

selves and your profession, and you will make yourselves heard in the council chambers of our land.

Some of you, perhaps, as you hail from the rude log school-house, in some remote woody district, may be ready to think that your position is very humble, and so far as relates to this world's goods it may be so. School teachers are not generally burdened with the mammon of unrighteousness. But remember that you occupy a very high moral position. Your power for doing good is unlimited. Your influence will be in proportion to your exertions; respect yourselves, attain a high standard of moral excellence, and try and bring others up to that standard, and you will be respected.

You will have difficulties, you will meet with discouragements, some will find fault with your best endeavors; but these things are not only necessary to try your patience, but to give you courage in the discharge of the duties of your station.

There is not in the civilized world to-day an earnest, energetic teacher, a whole-souled, enthusiastic workman in the school-room, that has not the confidence and good will of the majority, at least, of his employers. No men wield more power over the destinies of our race than teachers. Few men are in the position to acquire as much influence. Then, when you meet in your associations, your deliberations must have their weight on the community; the leaders of our people must respect the opinions of a class of men such as you; and all those great educational reforms that are in accordance with truth and justice must eventually be granted, and, if your voices are not heard in the halls of our legislature, your opinions will reach them, your influence will be felt. Then keep alive your associations; vie with each other as to who will do most for sustaining them; who will labour most for their progress; who will use the greatest self-denial to promote their welfare. Show brothers by kindness and charity one to another in your meetings; have mutual Christian forbearance with each other in your differences, and prosperity will mark your progress; the world will feel you are in it; the life current of the nation will flow more regularly through the channels of its system, its constitution will become more vigorous when the nostrums of empiricism, and the pretensions of imposters, shall have vanished before the glorious light of knowledge.

2. EVENING SCHOOLS IN CANADA.

In a letter read by Principal Dawson, at the Lower Canada Protestant Teachers' Convention on Saturday, and ordered to be inserted on the Minutes, the Hon. Mr. McGee asked the attention of the Convention to the subject of evening schools, during the winter six months, for the instruction of adults, apprentices, and others, similarly situated, in our larger towns and cities. The subject itself is one of practical interest in Montreal, and as it has been well said "some things can be done as well as others," it may be worth while referring to what has been effected in this way in other cities.

The recommendation of evening schools during the winter months for persons beyond ordinary school age, had long ago been made by several of the Boards of Education in the neighbouring States; notably by the New York Board, so early as 1837. Nothing very systematic or successful had, however, been done in this way until the fall of 1844, when Mr. McGee succeeded in getting a meeting of a few citizens of Boston, at Montgomery-hall, in favour of the project. "Deacon" Grant, Dr. Channing, (the late Medical Doctor), Mr. Brainard, and other well known friends of education attended and three males and two female adults schools were opened that season. These struggled along for some time, but in 1848 were temporarily suspended. In November, 1849, Mr. McGee opened the first session of a new school in the Orange street common school-house, New York, with an address on "The Moral and Social Value of Evening Schools," since which time the experiment in that great city has been increasingly successful. A late New York paper, (the *Evening Mail*), gives the following condensed report of the position of these schools at the present moment: "The evening schools of New York city, started in 1849 by the Hon. D'Arcy McGee, include one high school, two coloured schools, and thirteen male and eleven female schools. To these are admitted persons of every class and age, from twelve years to sixty. The schools are at present in full operation, twenty-one hundred scholars being in attendance. The languages and higher branches of education are taught in the high school."

It is difficult to estimate the amount of good represented by these figures. If 2,000 persons a year, whose early education had been neglected, should learn to read their bibles and prayer-books, the moral gain to the community must be great; if they should acquire the rudiments of doing business intelligently for themselves or others, the national gain must be considerable. We should be glad to find, here in our own city—where there must be many hundreds to whom such opportunities would be veritable blessings,—that this subject was zealously taken up. If the Teachers' Convention felt unable to move practically in the matter, the Council of Public Instruction and the Hon. Mr. Chauveau, could, perhaps, take it in hand, with immediate good results.—*Montreal Gazette*.

III. Papers on Meteorology, &c.

1. METEORIC PHENOMENON.

English astronomers predicted several months ago, that a remarkable shower of meteors or shooting-stars would fall on or about November 13th. The display took place last night, or rather this morning, and was observed by astronomers and others in all parts of this continent; according to our telegraphic dispatches.

Professor Kingston, of the Toronto Observatory, made all the necessary preparations for taking observations here. In company with a number of students of the University, who kindly volunteered their services, the Professor took up his station in the tower of the magnetic observatory at an early hour last night, surrounded by such scientific instruments as he thought would be of use should the expected phenomenon occur. The students were placed in different portions of the tower, and thus the entire heavens from the horizon to the zenith were closely observed, the students relieving each other at short intervals. The night was not favourable for such observations, the moon being at or near the full, and the sky being overcast with heavy masses of cloud. Fortunately, however, the clouds were detached and broken, and were borne away by the wind, though quickly succeeded by others. Through the space, the blue vault above was visible. Had the night been dark, with a clear sky, it would have been much more favourable for the purposes of the astronomer. In the early hours of the night nothing unusual was observed. Shortly after midnight, however, the clouds partially cleared away, and then the anxiously looked for display commenced. At first only a few meteors were seen, but they rapidly increased in number, until between four and five o'clock in the morning, when a portion of the sky was brilliant with them. As correct a count as was possible under the circumstances was made by the students with the following result:

From 1.00 a.m. to 1.20 a.m.	6
" 1.20 " 1.40 "	14
" 1.40 " 2.00 "	24
Total from 1 a.m. to 2 a.m.	44
From 2.00 a.m. to 2.20 a.m.	39
" 2.20 " 2.40 "	40
" 2.40 " 3.00 "	44
Total from 2 a.m. to 3 a.m.	123
From 3.00 a.m. to 3.20 a.m.	85
" 3.20 " 3.40 "	169
" 3.40 " 4.00 "	306
Total from 3 a.m. to 4 a.m.	560
From 4.00 a.m. to 4.20 a.m.	784
" 4.20 " 4.40 "	382
" 4.40 " 5.00 "	179
Total from 4 a.m. to 5 a.m.	1,345
From 5.00 a.m. to 5.20 a.m.	113
" 5.20 " 5.40 "	61
" 5.40 " 6.00 "	21
Total from 5 a.m. to 6 a.m.	195
Grand Total	2287

The state of the sky greatly interfered with the display, and it is supposed that had there been neither clouds nor moon the number would have been fully double that given above. Nearly all the stars proceeded in directions which when produced backward passed through the constellation of Leo, only about two per cent. being not conformable to this course. As a general thing the meteors were small and wanting in brilliancy, though there were some very brilliant and of considerable magnitude. So far as observed there were no explosions. It is not improbable, however, that some of those hidden by clouds exploded. Towards daylight, as shown above, the number diminished rapidly. It is not supposed from this that the shower ceased, but rather that it continued, while the meteors became invisible through the approach of the more powerful light of the sun. In fact the stars may have continued shooting during the day, and that it is not improbable that a further display may be witnessed to-night. Professor Kingston expects it, and intends being on the look out. For the above facts we are indebted to Professor Kingston, and thank him therefor, while he in his turn desires to thank the students and graduates for their valuable aid in counting the meteors.—*Daily Telegraph*.