also may learn the truth of the old proverb, "As iron sharpeneth iron, so doth the countenance of a man his friend," trusting that by the interchange of opinions, suggestions, and experiences, we may aid each other to labour more efficiently in the intellectual fields that we are trying to cultivate, to prevent evil and entail blessings on our successors, to secure wisdom and goodness to the next generation of men, fully realizing that "the children of the present age are the hope of the age to come." Our meetings have been regular and well attended notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather at times, or the strong inducements to attend other entertainments of a more attractive nature, taking place on the same evenings.

The active interest shown by every member of the society, the prompt execution of the duties assigned to each and the kindly feeling which prevails among the teachers, are indications of progress which continue to exist. Excellent papers on various subjects have been read and freely discussed, and the interest taken in these and other subjects of discussion, give strong evidence that such meetings must be productive of much good both in the way of keeping alive the energy we have, and stimulating our exertions to search out ways and means of improvement.

We feel that it was through the influence of this society that so large a number of the Quebec teachers attended the last meeting of the Teachers' Convention, compared to the number that had attended preceding conventions.