

"Geography," Mr. A. C. Casselman. 10 30 a.m., "Grammar," S. Woods, Esq., Kingston. 11.30 a.m., "Grammar," Mr. A. H. Woogant. 1.30 p.m., "Arithmetic," Mr. A. A. Whitaker. 2.30 p.m., "Competitive Examinations," 3 p.m., "Partial Payments," Mr. W. H. Irvine, B.A. 8.30 p.m., Question Drawer. S. Woods, Esq., M.A., late Rector of Coll. Institute, Kingston, will deliver his popular lecture on the "Life and Times of Goldsmith," on Thursday evening, February 5th, 8 p.m., in Merkey's Opera Hall.
A. BROWN, President. IRWIN STUART, Secretary.
Morrisburg, Jan. 15, 1890.

NORTH PERTH.—Semi-annual meeting in the Central School, Listowel, on the 20th and 21st days of February, 1890. *Programme*.—1. Natural Philosophy, J. Crozier, B.A.; 2. Introductory Algebra, J. Draper; 3. English History (4th Class P. S.), D. D. Ellis; 4. Reading by Convention (The Prairies), page 49, IV. Book, B. Rothwell; 5. Physical Science as an Educator, R. A. Coleman, B.A.; 6. Pupils' Reports, S. Ranton; 7. Mode of Conducting Promotion Examinations, R. Muuro; 8. Analysis of Gray's Elegy by Convention, page 356, IV. Book, J. Wilson, B.A.; 9. Geography of British Empire, S. J. Kilpatrick; 10. Shall the Provincial Association be made representative? H. Dickenson; 11. Election of Delegates to Provincial Association. An Entertainment on Friday evening. Return tickets on Stratford & Huron R'y at one and a third fare on presentation of Secretary's certificate at beginning of journey. Teachers are requested to bring Fourth Readers, and are expected to come prepared to discuss the above programme, especially subjects 4 and 8.
R. ROTHWELL, Pres., Listowel. H. DICKENSON, Sec'y, Stratford

WEST VICTORIA.—The teachers of West Victoria held their half-yearly meeting at Woodville on Dec. 29th and 30th, 1879.

In the absence of Mr. Wood, President, Mr. Reazin, Inspector, was moved into the chair.

Mr. Cundal opened the Convention by discussing the subject of Arithmetic. Mr. Gilchrist, of Woodville, then gave a lesson on Grammar. His lecture was very interesting. In the afternoon, Mr. Reazin explained his method of introducing reading; to junior classes; this called forth considerable discussion. Mr. Dobson, of Lindsay High School, then gave some useful hints on factoring in Algebra, after which Geometry was discussed by Mr. F. McEachron; both gentlemen evoked considerable discussion. In the evening Mr. Dobson gave a very instructive and interesting lecture on "Canadian Literature" to a very large and attentive audience.

On the second day, Mr. Knight, of East Victoria, read an essay on Composition, and Mr. Shaw, of Omamee, read one on Prosody. Each gentleman treated his subject in a masterly manner. At the close of the business of the Convention, the following motion was made, which met the approbation of all present. Moved by Mr. Cundal, and seconded by Mr. Gilchrist.—That this Convention very much regrets that Mr. Dobson is about to leave our midst; and as he has always cheerfully rendered us material assistance at our meetings, the thanks of this Convention are tendered to him. Although the Convention was held during the holidays, it was a decided success.
JOHN CUNDAL, Secretary.

EAST KENT.—The Association met in Ridgetown on Friday, October 31st and Saturday, November 1st, 1879, with the President, Mr. Masales, in the chair. There was a large number of teachers present, who entered into the discussion of the subjects on the programme with lively interest. An excellent essay on "Consecutive Thought" was read by Mr. Masales. The essay will be published. "Amusements in Public Schools," by Mr. Ward, called forth remarks from the majority of the fraternity present. "Geography" was taken up by Mr. Fraughton, who treated it in his usual lively manner, Mr. McGillivray followed with "Factors and Multiples in Arithmetic." "Studies in Public Schools" was next discussed, and a resolution was passed that this Association concur with the resolution relating to optional subjects on second class programme passed by the West Bruce Teachers' Association at their last meeting. "Prizes in Public Schools" was taken up by Mr. Harrison, I. P. S., who was followed by several teachers. An entertainment was given by the teachers on Friday evening in the Porter Opera Hall.
WAL. S. McBRAYNE, Secretary.

REVIEWS.

