

training in every school throughout the land. The resolution was adopted unanimously, and the President appointed Dr. Gillespie, Rev. Dr. O'Meara, and J. B. McGann, Esq., as the committee.

Phonetic Teaching.—Mr. Wm. V. Huntsman, of Oxford County, was invited to explain the method of teaching children to read by means of the phonetic alphabet. In the phonetic system no letter changed its sound. Each character was easily learned, and once learned did not require to be unlearned the next day. He exhibited a series of tablets, containing the phonetic alphabet, and went through with an initial exercise upon them, in illustration of his method. After teaching children to read the lessons upon his tablets, his plan was to place the second or third book in their hands, or even the New Testament, when, with a few explanations, they were found capable of reading whole sentences correctly, and, with a few lessons, and very little assistance upon some long words not met with in the tablets, they would read freely in the Testament, with one-half the schooling necessary by the common mode. The Association appeared to take great interest in the subject, asking a number of questions, all of which Mr. Huntsman very satisfactorily explained. Mr. McGann remarked that the system formed an excellent means of correctly exercising the vocal organs, and would have a tendency to prevent the acquirement of weak lungs, so often and so justly charged upon the school-room. He complimented Mr. Huntsman, as being physically, mentally, and vocally an excellent representation and recommendation of his system. The President, on behalf of the Association, thanked the gentleman for the very able and interesting exposition with which they had been favoured.

Education of Girls.—A. McCallum, of Hamilton, seconded by Geo. Young, B.A., of Preston, moved the following resolution, reported from the business council, viz: Resolved—That the Grammar Schools, as they are to be organized under the new regulations, are not suited to the wants of the higher education of girls, and we therefore recommend that they be so modified as to render Greek and Latin optional studies with girls after they have gone through the first and second forms, and that they continue to be considered Grammar School pupils so long as they pursue the remaining subjects of the curriculum; and we add the hope that ere long they may enjoy equal privileges with boys, in the endowment of a Provincial College for females. Mr. McCallum said that so far as he had been able to learn from history, and from current events, the greatest mistake throughout the world, in matters of education, was the general neglect of female education. This neglect, he was satisfied, exercised an untold influence in retarding human progress in all that was good and great. The girls were capable of taking up the same studies as the boys, and of pursuing them equally as well, or better. There was now a denominational college for females at Hamilton, but what was wanted was a non-denominational institution, liberally endowed by the Government, where all could meet on common ground. Dr. Wickson inquired whether the girls would be counted as classical scholars. Mr. McCallum replied in the affirmative. Dr. Wickson thought that would be hostile to the object of the regulation adopted to prevent any but regular Greek and Latin pupils attending the Grammar Schools. Anything that tended to interfere with the attention of the Grammar School masters, being devoted most largely to Greek and Latin, ought to be avoided. The sentiment in favour of the study of languages, in his opinion, had been largely increasing of late, and very properly. Mr. J. B. Dixon said the object of the resolution was to bring those Grammar Schools back to what they ought to have been in the first place—schools for the higher education of Canadian youth, female as well as male. Mr. T. Kirkland moved, seconded by Mr. David Ormiston, that the resolution be amended by allowing Greek and Latin to be always optional with such female pupils in Grammar Schools as study French. He thought if they wanted to instruct girls in Grammar Schools, the first thing to be done was to catch them, or to get them there. If it were stipulated that none could go there who did not take up Greek and Latin, very few would go, and their object would be in a great part defeated. Mr. Carlisle opposed both motions. The movement was calculated to interfere with the efficiency of the Grammar Schools. It would be either giving young ladies the training that was given to young lawyers and doctors, or else the Grammar Schools would have to be made young ladies' seminaries. Besides, he could not see the advantage of compelling young ladies to study Greek and Latin in the first and second forms, while allowing them to drop them there. That would be of little use to them if they went no further. It would be only a waste of time. Mr. Buchanan, of Preston, said the sooner the right of girls to an equal education with the boys was recognized and always acted upon, the better it would be for the country, and the sooner would the whole human race begin to be rapidly elevated to its destiny. Mr. Chestnut moved, in amendment to the amendment, a resolution to the effect, that in the opinion of the Association the school system of this Province makes

no suitable provision for the higher education of girls; that such provision as does exist has been rendered still less suitable by the recent changes in the Grammar School law; and that therefore a class of school should be established to remedy this defect. The special motions were then put. Both amendments were defeated by considerable majorities, and the original motion was then adopted without dissent.

