

unnecessary to send any reply to that effect. When the petitions are filled up, they may be handed to any of the members of the Assembly, or if more convenient, forwarded to the Superintendent.—Several petitions respectfully signed, have been already sent in, and there seems room to hope that they will be favorably received in most of the localities in which they are circulated.

An additional Error.

We have just learned from a private letter, that in some quarters an opinion prevails, that the system of supporting schools in part by county assessment equal to the provincial grant, will diminish the salaries of teachers, in consequence of the people of the districts raising no farther sum. This objection was fully answered in the Journal of Education for March last; and it was shown that in Upper Canada the people raise in the separate sections as much as the Provincial aid and county tax united, and that the arrangements in reference to the duties of the trustees, in the School Bill of last Session, were of such a nature, that each section must realise for the teacher at least half as much as the average sum which they now raise; and that with the County tax, this would leave the teacher's salaries as at present, only that they would be better paid. Taking into account however the advantages of hiring a first class teacher, the facilities afforded to trustees for raising funds and the cheap education offered to all, there can be little doubt that the salaries will be larger than at present. Thus if a teacher now receives £11 from the Province and £25 from the people of his section, he would under the new system receive £22 from the Province and county, and the parents and others deeply interested in the school would only have to raise £14 in order that the school should receive this sum of £22. Thus they would be relieved and the additional burden would fall on property generally throughout the county.

School Report for 1852.

The Report of the Superintendent for 1852 will consist in great part of a condensed review of his recommendations for the extension and improvement of our school system, with the facts and arguments on which they are based. Extracts will be given from the interesting reports with which he has been furnished by several of the Boards of Commissioners, and the statistical matter will, it is hoped, be more complete than in any previous year.

Schools in Halifax.

The Commissioners of Schools for the city of Halifax, on report and recommendation of their visiting Committee, resolved to call attention to the importance of improvement in Reading, by offering rewards for excellence in that department, to the children of the Schools which came under their supervision.

Notice to the Schools, was given accordingly, and the subject was given in charge of the visiting committee.

The requisite preliminaries were attended to,—and the examination was held on Saturday, September 25th.

About fifty lads, including the best readers in the schools represented, accompanied by their Teachers, assembled in the Royal Acadian School room.

Varied exercise resulted in awarding four general rewards, to the four best readers without distinction of school, and then a reward to the best reader in each school.

The Committee expressed much gratification at the number in attendance, the good order that prevailed, and the interest that was evinced.

The exercises were creditable to the young persons assembled,—but proved the desirableness of still greater attention being given to the principles and practice on which excellence is founded.

The occasion was one of pleasure and profit,—other anticipated examinations are expected to exhibit features of greater advance and more interest.—*Chronicle.*

We have as yet received the Reports of a few only of the Teachers' Associations. Of those received, that of the Durham Association, Pictou County, shows the greatest amount of energy and success; and may therefore be given here as a specimen of what such societies can effect. Notices of other Associations will appear in the Superintendent's Annual Report.

Report of Durham Teacher's Association.—The "Durham Teacher's Association" convened at Durham this 27th of Dec. 1852, beg leave respectfully to submit to the Superintendent of Education a summary report of its proceedings for the past year.

At the commencement of the present year, there were eleven schools and fourteen teachers connected with the Association; there are now fifteen schools and eighteen teachers in connection therewith.

Five meetings have been held during the winter, one lecture was delivered, "on the different kinds of composition and style of the sacred Books; their Prose, Prophecies, Parable and Types, and the mode of interpretation peculiar to each."

In order to interest, and if possible, to benefit the public, and at the same time accommodate the association, it was agreed to hold a public meeting in each school district immediately after the examination of the school.

The association commenced the visitation and examination of schools in May last; since which time 11 schools have been examined and 13 meetings held, at ten of which lectures have been delivered on the following subjects; 1st. On the means of acquiring knowledge; 2nd. On education, and the necessity and advantages of the improvement contemplated in the new school law; 3rd. On vegetable chemistry and the parallel between the functions of the plant and of the animal, 4th. On animal chemistry; 5th. On the advantages of the study of history; 6th. On the present state and future prospects of Nova Scotia; 7th. On the importance of geographical knowledge; 8th. On practical education;

9th. On the chemistry of vegetation; 10th. On the teacher's office,

The Association has not been able to visit the four remaining schools, in consequence of the badness of the roads &c.

From two years' experience, the Association can speak with some precision of the advantage of the association to teachers personally and to the public generally, and also of the state of public feeling on educational matters, and of the obstacles to improvement requiring to be removed,

ADVANTAGES TO THE TEACHER.—1. It has been the means of forming and maintaining a friendly acquaintance among the Teachers.

2. It has afforded the means of professional counsel and aid, and thereby united the Teachers as a band of brothers.

3. It has made the amount of professional knowledge which each individual possessed, common property; thus each obtained the advantage of the experience of all.

4. It has rendered teachers better qualified for the important duties of their office.

5. It has secured to them a somewhat more elevated position in the public estimation.

ADVANTAGES TO THE PUBLIC—1. It has afforded to the public, teachers who are better qualified than hitherto, and who can bring into the schools the best systems of teaching and modes of discipline which experience can suggest, under existing circumstances.

2. It has secured to the public better schools, by acting as a check upon superficial or careless teaching.

3. It has led to the improvement of school houses and secured to many districts, besides those connected with the Association, a better supply of maps and books, than they hitherto possessed, without giving them either the trouble or expense of purchasing them.

4. It has excited a deeper interest in the cause of Education, and diffused (it is hoped) some additional information on Educational matters.

THE MEANS EMPLOYED TO SECURE THESE ENDS.—1. By the teachers frequently meeting upon a footing of equality, and candidly discussing educational matters.

2. By all visiting each other's schools, pointing out errors and suggesting improvements.

3. By teachers addressing the scholars upon their privileges and duties, and the people upon the various subjects connected with the efficiency of schools and the introduction of improvements.

4. By having all the meetings open to the public and delivering lectures on literary and scientific subjects, and by eliciting discussions on the same.

REMARKS.—1. That the public take a deeper interest in the cause of Education