

Notes and Comments.

MR. MULOCK has been re-elected Vice-Chancellor of the University of Toronto.

MR. J. H. LONG, M.A., LL.B., has been appointed head master of the Peterborough Collegiate Institute, the post rendered vacant by the death of Dr. Tassie.

THE Tottenham Teachers' Convention was poorly attended both by teachers and visitors. The most noticeable thing was the substitution of an old hat for a window pane and the thermometer below zero.—*Cardwell Sentinel*.

THE Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne visited the Ottawa Normal School on the 7th inst. Addresses were read and replied to. The boys exhibited the pole drill. Several bouquets were presented to the Marchioness.

THE Board of Trustees of Richmond Hill High School have re-engaged T. H. Redditt and D. H. Lent as principal and assistant respectively at \$1,000 and \$600. Mr. Redditt has charge of the language department and Mr. Lent of mathematics and science.

MR. W. ROBERTSON, the writer of the letter in the issue of December 2nd, writes as follows:—"I desire, with your permission, to say that in my former letter I did not include in the text books condemned the algebra by Messrs. Robertson and Birchard, or that by Dr. McLellan. I regard both of these books as first-rate. I would except also a few other books, notably the admirably edited books with which Prof. Van der Smissen has enriched our educational literature."

THE following are the examiners in Arts for the University of Toronto for the year 1887:—Classics—J. E. Hodgson, W. S. Milner. Mathematics—J. H. McGeary, J. W. Reid. Physics—J. M. Clark, T. G. C. Campbell. English—T. C. L. Armstrong, J. Seath; History and Civil Polity—J. W. Bell. German—W. H. Vandermissen. French—J. Squair. Italian—A. J. Bell. Mineralogy and Geology—H. R. Woods. Metaphysics and Ethics—Rev. R. T. Thompson and A. S. Johnston. Oriental Languages—Rev. F. R. Beattie.

MR. R. W. PHIPPS, of Forestry fame, has in his possession about one hundred copies of his last Forestry Report, containing, as all will know, much valuable, interesting, and instructive information on the subject of forest planting and conservation. We have more than once touched upon this topic in connexion with "Arbour Day." Should any teacher wish to make use of Mr. Phipps's Report as a medium by which to interest or instruct his classes, we are authorized to say that the author is willing to send copies free of charge on receipt of address. Mr. Phipps's address is 233, Richmond Street W., Toronto.

THE following resolution was carried at the last meeting of the Peterborough School Board:—

"That the sudden and unexpected death of Dr. Tassie, Principal of the Peterborough Collegiate Institute, calls from us the expression of profound and deep sympathy with his bereaved wife and family. Though but about two years with us, he had by his dignified and courteous bearing won the respect and esteem of all, while the fact that for so long a period he had occupied a prominent position as an educator of Canadian youth, makes his removal a matter of widespread regret to the many hundreds of Canadians who, in his famous Galt school and elsewhere, had enjoyed the privilege of his careful and skilful training. This board deeply regrets the death of a kind and good man, and unite in the hope that He who holds the issues of life may comfort and sustain his sorrowing wife and family. And resolved, further, that this resolution be inscribed in the minutes and a copy transmitted to Mrs. Tassie."

THE following appeared recently in the *Montreal Witness*:—

"AN ANECDOTE.

"Sir,—I was much impressed with the article in Monday's *Witness* referring to the influence of the plate system, recently adopted by Canadian newspapers, in silently and effectually indoctrinating our people with American ideas. In my district of country they have had a wonderful effect in Americanizing our young people. There are other influences producing much the same result. The illustrated papers and magazines of the United States are circulating in vast numbers, and outside our large cities it is rarely that we see a British illustrated paper. Then our Sunday-school scholars are largely supplied with the cheap and attractive papers, which, on the minds of our young people, must exert a great influence. Our Sunday-school teachers largely use the helps provided by agencies in the United States, and these contain illustrations largely drawn from United States history and constitutional practices, which, in spite of themselves or unconsciously, they communicate to their classes. In the same way, our clergymen of all denominations, purchase their homiletic monthlies and great religious reviews and periodicals from the other side. Hence the frequency with which our ears are greeted with illustrations drawn from the history of George Washington, the Pilgrim Fathers, the battle fields of the rebellion, &c., &c., instead of illustrating their remarks with episodes of Sir John, the father of our young country, the battlefields of Egypt, or our own North-West. Such are a few thoughts suggested to my mind by your article of Monday.

CANADIAN.

"December 1st, 1886."

WE have received the following:—

TORONTO, Dec. 11th, 1886.

DEAR SIR,—At an informal meeting of persons interested in the study and teaching of Modern Languages (including English), held during the Session of the Ontario Teachers' Association in August last, it was decided to endeavour to form a Modern Language Association for the Province of Ontario, and I was appointed Provisional Secretary, with instructions to make arrangements for a meeting at an early date.

As there appeared to be a desire among the members of the Ontario Teachers' Association to change their time of meeting from August to Easter, it was thought best, if they decided to make the change, to have the first meeting of the Modern Language Association at the same time. But the Committee of the Ontario Teachers' Association having decided not to change the time of meeting, I have been advised by Modern Language men with whom I have conferred to arrange for a meeting, to be held on Wednesday, the 29th of December next, in University College Y.M.C.A. Buildings, at which the following programme will be presented:—

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29TH.

11 a.m.—Appointment of Committee to draft Constitution.

2 to 4 p.m.—Organization, Election of Officers, and other business.

4 to 5.—"The Status of Modern Language Study in Ontario." G. E. Shaw, B.A.

7.30 to 8.30.—"The uses of Modern Language Study." F. H. Sykes, B.A.

8.30 to 9.30.—"French in University College." J. Squair, B.A.

9.30 to 10.30.—"Methods of Teaching Moderns to Beginners." A. W. Wright, B.A.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30TH.

10 to 10.30.—Address by Daniel Wilson, LL.D.

10.30 to 11.30.—"Examinations in Modern Languages." R. Balmer, B.A.

11.30 to 12.30.—"English Literature and Grammar." E. J. McIntyre, B.A.

(If the papers do not take the full hour, the remaining time will be devoted to the discussion of the points raised.)

The advantages to be derived from an organization such as is proposed are so obvious that it is not necessary to point them out. It is hoped you will look with favour on the scheme, and that you, and any others whom you may be able to influence, will kindly accept this invitation to be present to give counsel and encouragement in the formation of what will, no doubt, be a successful society. Yours very truly,

J. SQUAIR, *University College*.