

on account of wilful neglect on the part of the teacher, but because he has too many reading classes and is required to hear them too often in order to satisfy parents and trustees. More naming words is not reading any more than mere daubing a canvas with paint constitutes a finished and life-like picture. A good reader is one who renders a selection in a clear distinct voice, pleasant to the listener, and with such inflections and emphasis as will interpret correctly the meaning of the author read. To attain this, first lessons must be good ones. The dull repeating of the alphabet day after day, and the meaningless sentences given as lessons, have done much to give children a dislike for reading. Teach the child that letters and words are pictures of sounds uttered by him every day. The sentences first given should be those which he can understand. As the pupils progress, guard against faults such as drawing, mispronunciation, etc.; audibility, distinctness, etc., will need to be patiently taught. A good general rule for reading is that they read naturally. A thorough and just understanding of a passage is the best guide to its expressive delivery. In a reading lesson, question the pupils to see that they understand what they are about to read. Drawing is caused by pushing children forward into books for which they are not at all fit. The children must be able to pronounce every word in their reading lesson without hesitation, to avoid drawing. We cannot expect to make our pupils accomplished elocutionists; with so many under our care it is impossible for us to go into the niceties of elocutionary drill, but we may and ought to expect our pupils by our guidance to become good intelligent readers. And if we succeed in doing this, we have placed with them a source of enjoyment to themselves and those with whom they will associate which will last long after our connections with them as teachers have ceased to be.

Mr. Neil McLeod opened the discussion of the subject of "School Discipline" in an excellent paper, which if space permitted we would like to report.

Afternoon Session.—The committee on organization submitted their report, which on motion was adopted.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected with the following result:—President, D. Montgomery, Esq.; Vice-Presidents, Neil McLeod, Esq., C. H. Ives, Esq., Ewen Stewart, Esq., and Miss Annie L. Smith; Secretary-Treasurer, Joseph D. Seaman; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Emma Barr; Executive Committee—President, Secretary, Miss E. E. McKinnon, Miss Maria Lawson, Gamaliel Gillies, John McRae and Thomas McKinlay.

Mr. C. H. Ives read a well-written paper on "Eye Teaching," which was well received by the association.

The association adjourned till evening, and met at eight o'clock. Instead of a regular association meeting the doors were thrown open to the general public. The attendance was large. Interesting addresses were delivered by Prof. Calkin, Thos. Le Page Esq., H. Lawson, Esq., and Rev. Dr. Murray.

The association then adjourned to meet again in the month of October, 1881.

Teachers' Associations.

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

ELGIN.—The semi-annual convention of this Association was held in the Collegiate Institute, St. Thomas, on the 10th and 11th ult., Mr. R. C. Inglesby, President, in the chair. At opening, the attendance was small, but during the course of the day was largely increased. The minutes of previous meeting were read by Mr. N. W. Ford, secretary, and adopted. Mr. Cook, treasurer and librarian, gave a good report of the financial condition of the association, there being a sum of \$65.81 to credit. He said that although they had the best teachers' library in the Province, he regretted to say it was very little used or appreciated. Messrs. Leitch, Brodenick and Birk were appointed auditors. Mr. A. F. Butler, I.P.S., deplored the apathy of the teachers in not availing themselves of such an excellent library. He thought the next best thing to that was a good periodical, and bore testimony to the real scholarly ability with which the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL was conducted, and hoped the teachers would all subscribe for it. On the motion of Mr. Ford, seconded by Mr. Cook, the actual expenses of the executive officers in attending committee meetings were allowed.

A letter from Prof. Payne, Ann Arbor University, was read, apologising for his absence through illness.

Mr. N. W. Ford, in commencing an attractive programme, took up "Infinite participles and gerunds," and entered into some of the most difficult forms in which they occur in a manner which displayed his

thorough knowledge of the subject. Several questions were put by the president and some of the members, which were answered promptly and intelligently.

A reading, "The Schoolmistress," given by Miss Hiccox with much taste and considerable ability, was greatly appreciated, and on the proposition of Inspector Butler, seconded by Mr. J. Miller, M.A., she was accorded a warm vote of thanks.

