

to do was to give their minds something to feed upon. The mind of man or woman must feed upon something. It would feed upon itself and become selfish and morbid; it might feed upon pleasure and seek that unhealthy excitement which the reading of novels gives. What they wished for the women of Montreal was that they might have just the same advantages as the other sex possessed. He was very glad that the Association had begun moderately, as he thought for that reason it was a great deal more likely to succeed. If he might venture to give a hint, he would say first of all that they should select for their lecturers, so far as they were able, men of native talent. He would also advise that the lecturers should be rather elementary in their teaching. If the lecturers took too high flown a course, it would be apt to discourage the students. In conclusion he reminded the ladies of Montreal that they had an immense influence as mothers, as sisters, as wives; and women who were worldly minded and frivolous might do a great deal of harm, not only in their own circle but all around them; whereas women who had good and pure hearts might spread refinement and piety on every hand. He begged them to remember that their influence for good or evil was immense, and that it would be increased the more knowledge they possessed.

Mr. BRYDGES seconded the resolution. He felt quite sure that many of the ladies present could give much better advice than he was able to do; but they of the sterner sex had always to do what they were told by the ladies, and he and others had therefore come forward to do their utmost for this institution. He thought that all who were acquainted with the history of the world and had seen the changes which had taken place in the education of men would be prepared to admit that it was high time that some change should take place in the education of women. The spread of scientific knowledge had rendered it obviously necessary that they should be able, at their own firesides, at any rate, to enter into a community of thought with their companions for life. There were two points which appeared to him to be especially valuable in this movement. It had become fashionable for girls to receive their education in whole or in part on the other side of the Atlantic. He was certainly of opinion that it would be of the very greatest importance that young women should have their education conducted where they would be under home influences, and could have the care and supervision of their mothers. And he thought it of the greatest importance that the young women of the present day should be able to give instruction to their children. He believed that the movement gave promise of good results, and that those among them who were fathers were very deeply indebted to the ladies of Montreal for the efforts they had been making for the education of young women.

The resolution was then carried.

The Rev. CANON BANCROFT and Rev. Dr. CORDNER also spoke of the movement in terms of the highest commendation.

After a few closing remarks from Dr. Dawson the meeting adjourned.

The following are the names of the Ladies who have up to the present time joined the Association:

*President*—Mrs. Molson.

*Vice-Presidents*.—Mrs. T. B. Anderson, Mrs. Brydges.

*Recording Secretary*.—Mrs. Simpson.

*Financial Secretary*.—Miss Lunn.

*Original Members*.—Mrs. Champion Brown, Mrs. Carpenter, Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Cramp, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Durnford, Miss Gordon, Mrs. Greenshields, Mrs. Lay, Mrs. Lovell, Mrs. Macdonnell, Mrs. Major, Miss McIntosh, Mrs. Mercer, Mrs. George Moffatt, Mrs. Oxenden, Mrs. Redpath, Mrs. H. Scott, Mrs. Joseph Tiffin, Jr; Mrs. Thos. Workman.

*Additional Members*.—Mrs. H. McKay, Miss McDonald, Mrs. H. McLennan, Miss Law, Mrs. John McDougall, Mrs. D. Scott, Miss A. Campbell, Mrs. Tylee, Mrs. Baldwin, Miss Hunt, Mrs. Prentice, Mrs. Esdaile, Miss Morgan, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Freer, Mrs. Muller, Miss Blackwood, Mrs. Vanneck, Lady Galt, Mrs. T. McDuff, Mrs. S. E. Dawson, Miss McCord, Mrs.