National School Books.—Mr. Buchanan, of Preston, from the special committee, appointed upon that subject, reported and moved the following resolution:—"That the Teachers' Association of Upper Canada strongly urge the necessity of having introduced into the schools of Upper Canada, a series of reading books which would be better adapted to our Canadian schools than the Irish National Series." Mr. Strauchn was here introduced as a delegate from the Oxford Teachers' Association, and invited to a seat upon the platform. A letter was read also from the South Ontario Teachers' Association, introducing William McCabe, LL.B., as the authorized delegate from that body.

Mr. Strauchn was of opinion that there were other books of the National Series that were not less objectionable than the Readers. He instanced the book-keeping series, which he regarded as being more confused than any other, and was the occasion of great annoyance to both teachers and pupils. The treatise on Mensuration, too, he thought, could also be greatly improved and better adapted to the wants of the present generation of Canadian youth. Mr. Buchanan said there was nothing national, so far as Canada alone was concerned, in the Irish series of Readers. There was nothing about Canada, or her institutions, in them. He referred to their materials, their paper, typography, and binding, as being of a very inferior order for school books, which of all other books, required to be well printed, on durable paper, and strongly bound, even though the price should thereby be raised a little. Mr. Evans remarked that Dr. Ryerson had expressed himself in favour of a Canadian edition, but stated that he feared the publication of a series would entail serious loss on the publisher.

Mr. J. B. McGann agreed with the former speakers that Canada ought to have a series of school books of her own. The question was then put to vote, and the resolution unanimously adopted.

Record of School Progress.—Dr. Carlisle opened up the subject by explaining a system in use in the Model School. He said he did not think any written record could be kept. The school was well graded, and each grade had its chief seats and its lower seats, so that the position of each pupil in the division showed to him, to the school, and to visitors who became acquainted with the plan, exactly what position of advancement in the school each pupil occupied. Its result had been to impart a great amount of stimulus to the scholars, each striving to attain to a higher position week by week.

The President explained the system in use in the Upper Canada College. It differed from that of Dr. Carlisle's in being a system by which a written record could be kept of each pupil's progress, by means of "counters," one of which each pupil took from a stand in giving an answer which others above him in the class could not answer, and presented at the close for record. Mr. Chestnut explained the College system more in detail. Mr. Watson, in view of the importance of the subject, moved that it be placed upon the list of subjects for discussion at the next annual meeting, and that a committee of five be appointed to examine the various systems and report upon them next year. Carried.

Election of Officers.—The following gentlemen were elected:—Rev. William Ormiston, D.D., of Hamilton, President; Archibald McCallum, M.A., Principal of the Central School, Hamilton, 1st Vice-President; T. S. Chestnut, Esq., Principal of the Training School, Toronto, 2nd Vice-President; Wm. McCabe, LL.B., Principal of the Union School, Oshawa, 3rd Vice-President; George Young, M.A., Principal of the Union School, Oakwood, 4th Vice-President; R. Alexander, Esq., Principal of the Central School, Newmarket, 5th Vice-President; William Anderson, Esq., Principal of the Park Street School, Toronto, 6th Vice-President; A. McMurchie, Esq., Mathematical Master of the Toronto Training School, Secretary; David Ormiston, M.A., Master of the Grammar School of Berlin, Corresponding Secretary; J. B. McGann, Esq., Principal of the Institution for the Deaf, Dumb, and Blind, Hamilton, Treasurer.

Thanks.—Mr. R. Alexander, of Newmarket, moved a resolution expressing the thanks of the Association to the proprietors of the *Globe and Leader*, for the space they have given to the proceedings of the Association in their respective journals; to the different Railway Companies, for the favour of return tickets free; to the ladies and gentlemen who took part in furnishing the Conversazione; to the Chief Superintendent of Education, for the use of the Normal School buildings; and to Professor Wilson, for his efficiency and attention to the duties of the office of President of the