

Educational Notes and News.

of that distressing complaint. Out of 200 cases of the disease (technically called chorea) Dr. Sturges was able in '79 to trace to its origin. And one in six of these he has found to be due to the pressure of education. The disease does not occur among the most destitute classes as a rule, but rather among the better fed children of the London operatives, so that deficient nutrition is in this class of cases largely eliminated from the predisposing causes. And of the lessons to which the writer is able to trace the special cause of worry, he does not hesitate to specify sums. It happens that in cases of chorea the peccant cause is often betrayed by the uncontrollable tears that follow the mention of it; and in the instance of the child on whose case Dr. Sturges enters into the fullest details, he not only found that arithmetic had brought on the complaint, but that the rule which had broken down the nervous system had been long division, and long division pressed home when, by some accident, neither multiplication nor short division had been previously gone through. The doctor took the trouble to put the patient through the process of working a sum, and he describes the process in graphic and pathetic terms in a passage which deserves a place in school classics. The moral he draws from this and other similar cases is the extreme importance of teachers being taught to recognise the first symptoms of this disease, lest that which is perfectly curable in its earlier stages should develop into a fatal, or at least an incurable, malady through pressure or severity which would never be inflicted if the condition of the child were understood.—*London School Guardian*.

EXAMINATIONS.—A committee of the Milwaukee School Board recently declared their opinion that "an unnecessary prominence has been given to examinations in the management of all the city schools." The committee further held that "the general result of these practices is the over-excitement and worry of pupils and teachers, the stimulus they furnish for occasional excess of application and brain exhaustion, and the false standard they create of the true end of study and the real value of knowledge." This view coincides with that of many intelligent persons who have given the matter thought. Many pupils have been almost mentally wrecked by the cramming process, and their nervous system impaired by the ordeal of examinations.—*Current, Chicago*.

Graded classification can be so reduced to a system that the child is forgotten when he is the only object worthy of a consideration. The welfare of the child, his personal progress, his needs and necessities, must be first regarded, even if beautiful plans and perfect organization must be destroyed. System is a grand thing when man is the master, controlling and directing it; but when it becomes master and man becomes the slave, he is forced and driven by a bondage that degrades and destroys his personality. The great German teacher once said, "I am the system." None the less ought every teacher in the land to assert his individuality and break the shackles that hamper and prevent good school work.—*H. H. Seerley, Oskaloosa, Iowa*.

Never under-estimate your powers. It is as bad to over-estimate them. The world is so constituted that in trade no one ever pays a cent more than is charged for goods, never suspects there is more in weight or measure than is charged for, and never thinks for a moment of estimating a man at more than he values himself. It will discount a man of large pretension, and will give due credit to a man whom it finds sincere in self-appreciation; but the man who underrates himself is usually discounted from his estimate even. Sincerity is the best possible rule in claiming value for goods or character, and no one needs it more than the teacher.—*American Teacher*.

The following important resolutions were passed at the Convention of the Peel County Teachers' Association recently:—

1. That this Association desires to express its satisfaction with the new programme for the High School Entrance Examinations, being, on the whole, a great improvement upon the old one; but would respectfully suggest that the time allotted to many of the papers at both the Entrance and the Teachers' Examinations be increased, in order that slow writers and thinkers who may be in other respects well qualified may not be placed at so great a disadvantage as at present.

2. That in the opinion of this Association, the quarterly payment of teachers' salaries should be made obligatory upon all school corporations.

3. That all teachers should be by law required to become and continue members of the Teachers' Associations of the counties or cities in which they respectively reside.

4. That this Association desires to express its warm approval of the action of the Hon., the Minister of Education, in appointing two such experienced and competent educationists to assist in conducting Teachers' Institutes throughout the Province.

5. That the Secretary be instructed to send a copy of the four preceding resolutions to the Hon., the Minister of Education.

6. That the annual meeting of the Association be held in Brampton; but that, in order to sustain local interest in convention work two section meetings be held in the autumn months; one at Streetsville and the other at Caledon East.

7. That a committee be appointed to assist the Inspector in conducting the half-yearly Promotion Examination.

8. That the membership fee of the Association be one dollar to ladies and gentlemen alike; and that the sum of \$1.30 from the funds of the Association be paid towards the subscription of each member to either the *SCHOOL JOURNAL* or the *Educational Weekly*.

From a report of the Education Department of Great Britain, it appears that the result of the Queen's Scholarship Examinations for admission to training colleges and the teaching profession is as follows:—2,197 males presented themselves for examination in England, Wales and Scotland, of whom 393 were placed in the first class, 829 in the second, and 217 in the third, while 758 failed. Of the 3,515 female candidates examined, 714 were placed in the first class, 1,371 in the second, and 318 in the third, while the failures amounted to 1,111. About one-third of both male and female candidates failed to pass the examination.

Of the thirty-two candidates who tried the entrance examination to Fergus High School thirteen were successful. The youngest successful pupil, and the first, second and third of the successful pupils all came from the same school—No. 2, West Garafra.

The first bombshell in the Stratford Town Council occurred over the appointment of a High School trustee. Mr. Idington, for some time past, has had trouble with the Board and teachers, over some imaginary grievance in connection with his son who was attending school, and wrote several letters, dealing with the matter in dispute in full. There was a desire on the part of some that he should be placed upon the Board, where it was thought that he would make things hot for all around, and on Monday night Mr. Butler moved that he be trustee. Mr. Brown and Mr. Steet were put up against him. The vote stood for Brown, 8; for Steet, 9. After these gentlemen were disposed of, the motion for Mr. Idington was put to the meeting, and it carried by a vote of 11 to 2.—*Mitchel Advocate*.

Guelph Business College is meeting with great success under Principal MacCormack and his efficient staff of teachers. The attendance this year at the College is very large.

The teachers of Peel County held their regular semi-annual Convention on 22nd and 23rd January.

The *Orangeville Advertiser* says:—The teacher, the inspector and the trustees of Goderich Public School are having quite a quarrel among themselves, and are ventilating their grievances in the newspapers.

Mrs. J. R. Smith, of Brussels, was elected school trustee on 8th January. Great interest was taken in the election and a large vote polled.

The *Markdale Standard* says:—"There are eighty pupils in Markdale School section, who are liable to be fined for non-attendance at school for 1884.