

3rd of October. After an address by the retiring President, A. Wells, Esq., High Sheriff, and the enrolment of new members, the officers were elected for the current year. These are: George Smith, B.A., President; Chipman Bishop, Vice-President; Nathaniel Duffey, Secretary-Treasurer; J. W. Bishop and Joshua Thompson, members of committee. In the course of the four sessions the following papers were read and their subjects discussed: "Method of Teaching Geography," by Mr. C. Bishop; "Arithmetic," by the same gentleman; "Reading," by Mr. J. Thompson; "The Importance of School Libraries," by Mr. George Smith, the President. There was also a discussion on the management of miscellaneous schools, in which no new solution of the difficulties was brought out. At the closing session much amusement and some instruction was got out of the question box. The Institute passed a resolution of sorrow and sympathy in reference to the death of Chas. S. Gilbert, B.A., of Alma. A public lecture by the Chief Superintendent had been announced for the evening of the 2nd, but to the great disappointment of all concerned, Dr. Rand was unable to be present. It seems that he had telegraphed to the County Inspector, saying that his official duties would prevent his leaving Fredericton, but the Inspector having left home did not receive the despatch. Nobody at the Institute thought of telegraphing to ascertain the cause of Dr. Rand's non-appearance. Suspense and chagrin were the prevailing feelings among the teachers; and the audience that assembled to hear a lecture on education was handed over to the good people who usually hold a prayer-meeting in the house on that evening. While such an unexpectedly devotional assembly no doubt received benefit from the sacred services, it seems somewhat strange that the officers of the Institute did not, when it became evident that Dr. Rand was not coming, make some arrangements to utilize the public gathering for the promotion of their work by addresses, discussions, or otherwise.

Simultaneously with the above, the teachers of Northumberland County were holding their third annual meeting at Newcastle, with an attendance of nearly sixty. C. S. Ramsay, Esq., the County Inspector, was again chosen President, and Messrs. Hutchison and Oakes were re-elected to the offices of Vice-President and Secretary. Messrs. F. A. McCully, B.A., and Donald McIntosh were elected additional members of the Committee of Management. Principal Crocket, of the Provincial Normal School, was present at all the sessions, adding much to the interest and profit of the discussions. He also delivered a public lecture on "Popular Education" on the first evening. The following subjects were brought before the Institute and discussed: (1) The reduction of denominate numbers—paper by Miss Williston. (2) A lesson on Length, by Miss M. Haviland; (3) Wormell's Modern Geometry, Chap. III., introduced by Mr. D. McIntosh; (4) Physical Geography—paper by Mr. Robert Moir; (5) Penmanship and how to teach it—paper by Mr. C. M. Hutchison; (6) A lesson on Form, by Miss Celia Alexander; (7) Elementary Algebra—papers by Mr. McCull and Mr. Jas. N. Wathen; (8) Elementary Philosophy—papers by Mr. J. B. Oakes, B.A., and Mr. D. McIntosh; (9) Grammatical Analysis and Parsing; (10) Familiar conversation on several practical topics; (11) Question Box. A committee was appointed to procure chemical apparatus for the use of the Institute. Before the close of the meeting the usual votes of thanks were passed.

The recent disastrous fire at Shediac fortunately did not touch the fine new school-house erected there last year.

At Buctouche, on the other hand, another fine new school-house, of two departments, was totally destroyed by the fearful tornado in August. The schools are at work again, however, in rented rooms,—largely through the energy and determination of Mr. Barnes, the Principal, to whom great credit is due.

The Board of School Trustees of St. John has found it necessary to adopt measures with a view to reducing expenses, on account of the present financial condition of the city. By transfers and massing of pupils, on the basis of about 56 pupils to a department, nearly twenty departments will be discontinued from the 1st of November, and consequently, as many teachers will lose their positions. This will effect a saving of some \$8,000 or \$9,000 in salaries and expenses. If the grading is carefully managed, these changes may not seriously diminish the efficiency of the schools. But the scheme of retrenchment also includes a reduction of salaries of all teachers and officers employed, to the extent of ten per cent. on salaries not exceeding \$500, and twenty per cent. on those above that amount. This will no doubt bear somewhat hardly on many, but there seems to be no help for it. The whole reduction which

the Board expects to make amounts to about \$12,000 a year. After the 1st of May, when the rents expire, there may be further retrenchment in the item of expenses. The Board has adopted these measures as a matter of urgent necessity under existing circumstances.