H. Thomas, Miss E. Ramsay, Mrs. John Scott, Mrs. Stanley Bagg, Miss Lane, Miss Young, Mrs. Drummond, Mrs. W. McKenzie, Mrs. Geo. Frothingham, Mrs. Robert McKay, Mrs. H. Lyman, Mrs. Dow, Mrs. John Torrance, Miss Ross, Miss Rimmer, Mrs. E. H. King, Miss Hall, Mrs. W. Muir, Mrs. Fred. Kay, Miss Eadie, Mrs. Wilkes, Mrs. T. M. Thompson, Miss Hervey, Mrs. T. M. Taylor, Mrs. E. K. Greene, Miss Gairdner, Mrs. James Ferrier, Mrs. Spicer, Mrs. James Hunter, Mrs. Christie, Mrs. Lewis, Miss Peck, Miss Phillips, Miss MacIntosh, Mrs. Miles Williams, Mrs. G. W. Stephens, Mrs. Marler, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. W. N. Dart, Mrs. Cordner, Mrs. A. G. Wood, Mrs. Spaulding, Mrs. P. D. Brown, Mrs. N. B. Corse, Miss Auldjo, Mrs. Holton, Mrs. MacMullan, Mrs. D. A. P. Watt, Mrs. R. P. Howard, Mrs. Barker.

The following, with the officers above named, were chosen by the original members to constitute the Provisional Executive referred to in the Report:

Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Durnford, Mrs. Lovell, Mrs. H. Scott, Mrs. Thos. Workman.—*Montreal Gazette*.

### **An Act to Improve the Common and Grammar Schools of the Province of Ontario.**

(Received the Royal Assent 15th February, 1871.)

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

#### **PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO BE FREE—FEES IN CITIES, &c., FOR TEXT-BOOKS.**

1. All Common Schools, which shall hereafter be designated and known as Public Schools, shall be free Schools; and the Trustees of school sections, and the municipal councils of cities, towns, villages and townships, shall, in the manner now provided by law, levy and collect the rate upon all the taxable property of the school division, or municipality, (as the case may be), to defray the expenses of such schools, as determined by the Trustees thereof; Provided that Public School-Boards in cities, towns and villages, may, if they deem it expedient, collect from parents and guardians of children attending their school, a sum not exceeding twenty cents per month, per pupil, to defray the cost of text-books, stationery and other contingencies.

#### **SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION TO BE PROVIDED BY TRUSTEES.**

2. Each School corporation shall provide adequate accommodations for all children of school age in their school division or municipality.

#### **PROVISIONS IN REGARD TO THE RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO BE EDUCATED.**

3. Every child, from the age of seven to twelve years inclusive, shall have the right to attend some school, or be otherwise educated for four months in each year; and any parent or guardian, who does not provide that each child between the ages aforesaid under his care shall attend some school, or be otherwise educated, as thus of right declared, shall be subject to the penalties hereinafter provided by this Act; Provided nevertheless, that any pupil who shall be adjudged so refractory by the Trustees (or a majority of them) and the teacher, that his presence in the School is deemed injurious to the other pupils, may be dismissed from such School, and, where practicable, removed to an Industrial School; Provided that nothing herein shall be held to require any Catholic to attend a public school, or to require a Protestant to attend a Catholic school.

4. It shall be competent for the Police Magistrate of any city or town, and for any Magistrate in any village or township or town, where there is no Police Magistrate to investigate and decide upon any complaint made by the Trustees, or any person authorized by them, against any parent or guardian for the violation of this Act, and to impose a fine not exceeding five dollars for the first wilful offence; and double that penalty for each subsequent offence; which fine and penalty shall be enforced as provided in the hundred and fortieth section of the Consolidated School Act; Provided nevertheless, that the police magistrate or justice shall not be bound to, but may in his discretion, forego to issue the warrant for the imprisonment of the offender as in said section is provided; Provided always, that it shall be the duty of such Magistrate to ascertain, as far as may be, the circumstances of any party complained of, and whether such alleged violation has been wilful, or has been caused by extreme poverty, or ill-health, or too great a distance from any school; and in either of the latter cases, the Magistrate shall not award punishment, but shall report the circumstances to the Trustees of the division in which the offence has occurred.