

lowed with a paper on "Compulsory Education." This paper gave evidence of much thought on the part of its author. He urged upon every teacher the necessity of using every means to bring about compulsory attendance at school. He agreed in the main with Mr. Harrington's Bill. One or two points seemed to them objectionable, and he introduced to them the following resolution: "Resolved, That this association highly approves of compulsory attendance at school, and strongly urges upon the Government of Nova Scotia the great desirability and imperative need of an Act to secure the better and more regular attendance of pupils, and further resolved, that the present proposed Act is defective and will, in the opinion of this association, prove abortive through want of proper stringency and want of legislation to secure the regular attendance during the eighty days, and moreover it is the opinion of this association that the eighty days should be eighty consecutive days." The superintendent of education, when not disposed to combat the theoretical principles enunciated by Mr. Denton, reminded the association that no legislation could of itself cure the evil of irregular attendance at school. Earnest effort on the part of men of enlightened minds to create a higher educational sentiment in the country, attractive, scholarly, enthusiastic teachers can never be dispensed with as a means of securing the end sought. The afternoon session of Friday was occupied by Professor Coldwell, president of the Acadia college science club, who delivered an illustrated lecture on "Physics." This was a new feature at the association, but one highly appreciated. The last session of the association was devoted to an illustrated lecture, by Mr. A. J. Pinceo, on the "Story of the Earth."

Mr. W. Mortimer McVicar, has resigned the principalship of the Truro public and model schools to take charge of the new Baptist academy at St. John, N.B. The vacancy at Truro has been filled by the selection of B. McKittrick, B. A. (Dalhousie, 1877). The appointment of Mr. McKittrick secures for Truro the services of an energetic and efficient principal. Under his management, aided by a sympathetic and progressive board of trustees, the county academy at Sydney has attained during the past few years a commanding position among the high schools of the Province.

The attendance at the Provincial normal school for the ensuing session promises to be unprecedentedly large.

W. D. Dimock, A. M., for several years principal of the model school, Truro, has received the appointment of Secretary to the Fishery Commission at Ottawa. Mr. D. has gifts specially fitting him for this important office.

Mr. Fred Rand has been selected by the board of school commissioners of the city of Halifax to fill the vacancy in the intermediate department of the Morris street school, caused by the resignation of I. F. Davidson, A. B. Mr. Harris F. Corydon succeeds Mr. C. D. Mackenzie in the corresponding department of the Dartmouth public schools.

The Provincial *Journal of Education* for October contains the names of the successful applicants for teachers' licenses at the annual examination in July. The returns show that six (6) candidates received license of the Academic Class (Provincial Grade A); fifty-one (51) licenses of the First Class (Provincial Grade B); one hundred and fifty-six (156) licenses of the Second Class (Provincial Grade C); one hundred and ninety-five (195) licenses of the Third Class (Provincial Grade D).

J. W. Spencer, B.Sc., M.A., Ph.D., F.G.S., has resigned the professorship of Chemistry, Geology and Mining in King's college, Windsor, to accept an appointment in the university of Michigan. The Governors of King's college have secured for the chair thus vacated, the services of Prof. Geo. F. Kennedy, late Professor of Natural Sciences at Acadia college, Wolfville.

The board of school commissioners of the city of Halifax, and the school trustees of the town of Dartmouth, have unitedly effected an arrangement, whereby all the teachers of the city and town are to receive systematic instruction in industrial drawing as preliminary to the introduction of that branch of education into all their public schools. The lessons are given semi-weekly by Miss Smith, art instructor in the normal school.

The well known Yarmouth seminary has been, with the consent and good wishes of its governing board, amalgamated with the public school system of the town of Yarmouth. This movement lays beyond question the foundation of a flourishing and vigorous academy. The action of the proprietors of the seminary has been in the highest degree patriotic and unselfish.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

From the *Educational Circular*, issued half yearly by the Chief Superintendent of New Brunswick, we condense the following account of the Educational institute for that Province, held at Fredericton in July last:—

The institute was presided over by Dr. Rand, the Superintendent. After routine the first item was a paper on "Physical Education, its place and scope in Public School Work," by H. C. Creed, M. A., instructor in the Provincial normal school. The paper is printed entire in the *Circular*, and is a thoughtful and suggestive dissertation on the subject. A paper from Mr. John Montgomery, principal of the Albert school, Carleton, St. John, on "How to Ensure Success in Writing" was followed by a discussion in which Messrs. Dole, Parkin, Montgomery, Chisholm, Creed, Morrison, Lawson, Burnett, Bolyea, Crocket, and Meagher, took part. A paper on "Organization in Ungraded Schools" was read by Eldon Mullin, B. A., inspector of schools for the seventh district and it also was followed by a discussion of the subject. W. Crocket, M. A., principal of the normal school then read a paper on methods of teaching reading to beginners in which he described the alphabetic, phonic, and look-and-say methods, preferring the last named to the others. His preference was more particularly for the sentence as distinguished from the word method. A very interesting discussion followed, the majority agreeing with Principal Crocket in his advocacy of the look-and-say method though some would begin with words rather than with sentences. One speaker objected to that method on the ground that it turned out bad spellers; another had some regard for the old alphabetic method and thought it might be combined with more modern systems. Mr. Creed thought the look-and-say method, which is generally followed in New Brunswick showed better results than the phonic method in vogue in Nova Scotia, but he preferred beginning with words rather than sentences. Dr. Rand thought the sentence method was the word method rationalized. Addresses on the teaching of temperance in the schools were delivered by Mrs. M. H. Hunt of Massachusetts, by Mr. Lawson, Dr. Rand, and others, Mrs. Hunt receiving a hearty vote of thanks for her valuable suggestions. A lucid paper on "Minerals, Plant Life, and Animal Life" was read by Mr. Crocket, and at the request of members of the institute Dr. Rand promised to have it put in the hands of teachers as soon as possible. Before the adjournment a resolution was passed strongly favoring the preparation of an educational exhibit in connection with the Dominion Exhibition to be held in St. John in 1883. The usual votes of thanks brought the proceedings of a very successful institute to a close.

WHAT'S IN A SLEEPER.—A sleeper is one who sleeps. A sleeper is that on which the sleeper sleeps. A sleeper is that on which the sleeper which carries the sleeper while he sleeps runs. Therefore while the sleeper sleeps in the sleeper, the sleeper carries the sleeper over the sleeper under the sleeper, until the sleeper which carries the sleeper jumps off the sleeper, and wakes the sleeper in the sleeper by striking the sleeper under the sleeper, and there is no sleeper in the sleeper on the sleeper.—*Oswego Palladium*.

## WEAR AND RUST.

"When I was a boy," said an old physician, "I remember that my father brought home two chains just alike, to use on the farm. It was not long before one was lost, and though we hunted high and low for it, we never could find it. The conclusion probably was that it was stolen, but I don't recollect whether we located the theft on any one in particular. After I had finished my medical studies, I went home one summer for a visit, and it happened that year father moved a great stone pile that had lain on the farm all my days. There at the bottom lay that old chain, which had probably been thrown on the heap and slipped in among the stones. We took it out and tried to use it, but there was no strength in the rust-eaten links; they broke and fell apart at the least strain. The other chain was in use still. The links were worn some, but bright and strong still, and ready for a good deal of useful service.

"I have often thought of that old rust-eaten chain since then, and it reminds me of lazy folks who just rust out their lives. I find in my practice that they are the hardest to cure when they are sick, and that every little thing breaks them down. Good, earnest work, in moderation, is one of the best health-givers I know of. If people of health would practise it, we doctors should have to go out in the corn fields to work for a living."—*Sel.*