THE WINTER'S TALE. Edited, with notes, by Wm. J. Rolfe. New York: Harper & Brothers. The preceding volumes of Rolfe's school edition of Shakespeare's plays have been highly commended by the most competent critics of the day. The *Winter's Tale* is quite equal to the other volumes of this excellent series, and is in every respect admirable. The introduction, the critical comments and notes are just what they ought to be for the purposes of the school-room, and render the volume equally acceptable to the general reader, whether his taste inclines to linguistic or æsthetic criticism. We heartily recommend the work to the student, the teacher, and the general reader.

AN ELEMENTARY GREEK GRAMMAR. By William W. Goodwin, Ph. D., Eliot Professor of Greek Literature in Harvard College. Second Edition. Boston: Ginn and Heath, 1879. Pp. xxviii. and 393, octavo. This is a piece of scholarly work done by a competent man. In the etymological

part the author follows the *Schulgrammatik* of Crotius closely. The syntax of the moods and tenses is very good. Other valuable features are: A catalogue of the verbs used in classic Greek, which present difficulties to the learner on account of peculiarities in their conjugation; a short but good account of Greek versification, and full indexes. Judgment has been displayed throughout in the arrangement and selection of the matter. The printers have done their part well. On the whole, we are not acquainted with any better Greek grammar of the same size.

A SYSTEM OF MORAL SCIENCE. By Laurens P. Hickok, D.D., LL.D. Revised with the co-operation of Julius H. Seelye, D.D., LL.D., President of Amherst College. Boston: Published by Ginn & Heath, 1890. pp. 298, octavo. This is a revised edition of a college text-book which has been in use for twenty-five years in the United States. We pity the students who have been compelled to study it. In the first place, the language used frequently lacks clearness, and is sometimes ungrammatical. Then the proportion which reasoning bears to assumption throughout the volume, reminds us of the ratio between Falstaff's meat and drink—"but one half-ponnyworth of bread to this intolerable deal of sack." Again, some of the few attempts at reasoning it contains are rendered invalid by confusion of thought.

"The ultimate Rule of Right has been deemed obscure to some, and thought to involve a self-contradiction by others, but which is now so presented as scarcely to admit of partial or mistaken apprehension."—*Preface to the Revised Edition.*

"Widely different and very conflicting theories have been advanced; and as this is so fundamental for the science of morality, the system has of course received its whole character from its foundation-principles."—*Page 23.*

The redeeming features of the work are that the printers have done their part well, and that it gives a tolerably fair account of what we ought and ought not to do.

THE TEACHER'S HAND-BOOK OF ALGEBRA; containing Methods, Solutions, and Exercises illustrating the latest and best Treatment of the Elements of Algebra, by J. A. McLellan, M.A., LL.D., High School Inspector for Ontario. When some months ago it was rumored that a mathematical treatise was being prepared by Dr. McLellan, scepticism existed as to the extent to which even he could impart freshness to so threadbare a subject as elementary algebra. The book has appeared, and the scepticism has disappeared. We venture to say that neither in England, the United States, nor Canada has a work been published covering the same ground in which will be found so much originality, such elegance of methods and such vigor of treatment; in either of the former countries, if properly introduced, the book will be in as great demand as in our own. It is not a formal treatise on Algebra, but consists rather of a series of essays on branches of the subject which are of great importance, but which are strangely ignored in all other text books. The first four chapters are on Substitution and Horner's Division, Symmetry, Factoring, Measures and Multiples; the fifth and sixth are on Equations; and the last consists of a collection of miscellaneous examples. The short and refined methods which add so much to the interest of the subject and to its value as an instrument of mental training, but which heretofore have been known only to our best teachers, will be found in some part of the book. As one amongst many examples of elegant reasoning we recommend our readers to page 87. Some of the neatest solutions we have had the pleasure to meet we found in Chapters V. and VII. The chapters on Symmetry and Factoring mean a fresh intellectual life in mathematics to those who have not enjoyed the advantages of having the best instructors. The work is perhaps but the natural product of the great revolution in the mathematics of our High Schools which has taken place within the last few years, and which Dr. McLellan has done so much to bring about. Half a dozen years ago such a publication would have been out of place in Canada. Examiners received any solution of a problem, and were glad to get it; but now, and especially in Algebra, every competent examiner will distinguish between a candidate whose answers are marred by neatness and elegance, and one whose awkwardness almost destroys the merit of being right. Dr. McLellan's work should be in the hands of all teachers of mathematics, and in