In the afternoon, Mr. McAlpine demonstrated his method of teaching "Elementary Arithmetic." He went on the practical system of illustrating results in each rule, and recommended self-reliance with development of thought as the most successful plan for securing a useful knowledge of the science. He said he would give simple ideas of fractions before teaching reduction.

Mr. J. L. Robertson, business manager of the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL, was permitted to address the meeting relative to the circulation among the teachers in the county of the periodical he represented.

Mr. J. Millar, B.A., Head Master of St. Thomas Collegiate Institute, said a good educational periodical is a thing that teachers cannot do without, but it was their duty to see that they were not deceived in the article they got. Mr. Sutherland had offered the *Hamilton School Magazine* for 50 cents a year, but if he could not get that he would take less. It was no use to try to disguise the fact that this magazine is an advertisement for the Hamilton Collegiate Institute, and he looked upon it as a "cheeky thing" (applause) for anyone in connection with that school to come there and advocate their special organ. He did think the agent was a gentleman but if he linked himself with those who desired to push through the country the high-sounding merits of the Hamilton Collegiate Institute he did what was very unwise. The ruse was unmasked in St. Catharines, and it would be dealt similarly with in Elgin County. What would be the result if St. Thomas Collegiate Institute or any other acted in the same way to attract students from other counties where they could be equally well taught? He denounced the practice as highly detrimental to the cause of local education, and one that ought not to be countenanced. He knew the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL from the commencement of its publication, and it has always occupied an independent position, and is, strictly speaking, the only national paper for teachers in the Dominion (applause). He concluded by proposing the following resolution: "That a committee, consisting of Messrs. Butler, I.P.S., Leitch, McKay, the President, and the mover, be appointed to procure on as favorable terms as the funds will permit, a copy of the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL for each member of this Association." Mr. Dudley seconded the motion. Mr. E. McKay, B.A., Head Master, Aylmer High School, endorsed the opinions expressed by Mr. Millar, and strongly condemned the system of puffing which the Hamilton Collegiate Institute had adopted, in the shape of a magazine having for its plausible object the teacher's practical help, but the essence of the publication is to advertise the Collegiate Institute at the expense of the teachers. The motion was put and carried without a dissentient.

In the absence of Mr. Burdick, of Aylmer, Mr. Butler, I.P.S., gave an eminently practical address on "How to conduct a class in 4th Reader." It abounded in original thought, and conveyed so much excellent advice and instruction that it was greatly appreciated.

A meeting was held in the Knox church in the evening, which was well attended. Mr. E. McKay ably occupied the chair. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Butler and J. Millar on "The Relation of Poetry to Education," and on "Higher Education" respectively, both of which elicited the highest commendations. Music was supplied by the Misses Hammill and Raymour, and Mr. J. L. Robertson.

Second Day.—The exercises were commenced at 9 a.m. with an essay on "Making pupils think," read by Mr. S. Weir, Fingal Public School. He pointed out how study could be developed and promoted in every branch of school instruction, which would not only be of benefit to the pupils but also to their parents, and do away with much of the irksomeness of home lessons.

Mr. G. W. Littlejohn, Yarmouth, read a very interesting paper on "Grammar to a 4th Class," illustrating his subject by some ingenious devices designed to fix the pupils' thought and attention.

Mr. H. Clay, Wallacetown, in addressing the meeting on "Reading in our Public Schools," dealt with the matter with an ability hardly to be expected in one so young.

By request, a reading was given by Miss Inglesby which was greatly admired, after which the Convention adjourned, to meet again at the call of the Executive.

The committee on CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL met and decided to give a copy of the JOURNAL to every member of the Association who had paid up the membership fee.

PEEL.—The semi-annual meeting of this Association was held in Brampton High School on the 17th and 18th ult. The President, Mr. A. Morton, called the meeting to order at 9 a.m., at which time there were very few members present. During the course of that session, and in the afternoon, the numbers were, however, considerably augmented. Mr. D. McKay, secretary, read minutes of previous meeting, which were adopted, after which some routine business was transacted. The President then read a very practical paper, bearing on Teachers' Conventions. On the motion,