

joint consideration will be most likely to effect it. All this tending to make them feel their own rights and strength must also ensure greater consideration from society. The sagacity of the Prussian Government, so strikingly displayed in its organization of public education, makes the utmost use of this principle of association. The Conferences of Schoolmasters, without coercive interference, which would deprive them of their chief advantages, are promoted and encouraged by every means in its power." We will add a few extracts from the published minutes of the United States National Teachers' Association, to show what consideration it receives at the hands of the citizens of the adjoining Republic. In the first annual report we have: "A. J. Rickoff, Esq., City Superintendent of Schools, Cincinnati, in a whole-souled address, gave the Association a hearty welcome to the Queen City of the West. Teachers of the East and West had met in Cincinnati, the midway point, to greet each other for the first time, and express the hope that the results of the convention would prove beneficial alike to delegates and to the community. He regarded the organization of the National Teachers' Association, as the enunciation of the educational idea of the age." "Rev. Anson Smyth of Columbus, State Commissioner of Schools for Ohio, followed Mr. Rickoff, and in the name of the people of Ohio welcomed the Association to the Buckeye State, and congratulated the Association on the glorious future of the cause of education, and the large and important field of usefulness before the Association. President Richards responded to the addresses of Messrs. Rickoff and Smyth, thanking them for their courtesy and cordial sympathy in the objects of the Association." This, its first annual meeting, was held August 1858; in 1859 it met at Washington, D. C., and in 1860 at Buffalo. We copy from the minutes of 1859, "Z. Richards, Esq., of Washington, introduced to the Association his Honor J. G. Berret, Mayor of Washington, who, in an eloquent address dilated on the general educational interests of the country, and the character of the teachers. His Honor concluded by giving the Association a hearty welcome to the hospitalities of the city. S. Yorke AtLee, Esq., was next introduced on behalf of the Board of Education of the city, and gave a cordial greeting to the Association, expressing great interest in its objects, and sympathy and co-operation in its labours. The President responded to the welcome of the address of his Honor the Mayor, and the greeting of Mr. AtLee, thanking them for their reception of and interest in the Association so heartily tendered. * * * The hour having arrived that had been named by the President of the United States in which he would receive the members of the Association in the Executive Mansion, the Association adjourned in order to make the call. The Association, then, in a body, repaired to the White House, and were ushered into the East Room. On the entrance of his Excellency, Mr. Rickoff, the President of the Association, and his lady, advanced to meet him, and, on being introduced, addressed him on behalf of the Association, expressing the great pleasure all feel in paying their respects to the Chief Magistrate of the Republic, and expressing the hope of his sympathy in the educational reforms of the day. His Excellency, in reply, expressed the great pleasure he felt in receiving this visit from the Association. To the teacher he accorded all honour. The only safeguard for the country, he remarked, is education founded upon the principles of pure christianity and true religion. Without religion there can be no prosperity, no liberty, no advancement in real knowledge. After wishing the Association great success and prosperity, his Excellency was introduced to the several members of the Association present. In 1860 it was welcomed to the City of Buffalo by Mayor Alberger.

Fellow Teachers, with you it remains to say whether we shall make use of this principle of association, for the advancement of the cause of education in our land, and for the improvement of our profession. Let us not be slow to move—the work is voluntary—let us show to our fellow-citizens that the work of educating and training which they have committed to us, has not fallen into unworthy hands. Let us show that we are engaged earnestly in our work, and willing to benefit by all the aids within our reach. Teachers of Canada, let us show that we appreciate the advantages which as a class we enjoy, and now that we are called upon to advance our country's good that we will not be remiss. All teachers and Local Superintendents are respectfully solicited to exert themselves in endeavouring to assemble the teachers of their respective Towns, Cities, Townships or Counties, to appoint delegates to attend the preliminary meeting to be held in the Court House, Toronto, on the 25th Jan., 1861, at 11 o'clock, A.M., and in the event of failing to induce the teachers of their respective Town, City, Township or County to appoint delegates, we hope they will attend themselves. All teachers, whether delegates or not, are most cordially invited to attend the above meeting.

All communications in reference to this circular to be addressed to the Secretary, and pre-paid.

The press of Canada will confer a favour on the County of York Teachers' Association and the profession generally, by noting the objects, place, and time, of the preliminary meeting mentioned in the above circular.

Trustees who may receive this will please forward it to the teacher without delay.

