

a failure on the part of the former census officials to secure complete returns. Of the total number of schools reported, the public schools were 125,059; classical, professional, and technical, 2,545; and others, 14,025. The total number of teachers in the public schools was 183,198; and in the classical, professional, and technical, 12,767. The number of pupils in the latter class was 245,190, and in the public schools, 6,228,069.

PRESCOTT AND RUSSELL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION.—The first regular convention of the Teachers of the U. C., of Prescott and Russell, was held in the High School Room in L'Original on Wednesday the 17th inst. at 5 p.m., Rev. T. Garrett, J. P.S. in the chair, Rev. F. F. McNab, secretary. The convention proceeded forthwith to organize a "Teachers' Association," for the U. C. of P. and R., and elected the following gentlemen and ladies as office bearers for the ensuing year, namely: Rev. F. F. McNab, Principal, L'Original, H.S., President, Mr. A. Agnew, P.H.S., Vankleekhill, Mr. Dorland, P.H.S., Cumberland, and the principals of any other high schools that may be organized during the year in the counties; Vice Presidents; W. J. Summerby, secretary; Rev. A. Brunet, Treasurer, and R. Lee, Librarian; Messrs. Ross, Hay, Derby, and LèFrancois; and Misses Emma Cook, Annie Armstrong, and Agnes Harvey, to be an executive committee. Subsequently the convention was favoured with an address from the president, (Rev. F. F. McNab,) then followed an essay, by Mr. Ross, on "The best method of teaching arithmetic," by Mr. Lee, on "School Teaching," and one by Mr. Summerby, entitled "Practical hints," to teachers on the various kinds of Education and the means of imparting knowledge—organization and discipline in schools, power of Teacher's example, &c. The essays, which were pleasantly criticised by the Inspectors and others, and translated into French by Rev. A. Brunet, were most appropriate and instructive, and seemed to please the large audience assembled on the occasion. An address was also delivered by T. O. Steele, J. P.S.; after which an essay on "History," was read by Miss Hyde, who was received with great applause as the pioneer of the Lady Teachers. Then followed a recitation in good style by Mr. Lee; an address by the Rev. Thomas Garrett, J. P.S., and the closing address of the President, after which "God save the Queen" was sung, and the assembly dispersed, highly delighted with the evening's entertainment. The association has opened under promising auspices, and I trust that every Teacher in the United Counties, and also every other friend of Educational improvement, will at once put his or her shoulder to the wheel, and urge on the good cause. The next convention of the association will be held during the time of the Teachers' examination, and I trust that there will be a very large attendance of the Teachers of the United Counties.—*Communicated*, T O. S.

VII. Departmental Notices.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS' COUNTY EXAMINATIONS.

In accordance with a general wish as expressed last year and concurred in by the Council of Public Instruction, an examination of Candidates for Public School Teachers' SECOND and THIRD-CLASS CERTIFICATES will be held (D.V.) in each county town of Ontario, commencing on MONDAY, 16th DECEMBER, at 2 P.M.

The examination of Candidates for FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATES will be held at the same place, commencing on THURSDAY, 26th DECEMBER, at 9 A.M.

Candidates must notify the County or City Inspector (as the case may be) NOT LATER THAN THE 20th OF NOVEMBER, of their intention to present themselves for examination; and the Inspector will inform the Department NOT LATER THAN THE 25th OF NOVEMBER, of the number of Candidates for admission, as the Examination Papers cannot be printed until this information shall have been received from every one of the Inspectors. An omission of one Inspector in this matter, beyond the time specified, may delay the printing and despatch to the Inspectors, of the Examination Papers.

The Examination Papers will be sent to the presiding Public School Inspector (who will be responsible for the conduct of

each examination according to the regulations). The presiding Inspector will, immediately after the meeting of the Board of Examiners, at the close of the examinations, and not later than the 10th of January, transmit to the Department the report of the Board of Examiners, and also the whole of the answers of the candidates. The surplus Examination Papers are also to be returned for binding.

The Normal School Students will be examined in their respective counties, with the other candidates.

TIME OF HOLDING TEACHERS' EXAMINATIONS.

In reply to questions as to the time of holding the Teachers' County Examinations, we desire to say that they will be held this year about the same time as they were last year. In 1870 they were held in January, but as this time was found to be inconvenient, it was changed in deference to the wishes of the Provincial Association of Teachers, which adopted a resolution to that effect last year, on motion of the Inspector of Kent. The request was a respectful one, and was complied with by the Department with pleasure. The Inspector of Durham, in referring to the change, says: it "was a wise one; as, by the change, schools were enabled to get into working order at the proper time, and rejected candidates could be advised of their failure in time to enter the Normal School if they wished to do so."

TEACHERS' ABSENCE AT EXAMINATIONS.

Several Teachers are asked, whether in attending the County Examinations they shall receive their salaries as usual, and that the time lost by them shall be made good to them by the Trustees and schools in which they teach. We reply, that all attendance at examination is a private matter with the teacher, and is for his own personal advantage and advancement in his profession. The lawyer, physician, and other professional men, have to go to the expense, trouble and loss of time to acquire proficiency in his profession; and even many young men teaching schools, with a praiseworthy ambition, leave for a time to attend university examinations, who never ask, as a right, that the Trustees and schools shall bear the pecuniary loss entailed by their absence. Besides, many teachers come to the schools fully qualified (at their own expense) for the discharge of their important duties. Of course, if the Trustees, to show their appreciation of the labours of the teacher or to mark the esteem in which they are held, choose to allow the teacher his full time when absent, they have full power and should be encouraged to do so; but in no case can teachers demand as a right what can only be regarded in the light of a personal favour.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATES, RESPECTING THE EXAMINATION IN THE SUBJECT OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

Candidates, for *second class certificates*, will be examined in statics, hydrostatics and pneumatics. They are referred to "Peck's Ganot," but it is recommended that on the subject of *statics*, that part of "Tomlinson's Rudimentary Mechanics," which relates to the mechanical powers, be also consulted.

As the examination will be on the subject generally, those who have already provided themselves with Dr. Sangster's work, will find the necessary information in it.

Candidates, for *first class certificates*, will be examined in statics, dynamics, pneumatics, hydrostatics and hydrodynamics. They are recommended to consult, besides "Tomlinson's Rudimentary Mechanics," the "Manual of Mechanics," by Rev. Samuel Haughton, M.D.

NOTE.—The highest standard in all subjects will be maintained for first class certificates.

Candidates are strongly advised to procure copies of the examination papers used at previous examinations, as they will be of material assistance in indicating the kind of examination they will be required to undergo. Bound copies may be procured at the Depository at 60 cents per set, free of postage, or 50 cents exclusive of first class papers.