

ADDRESS.

To J. B. Somerset, Esq., Inspector of Public Schools of the County of Lincoln:—

DEAR SIR,—The Public School Teachers of the County of Lincoln, appreciating your services as Inspector, during the term you have held that office; the uniform kindness which you have ever shown to them while under your charge; the many valuable suggestions you have given them in your visits to their schools, as well as other times; and the courtesy you have always exhibited in your intercourse with them, beg leave to give expression to their gratitude by some tangible proof of their sincerity.

You have not only shown, during your term in the Inspectorship of this County, a deep interest in the cause of education generally, but you have also evinced a genuine heartfelt desire for the personal welfare of every teacher under your charge. You are personally acquainted with their trials and drawbacks, and have, by every available means, tried to lessen or remove their difficulties.

They are fully sensible, dear sir, of your kindness, and in assurance thereof, we now, on their behalf, ask you to accept, for yourself and Mrs. Somerset, this slight memento of the kindly feeling which exists between you and them.

They hope that you and Mrs. Somerset may be long spared to be useful in this world, and that when your work here is done, you may be received into a more blessed and enduring Home above.

Signed,
JOHN D. HAWES,
W. N. NASH,

S. H. BELE,
J. HIPPLE.

Mr. Hipple then presented to Mr. Somerset a very handsome silver tea set, consisting of seven pieces.

Mr. Somerset, who appeared to be rather surprised and embarrassed by the situation, thanked his kind friends for the very beautiful token of their esteem and regard then presented to him. He hoped that he would be excused if, under the circumstances, he could not express adequately, his full appreciation of the generosity which dictated such a costly and magnificent gift. He looked back upon his connection with the teachers of the County during the five years he had held the office of Inspector, and assured them that it needed not the tangible token of their good will and esteem then before him to assure him of their sincerity, but he would always keep it as a souvenir of their love and an incentive to his pride and increased usefulness in the great work in which they are all engaged. He said that his object in the past had been the improvement and advancement of the schools placed in his care, and if he had met with any success he was indebted for it to the teachers throughout the County who had always met him with urbanity and good feeling, and had cordially co-operated with him in all his efforts. He again thanked them for himself and Mrs. Somerset, and assured them that their kindness would ever be remembered.

D. W. Beadle, Esq., then moved, and Dr. L. S. Oille seconded, a vote of thanks to the Hon. Mr. Crooks for the able and instructive address to which they had listened.

The vote was carried unanimously and presented by the Chairman to the Hon. gentleman, who briefly acknowledged it, after which the audience dispersed.

The tea service presented by the teachers was procured from Mr. Douglas, and is very artistic and beautiful in its design and workmanship. It consists of seven pieces, and is well worthy of the donors and the honored recipients. It was greatly admired by many who took the opportunity at the close of the meeting to examine it.—*From the St. Catharines Journal.*

2. LENNOX AND ADDINGTON TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the Lennox and Addington Teachers' Association was held in the High School building, Napanee, on Friday and Saturday of last week, in order to meet the Deputy Minister of Education, J. George Hodgins, Esq., LL.D., hear his address and lecture, and transact other necessary business in connection with an Institute which it was proposed to hold at the same time as an integral part of the Association's work. In order to make the most of the possibilities of the occasion a Departmental order constituted Friday a legal school holiday, and the result was seen in the large attendance. The Association was opened shortly after one o'clock p.m., by Mr. Bowerman. Mr. Tilley (Secretary) read the minutes of the last meeting (25th Nov. 1876), and on motion they were confirmed. Chemical experiments, designed to illustrate the detection of one substance in a compound, by the action of another substance, were shown and explained by Mr. Tilley. Mr. Bowerman then said a few words by way of introduction to a subsequent exhibition of calisthenic exercises by a class which would be introduced. The idea had been obtained in Oswego while visiting the schools there

about a year ago. They had not yet acquired any marked proficiency but found the exercises helpful in many ways. The movements were made simultaneously by all the members of the class and consisted of three variations. He recommended teachers to procure and study "Wytson's Manual of Calisthenics."

The Deputy Minister was then introduced, and in an address of more than half an hour gave a full explanation in regard to the recent school legislation. That legislation he would divide into four parts. First, that affecting the condition of teachers; second, the increased duties of trustees; third, the increased facilities for the formation of school sections; and fourth, that relating to High Schools. The first part of the legislative changes provided facilities for furnishing thoroughly trained teachers. In future it would be necessary for teachers, even of the lowest grade, to have a professional training. A distinction would be drawn between literary and professional training. Regulations for the formation of County Model Schools and County Institutes would soon be issued, the Normal Schools would also be made more effective, and these together would afford teachers the opportunity of acquiring the necessary professional training. Inquiries had been made at the Department for information relative to quarterly payments to teachers, and he desired to say that the law was not imperative but permission had been given to County Councillors to make arrangements for supplying funds on the note of the school corporation. High Schools had been placed, in relation to the Government grant, upon the same footing as Public Schools. There was now harmony here as to the right of property being pledged to support the High Public schools and, by the munificence of the Sovereign the Universities. They would now be made to work into each other, the Universities not doing the work of High Schools, nor High Schools that of Public Schools, and it devolves upon us to see that every dollar is turned to account. When he was first connected with the Department the annual expenditure was less than half a million, now it exceeds three millions, and increased anxiety was felt that all the institutions should harmonize so that nothing should be wasted. That was the object of legislation and would be of the regulations. One thing to which Rev. Dr. Ryerson adhered was that the feeling of the county should be consulted and that was being carried out by the Hon. the Minister of Education. Reliance would be placed on the people for the local promotion of Education, and if wisely directed from head quarters he was assured the result would be successful.—(Applause.)

Mr. Burrows referred to the loss which had been incurred by reason of the want of professional training of teachers. He was glad that increased aid would be given to High Schools. He had always contended that the whole country was interested, as they had to look to the High Schools for teachers, and if they languished, how could the teachers be expected to succeed? In this country they had already held Teachers' Institutes, and much benefit had been derived from them. The teachers had gone into them heartily and willingly, and Mr. Tilley, had he been a salaried officer, could not have done more. (Applause.) He hoped the teachers would take advantage of the opportunity of asking questions of the Deputy Minister.

Rev. Mr. Blackstock referred briefly to the importance of the teacher's work, and the advances made on educational matter since his school days. Dr. Bristol also made a few remarks. Mr. Mordey, chairman of the Napanee Board of Education, spoke at some length in honour of the profession, hoping that teachers would always consider it second to none, and in the prosecution of their duties seek to instil and cultivate truth and all those virtues which are most highly prized.

Mr. Bowerman then put a class through a series of calisthenic exercises designed to strengthen and enlarge the chest, with much regularity, eliciting the heartiest encomiums. A class of larger scholars took their places with the same exhibition of regularity and system, under the superintendency of Misses James and Fraser, showed the perfection to which these agreeable and healthy exercises may be brought in a few months. Dr. Agnew and Rev. J. J. Bogart followed with short and appropriate speeches. Mr. Bowerman, by the aid of the blackboard, gave a practical and lucid exposition of his system of map drawing, the plan being composed entirely of parallelograms, squares, and right-angled triangles.

Dr. Hodgins, in answer to several questions, explained that although the papers of second-class applicants would be examined in Toronto, no change would be made in the mode or place of examination. The change had been made as the result of a conviction that the second-class certificates having a Provincial status should also have a common standing. He had been much pleased with the calisthenic exercises, and would say that such exercises were included in the Normal School programme. Apart from their physical importance, they afforded an agreeable means of breaking the tediousness of routine.

Mr. Matheson moved that a hearty vote of thanks be presented