By order of the Committee,

WM. HENRY IRWIN, Chairman.

ROBERT ALEXANDER, Secretary.

Newmarket,
County of York.

County of York,
December, 1860.

The following is a copy of the constitution of the U. S. National Teachers' Association:

PREAMBLE.

"To elevate the character and advance the interests of the profession of teaching, and to promote the cause of popular education in the United States, we, whose names are subjoined, agree to adopt the following CONSTITUTION.

"ARTICLE I. *Name*.—This Association shall be styled the "National Teachers' Association."

"ART. II. *Members*.—Any gentleman who is regularly occupied in teaching in a public or private elementary school, common school, high school, academy or scientific school, college or university, or who is regularly employed as a private tutor, as the editor of an educational journal, or as a superintendent of schools, shall be eligible to membership.

Application for admission to membership shall be made, or referred to the Board of Directors, or such committee of their own number as they shall appoint; and all who may be recommended by them, and accepted by a majority vote of the members present, shall be entitled to the privileges of the Association, upon paying Two Dollars and signing this Constitution.

Upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors, gentlemen may be elected as Honorary Members by two-thirds of the members present, and as such shall have all the rights of Regular Members, except those of voting and holding office.

Ladies engaged in teaching may, on the recommendation of the Board of Directors, become Honorary Members, and shall thereby possess the right of presenting, in the form of written essays (to be read by the Secretary or any other member whom they may select,) their views upon the subject assigned for discussion.

Whenever a member of this Association shall abandon the profession of teaching or the business of editing an educational journal, or of superintending schools, he shall cease to be a member.

If one member shall be charged by another with immoral or dishonourable conduct, the charge shall be referred to the Board of Directors, or such a committee as they shall appoint, and if the charge shall be sustained by them, and afterwards by two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting of the Association, the person so charged shall forfeit his membership.

There shall be an Annual Fee of One Dollar. If any one shall omit paying his fee for four years, his connection with the Association shall cease.

A person eligible to membership, may become a Life Member by paying, at once, Ten Dollars.

ART. III. *Officers*.—The Officers of this Association shall be a President, twelve Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and one Counsellor for each State, District, or Territory represented in the Association. These officers, all of whom shall be elected by ballot, a majority of the votes cast being necessary for a choice, shall constitute the Board of Directors, and shall have power to appoint such committees from their own number as they shall deem expedient.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties, and enjoy such privileges as by custom devolve upon and are enjoyed by a presiding officer. In his absence, the first Vice-President in order who is present, shall preside; and in the absence of all the Vice-Presidents, a pro-tempore chairman shall be appointed on nomination, the Secretary putting the question.

The Secretary shall keep a full and just record of the proceedings of the Association and of the Board of Directors; shall notify each member of the Association or Board; shall conduct such correspondence as the Directors may assign; and shall have his records present at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors. In his absence a Secretary pro tempore may be appointed.

The Treasurer shall receive and hold in safe keeping all moneys paid to the Association; shall expend the same in accordance with the votes of the Directors or of the Association; and shall keep an exact account of his receipts and expenditures, with vouchers for the latter, which account he shall render to the Board of Directors prior to each regular meeting of the Association; he shall also present an abstract thereof to the Association. The Treasurer shall give such bonds for the faithful discharge of his duties as may be required by the Board of Directors.

The Counsellor shall have equal power with the other Directors in performing the duties belonging to the Board.

The Board of Directors shall have power to fill all vacancies in their own body; shall have in charge the general interests of the Association; shall make all necessary arrangements for its meeting; and shall do all in their power to render it a useful and honourable institution.

"ART. IV. *Meetings*.—A meeting shall be held in August, 1858, after which the regular meetings shall be held annually. The place and the precise time of meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall hold their Regular Meetings at the place and two hours before the time of the assembling of the Association, and immediately after the adjournment of the same. Special meetings may be held at such other times and places as the Board or the President shall determine.

"ART. V. *By-Laws*.—By-laws, not inconsistent with this Constitution, may be adopted by a two thirds vote of the Association.

"ART. VI. *Amendments*.—This Constitution may be altered or amended at a regular meeting, by the unanimous vote of the members present; or by a two-thirds vote of the members present, providing that the alteration or amendment have been substantially proposed at a previous regular meeting."

The foregoing is a true copy of the Constitution.

J. W. BULKLEY, Secretary.