In Fredericton also there will be some reduction of expenses in the public schools after the 1st of November.

NOVA SCOTIA.

A Teachers' Association under Provincial regulations was organized and held at Amherst on the 30th and 31st ult. Cumberland has followed Kings in availing herself of the advantages offered by these regulations. The teaching staff of the County was numerously represented, and the proceedings spirited and interesting. Next month's Notes will contain a full report.

The press of the Province, both religious and secular, displays a singular unanimity in approving of the appointments recently made to the Professorships of the Normal School. Dr. Hall, of Boston University, and for years a teacher in the Public Schools of the Province, brings to the English mastership the reputation not only of an accomplished scholar, but of an exceptionally efficient and magnetic teacher. Mr. Eaton, the newly appointed Professor of Mathematics and Science, is a graduate of Harvard, and has had even more experience than Dr. Hall in Public School work. The Normal School and Province will undoubtedly reap great benefit from his scientific attainments and enthusiasm, more than once referred to in these notes.

J. T. Mellish, Esq., A.M., has been appointed by the Halifax City Board of School Commissioners to the Mathematical Professorship in the High School, rendered vacant by the resignation of Dr. Bayne.

The October number of the *Journal of Education* contains a partial revision of the authorized list of text books. The revision extends only to texts in Mathematics and Science. The Council has met the wishes of the great majority of the Teachers of the Province in placing on the prescribed list Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic and Geometry. In the above subjects Nova Scotia has now a series of texts unsurpassed for unity, simplicity and adaptation to the wants of schools, and at the same time fully in keeping with modern progress.

The *Journal of Education* also contains a list of the successful candidates for Teachers' licenses at the Annual Examination in July. The total number is in the vicinity of 300. We have not been informed as to the exact number of candidates examined, but judge there were about 1,000. It is clear many candidates still apply far in advance of their qualifications.

Teachers' Associations.

The publishers of the JOURNAL will be obliged to Inspectors and Secretaries of Teachers' Associations if they will send for publication programmes of meetings to be held, and brief accounts of meetings held.

WATERLOO COUNTY.—The teachers of Waterloo County met in convention Friday morning, Sept. 5th, at 9.30 o'clock Mr. Alexander, the President, in the chair. Several communications were then read, after which Mr. W. Linton read a carefully prepared essay on "Relation between Parents and Teachers." Mr. G. D. Lewis then gave the Association a lesson on "English History." This subject was afterwards discussed by Messrs. Suddaby, Bingeman, Sharman and Chapman. Messrs. Alexander and Chapman having been appointed delegates to the last Ontario Teachers' Convention, presented their reports. Previous to adjournment for dinner the President announced that Mrs. Stanton had kindly consented to have her kindergarten school in operation on Saturday, at 11 o'clock a.m., for the purpose of allowing the teachers an opportunity of visiting it. The Association again met at 2 p.m., the President in the chair. Mr. S. S. Herner read an essay descriptive of a State Convention of teachers in Illinois, which he had the pleasure of attending during the recent vacation. This proved very interesting to the Association. Mr. W. F. Chapman read an essay on "Incentives to Study," which provoked some discussion. A motion was passed locating the Teachers' Professional Library at Berlin, and appointing Mr. Oberholtzer librarian for the first year, as he kindly offered to provide room for the library and to act as librarian. At this stage Prof. Young, of Toronto, entered the room, and was enthusiastically received by the Association. Mr. G. A. Chase, M.A., not being able to be present, sent a carefully prepared essay on "English Literature," which was read by the secretary. By request, Professor Young criticized the essay in a very able manner, agreeing with the writer. The Association then adjourned till 9 a.m. on Saturday. Friday evening Prof. Young delivered in the Town Hall a lecture on "Psychology in its relation to Education." The lecture was very able and instructive, and at the close the