

of English" was read by R. J. Wilson, Esq., of Halifax. This paper was one of the most important read at the Convention. The teachers were much disappointed in not seeing Professor Roberts present. A motion by Inspector Roscoe, seconded by Inspector Condon, and unanimously passed, recommended the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW to the teachers of Nova Scotia. After a vote of thanks to railway authorities, etc., for reduced fare, the Convention adjourned.

Want of space forbids us to give more than a brief outline of the papers read. There were many important points brought out in the papers and discussions to which we shall refer in the next and following numbers of the REVIEW.

#### N. S. SUMMER SCIENCE SCHOOL.

The Nova Scotian Summer Science School has been a success far beyond the anticipation of its projectors. First, it has been demonstrated that a very considerable amount of practical scientific work can be done in the two weeks of its session. Secondly, and perhaps more unexpectedly, it has been shown that the object and method of the school have the cordial—more, the enthusiastic endorsement of the leaders of thought and action, as exemplified in such educational and industrial centres as Windsor, Kentville, and Wolfville—the communities which have had an opportunity of expressing themselves on the subject.

The first session was held in the Convocation Hall of Acadia College, Wolfville, and was open to the public. On the platform with the Faculty of the Science School, were President Sawyer of Acadia College, Professor Kierstead, and Revs. Dr. Higgins and Jas. Anderson. The President, Principal MacKay, of Pictou, in his opening address reviewed the rise and progress of the scientific element in the public school system of the Province. In 1850 the present Sir J. W. Dawson was made first Superintendent of Education, and in every quarter of the country he commenced to breathe the first promethean spark into the dead clay. But a dark day soon came for Nova Scotia, when its scientific light was transferred to Montreal to irradiate Quebec. In 1855 Dr. Forrester, of immortal memory, succeeded, and although without the transcendent genius which made his predecessor a cosmopolitan scientific prince, he still did much for science in his Normal School course. But the seeds planted by Dawson and nourished by the summer zephyrs of the nineteenth century, had been growing. The good English and mathematical curricula of Rand and Allison were beginning to show signs of well rounded maturity by

the intussusception of natural science. Acadia College and its Alumni did noble service in this cause. He referred to the valuable efforts of the Acadia Science Club in arousing the attention of the Province to this phase of education, and complimented its President, Professor Caldwell, and its energetic Secretary, A. J. Pineo, A. B., on the good accomplished. For this reason alone Wolfville was a most appropriate location for the first meeting of this school. It was also the centre of a portion of country rich in natural history treasures, and the poetic associations of historical romance. He then referred in detail to the object of the school, and the great necessity for the education of the perceptive faculties of the young, and the moral, aesthetic and industrial advantages likely to result therefrom. President Sawyer, Professor Kierstead, and Rev. Dr. Higgins followed in short, but forcible and genial speeches, welcoming the school to their midst. Short speeches were also made by Rev. Jas. Anderson and several of the faculty of the school.

Lectures commenced at 8 o'clock every morning, one hour for each subject, closing for the forenoon at 12. The afternoon was also generally filled in from 2 to 6 p. m., and the evening from 8 to 10 p. m. Excursions, of course, interrupted this order, when they occurred. But no time was lost. Prof. F. H. Eaton, Normal School, Truro, lectured on Chemistry the first week, and on Physics the second week. The very first day he set them to work in sections in the laboratory, making their own apparatus—such as extemporized alcohol lamps, the heading of glass tubing, and the performing of fundamental chemical operations. The same plan was pursued in Physics.

Prof. A. E. Caldwell, M. A., of Acadia College, lectured on the constellations, and gave sky demonstrations from 9 to 10 p. m. The fine telescope in the observatory was brought to bear on many celestial objects; the quarter-moon, and Jupiter, with its satellites, being most popular. A. J. Pineo, A. B., also set his class to work with the blowpipe, in Mineralogy, and as it was too large to be accommodated in one room when at laboratory work, the class was for this purpose divided into sections. Principal A. H. MacKay, of Pictou Academy, conducted directions of a few typical zoological forms in full class, the students being all seated around tables with their dissecting paraphernalia. E. J. Lay, A. B., Inspector of Schools, analyzed plants in full class, lectured on some interesting points, and assisted his students in general to become practical botanists. Dr. Sinclair, of Dartmouth, gave two lectures on the anatomy of man, illustrated by a skeleton, charts, and the dissection of the hearts of oxen and sheep by the class.