

THE LIGHT-HOUSE.

High o'er the black-backed Skerries, and far
To the westward hills and the eastward sea,
I shift my light like a twinkling star,
With ever a star's sweet constancy.
They wait for me when the night comes down,
And the slow sun falls in his death divine,
Then braving the black night's gathering frown,
With ruby and diamond blaze—I shine!

There is war at my feet where the black rocks break,
The thunderous snows of the rising sea;
There is peace above when the stars are awake,
Keeping their night-long watch with me
I care not a jot for the roar of the surge,
The wrath is the sea's—the victory mine!
As over its breath to the furthest verge,
Unwavering and untired—I shine!

First on my brow comes the pearly light,
Dimming my lamp in the new-born day,
One long, last look to the left and right,
And I rest from my toil—for the broad sea-way
Grows bright with the smile and blush of the sky
All meand'ring and opaline.
I rest—but the love best day will die—
Again in its last wan shadows—I shine!

When the night is black, and the wind is loud,
And danger is hidden, and peril abroad,
The seaman leaps on the swaying shroud;
His eye is on me, and his hope in God.
Alone in the darkness, my blood-red eye
Meets his, and he hauls his groping line.
"A point to northward!" I hear him cry,
He goes with a blessing, and still—I shine!

While standing alone in the summer sun
Sometimes I have visions and dreams of my own,
Of long-life voyages just begun,
And rocks unnoticed, and shoals unknown;
And I would that men and women would mark
The duty done by this lamp of mine;
For many a life is lost in the dark,
And few on earth are the lights that shine!—*God Words.*

How MOZART DIED.—Wolfgang Mozart, the grand composer, died at Vienna, in the year 1791. There is something very touching in the circumstances of his death. His sweetest song was the last he sang—the "Requiem." He had been employed on this exquisite piece for several weeks, his soul filled with inspiration of the richest melody, and already claiming kindred with immortality. After giving it its last touch, and breathing into it that undying spirit of song which was to consecrate it through all time, as his "Circian strain," he fell into a gentle and quiet slumber. At length the light footsteps of his daughter awoke him. "Come hither," said he, "my Emile! My task is done, my 'Requiem' is finished." "Say not so, dear father," said the gentle girl, interrupting him, with tears in her eyes; "you must be better—you look better, for even now your cheek has a glow on it. I am sure we shall nurse you well again—let me bring you some thing refreshing." "Do not deceive yourself, my love," said the dying father, "this wasted form can never be restored by human aid. From heaven's mercy alone do I look for help in this my dying hour. You spoke of refreshment, my Emile—take these my last notes—sit down to my piano here—sing with them the hymn of your sainted mother—let me once more hear those tones which have been so long my solace and delight." Emile obeyed, and with a voice enriched with the tenderest emotion, sang the following stanzas:

"Spirit! thy labor is o'er,
Thy term of probation is run,
Thy steps are now bound for the untroubled shore,
And the race of immortals begun.
Spirit! look not on the strife
Or the pleasures of earth with regret—
Pause not at the threshold of limitless life,
To mourn for the day that is set.
Spirit! no fetters can bind,
No wicked have power to molest,
There the weary, like thee—the wretched shall find
A heaven, a mansion of rest.
Spirit! how bright is the road
For which thou art now on the wing,
Thy home it will be, with thy saviour and god,
'Their loud hallelujah to sing.'

As she concluded, she dwelt for a moment upon the low melancholy notes of the piece, and then turning from the instrument, looked in silence for the approving smile of her father. It was the still and passionless smile which the rapt and joyous spirit left—with the seal of death—upon those features.

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.

