

In our last issue it was stated that Mr. Irwin is president of the Normal School Literary Society. This is an error, as the president is Mr. Joseph A. Snell, 1st A. man. Mr. Irwin is attending the Normal School.

In a letter to the *Toronto Mail*, Dr. Collinge, of Fort Qu'Appelle, Assiniboin, says.—“There can be no doubt as to the increase of insanity in the higher civilized communities. May not the over-taxing of the brain in our schools be one of the many causes of the increase in Canada? I am strongly of opinion that it is.”

The phonic system of teaching reading is used in most of the schools of Stratford. It was introduced since last vacation, and its adoption has been most successful. Dr. McLellan, on visiting the Model School recently, expressed himself as greatly pleased and surprised at the progress made in reading by the use of the method.

Miss Eason has been very successful in her kindergarten work in the primary class under her charge in Stratford. The singing of motion songs by the little ones before the teachers' convention was highly creditable, and elicited a cordial vote of thanks from the members.

Mr. R. E. Brown leaves No. 5, Colborne, at the end of this year. His place will be taken by Mr. Alex. Watson, of Toronto Normal School. Mr. Brown has been very successful and popular, being at present in the honorable position of president of the West Huron Teachers' Association. We have not been informed of his plans for the future.

Mr. N. Gordon paid an official visit to our school last week. His report was satisfactory. An interesting feature in his report was the necessity of providing another teacher. It appears the new Act states that for every fifty of school age in the section there shall be a teacher. We cannot see the virtue of this law as the necessary number of teachers should be in proportion to the average attendance.—*Shelburne Free Press*, Oct. 15th.

The Davies School, Summerside, P. E. I., loses one of its efficient teachers in the person of Mr. A. A. McLellan, who left recently for Montreal to enter McGill College as a medical student. Mr. McLellan is a young man of good habits, and much respected in the community. His musical talents made him a useful member of society, both as leader of the band and often of concerts got up by local talent. We wish him success in his chosen profession.
Pioneer.

Educational matters are reported progressing favorably in Algoma District. The Public School Inspector is laborious and painstaking in his duties, but bad roads and the large number of schools in the inspectorate render his task no sinecure. Schools are now built and flourishing in places where only a few years ago the beams roamed without restraint. As the inspectorate is 500 or 600 miles long, teachers cannot regularly attend the conventions. They are, however, earnest in their work, and are producing excellent results.

The following questions are suggested on Dr. McLellan's talk on the A B C of arithmetic.—What is an “Intuition?” Do children learn numbers intuitively? Should numbers or figures be taught first? When should you teach the number “5?” What should a child learn about “five?” Should the first notions of numbers be got from seeing and handling objects? Have you an intelligent method of teaching notation? On what knowledge, already in possession of the child, do you base your first lesson in fractions?—*St. Thomas Journal*.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., publishers, Boston, Mass., have published a pamphlet on “Method of Teaching Literature.” It gives the opinion of several leading American teachers on the subject, and in the circular which accompanies the pamphlet the publishers say, “It has occurred to us that the readers of your paper might be interested in a statement of the methods discussed in the pamphlet. We have a few copies left which we shall be willing to send without charge to teachers who are really interested in teaching literature.” This is an opportunity that should not be neglected.

Mr. Van Slyke, late principal of Ingersoll Model School, and successor to Mr. Deacon in the principalship of the Woodstock Model School, began his duties here on Monday, 12th inst. As Mr. Van Slyke has a most enviable reputation in Ingersoll, Hamilton and elsewhere, we have no doubt that the standard of our Model School, already high, will be raised still higher under the new management. The number of student teachers now in attendance is twenty. The following are those who compose the class:

Misses M. Moncur, E. Campbell, A. White, M. McPherson, J. Robb, A. Gades, J. Sherran, S. Stephenson, L. Overholt, M. Topping, E. Dambrook, A. Palmer, C. Bertrand, N. Milne, Messrs. C. F. Lyster, W. H. Falconer, J. Millar, T. Heoney, J. McLain, J. Robson. It is creditable to the Woodstock High School to mention that fourteen of the above received their literary training in that institution. *Woodstock Sentinel Review*.

In the report of the East Middlesex Teachers' Convention, as given in the *London Free Press*, the Minister of Education in giving an address said that “Henceforth there will be no division in second class certificates. The distinction will be made by the standing taken at the Normals, with or without honors. The course would also be on the same line as the matriculation in Arts. Matriculation with three first-class honors will be considered equal to a first-class grade C certificate.” If more honors, medals, and distinctions were given for practical professional work, in both the Normals and in the Public Schools, it would, we think, be productive of better results in actual work of teaching. The best scholars are not always the best teachers.

The *Victoria Farder* gives a timely hint to the Managing Committee of the East Victoria Teachers' Association, as to the propriety of billeting the visitors who are to assemble in Lindsay at the approaching Convention. It says: “When a conference, synod or assembly is held in a town, the ministers are billeted with friends of the cause; and we see no reason why our teachers should not be so honored. As a rule teachers are poorly paid, and few of them can afford to pay railway fare and hotel bills for a couple of days even to attend a convention, therefore many of them stay away altogether. We feel sure there are dozens of homes in Lindsay where two, three, or four of the Victoria teachers will be most heartily welcomed for the two days. Let the managing committee make the announcement that they want applications from the citizens, and we are sure a ready response will be given by our townspeople. The suggestion is very commendable, and if carried into effect generally, teachers would not be ungrateful for the courtesy thus conferred.

The Public School teachers section, at the last provincial association, made several suggestions with respect to the new regulations, which, coming from such a source, are entitled to special attention. The details of any system are best understood by those who are engaged in carrying out its provisions. Among other recommendations we notice the following as being in the right direction:—(1) That a set of drawing models be added to the school apparatus. (2) That the arithmetic for third class be greatest common multiple, least common multiple, reduction, compound rules, vulgar fractions, and mental arithmetic. (3) That the history for the fourth class be the leading features of Canadian history and one period of English history, to be changed from time to time. (4) That presiding examiners at departmental examinations and members of county boards of examiners should be selected from teachers actively engaged in the profession. (5) That graduates of a university, in order to qualify as Public School inspectors, shall have not less than five years experience in teaching, three of which shall have been obtained in a Public School.—*St. Thomas Journal*.

The teachers' examinations were concluded on Wednesday. We believe there were twenty-four candidates, about one-third of whom wrote for second. Complaint is made by the friends of the Iroquois school here that the mode of conducting the examination, or rather of publishing the result, is unfair to this school. It is said all old teachers, no matter where educated, all students from Public Schools in the county, and from all schools outside of the county, are required to go to Morrisburgh for examination, while only the pupils from the Iroquois High School remain here, and that the published lists of successful candidates make it appear that all this mature and garnered culture is the result of Morrisburgh High School work. If this is correct, the Iroquois school is very heavily weighted indeed. We are all very prone to judge by results, and if we see two or three times the number of teachers credited to Morrisburgh that Iroquois can claim, we will be very likely in choosing a school to give that one the preference.—*Iroquois Correspondent of the Morrisburgh Courier*.

It is rumored that the Peterboro' Board of Education has expressly forbidden the absence of their teachers to attend the Convention which was announced to be held in Peterboro' on the 22nd and 23rd insts. It may be that the Board are of opinion that Conventions should be held in the vacation months, and, as the *Peterboro' Examiner* puts it, “Not upset the attendance of over one