CITY OF TORONTO.—The semi-annual meeting of the Toronto Teachers' Association, was held February 29th, in the school-room of the Carlton-street Primitive Methodist Church. The President, Mr. Samuel McAllister, occupied the chair. Nearly all the teachers of the various city schools were present, and the presence of one or two members of the Public School Board was also noticeable. At the conclusion of the teachers' roll call, a communication was read from the Women's Christian Temperance Union requesting that temperance text books be brought before the pupils of the Public Schools; also offering the services of Mrs. Mary Hunter, of the National Women's Temperance Association of Massachusetts, to lecture on scientific temperance instruction for the benefit of the pupils. This matter was left to a committee composed of Messrs. Doan, Clarke, and W. J. Hendry to deal with, and report on. Owing to the illness of Mr. A. F. Macdonald, who was to have addressed the teachers on the subject of mental arithmetic, Mr. J. L. Hughes took his place, and in a very able manner suggested the best methods of instruction in this particular branch of study. A vocal quartette was next given by four members of the association, who rendered the piece entitled "How Fair the Maiden" with marked ability. After recess Miss A. Freeman spoke on the subject of "How to direct the private reading of scholars," and was followed by Mr. Hughes who, in a lengthy and most masterly manner, showed the advantages accruing from "object lessons," illustrating his ideas by means of leaves distributed among the teachers. Mr. J. A. Wismer then took up the subject of "The teaching of hygiene," a class of boys from the Victoria-street school being in attendance. Another quartette ("Evening Bells") then followed by members of the association. At its conclusion Mr. J. Boddy presented his report to the Inspector, which was the cause of a lengthy discussion. The idea in view is to secure uniform monthly reports from the different schools to the Inspector. Business was resumed Saturday morning at 9 o'clock, with the President, Mr. S. McAllister, in the chair. After roll call the election of officers took place, which resulted in the re-election of Mr. S. McAllister as President (Mr. J. L. Hughes having requested his name to be withdrawn); Vice-President, Mr. Doan; Secretary, Mr. R. McCausland. Executive Committee—Messrs. J. L. Hughes (*ex-officio*), W. J. Hendry, Cassidy, McCachren, Mrs. Arthurs, and Miss Williams. The Treasurer submitted his report for the past year which shows a credit balance of \$171.55. The report was received and adopted. Mr. Doan, on behalf of the Committee appointed on Friday to deal with the communication received from the Women's Christian Temperance Union in reference to placing temperance text books more prominently before the scholars, reported that it was desirable, in view of the enormous amount of evil caused by intemperance, that special attention should be directed to the matter of temperance in connection with the study of hygiene in our public schools, and that an improved text book on temperance be asked for by the teachers, and also that should the Committee on Scientific Temperance Instruction, decide to send Mrs. Mary Hunter to lecture in this city, the members of this association will assist her to the utmost in their power. The report was unanimously adopted. The committee, to whom was referred the consideration of Mr. Bryant's recommendation in his paper, read last year before the Ontario Teachers' Association, that a Chief Superintendent of Education and a Council of Public Instruction instead of a Minister of Education should be appointed, reported;—That in the opinion of the committee it is inadvisable that any change be made in the way of directing the educational affairs of the Province by the appointment of a Chief Superintendent and a Council of Public Instruction in lieu of a Minister of Education. The committee recommend that the delegates of the Ontario Teachers' Association do support this resolution should the matter be introduced at the meeting of the Provincial Association. Mr. Boddy moved in amendment seconded by Mr. Crane, that in the opinion of this association, a Chief Superintendent and a Council of Public Instruction would best serve the interests of education in this Province. A protracted discussion ensued, in which Mr. Boddy strongly opposed the adoption of the report, calling attention to the fact that political influence might be used in granting certificates to teachers. Mr. Doan replied that while the committee highly appreciated the manner in which Mr. Bryant had treated the subject, yet he thought that the gentleman who was now at the head of the Education Department, and who had had experience in the work, having commenced at the foot and having worked himself up to the highest pinnacle of the educational ladder, should have a seat in the Legislative Assembly and having won the confidence of all interested in school work they should retain the present system and give it a fair trial. After some further discussion the amendment was lost and the report adopted by a large majority. The hearty thanks of the association was tendered to Mr. J. T. Slater for having engrossed a copy of a resolution passed by the association on the departure of the Rev. Dr. King from the city.