

and on the part of the teacher there must always be truthfulness, promptness, candor, kindness, and self-control.

Mr. McCabe was introduced, and after expressing the pleasure he felt in meeting the teachers of Stormont, proceeded to give a lecture on "Mental Culture." This lecture which was full of educational matter of profound interest was closely followed throughout and warmly appreciated by those who were favored to hear it.

Mr. Keating followed with a paper on "Our Profession." He urged upon the teachers the necessity of placing a higher estimation on their professional labors. He reminded them of the responsibility involved in their particular calling, and said the teacher's aim should be to educate; his object not so much to furnish knowledge, as the means of procuring it.

In the evening Mr. McCabe lectured in the assembly room of the public school building. Subject, "Our Educational System: What Good is it doing? What Harm?" Mr. McNaughton occupied the chair. A large and intelligent audience were delighted and profited by the thoughts presented to them in the course of the evening.

Judge Carman highly complimented Mr. McCabe on his lecture, especially that part of it referring to the dignity of labor. He moved a vote of thanks, which was seconded by Mayor Leitch, who expressed his warm appreciation of the lecture to which he had listened and his sympathy with the work of the teacher.

On the morning of the second day Mr. Bisset illustrated the method of teaching drawing. He referred to the usefulness of the art in manufactures, architecture, etc. He explained the different kinds of lines, figures, etc., showed how to form many designs from a square and gave a dictation exercise on the subject.

Mr. Johnston, instead of his address on elocution, treated the convention to a humorous reading most effectively rendered and loudly applauded. Another lecture from Mr. McCabe on "English Language and English Literature in Schools," furnished the teachers with many practical hints as to the best method of presenting this subject to their pupils.

The question drawer containing some important queries was then disposed of in a satisfactory manner.

Mr. McEwen illustrated his method of teaching simple and compound subtraction in a very clear and concise manner.

Mr. A. E. Relyea gave an eloquent and elaborate address on "Canada, its Position and Prospects."

Officers elected for the ensuing year: A. McNaughton, P.S.I., President; Miss Martin, Vice-President; Geo. Bigelow, Sec.-Treas.; Managing Committee: Messrs. Keating, Baker, Cook and Misses Carpenter and Helmer.

The especial thanks of the association were tendered Mr. McCabe, also to all others who had assisted in the work. It was decided to hold the next meeting in Cornwall. — G. B.

SIR E. G. GUINNESS has given £2,500 towards the establishment of technical schools in Dublin.

THE Belleville High School gave an entertainment recently in aid of the sufferers from the flood.

THE election of school trustees is to be held in Toronto henceforth by ballot, and to take place on the same day as election of aldermen.

SMITH'S FALLS High School is prospering. The attendance has increased from 20 or 25 scholars to 76, and in a few days a third teacher will be added.

MR. MUNIELLA lately said, there would be a greater change in educational matters in the next few years than there had been in the past fifteen years; and one feature would be greater power and freedom in local centres, instead of so much being done in London.

ON the 6th of March the teachers of Aldborough meet in Rodney. The following programme will be taken up: "Public School Literature," "First Steps in Reading," "First Steps in Number," "Language and Composition in the Junior Classes in Public Schools," and "Friday Afternoon Exercises."

THE people living near the four corners of S.S. No. 4 and 5 Pilkington, and 3 and 4 in Nichol are agitating a union school, and are petitioning the people for that purpose, to submit to the inspector. Those opposed to it are taking the same steps. It is uncertain yet how the matter may be settled. — *Fergus News-Record*.

PAUL GUSTAVE DORÉ's celebrated illustrations from Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner," together with views from London, Paris, India, etc., were presented by the oxy-hydrogen light in the town hall, Galt, on Feb. 26th. The proceeds went towards establishing a reading room in the collegiate institute for the use of the pupils.

THE first half of the college year has passed away and the half-yearly examinations are now over. The examination epidemic was severer this year than usual, but some of the boys are convalescent, and others are in a fair way for recovering. The second half-year's work begins with bright prospects. The gentlemen's building is full, and the attendance in the ladies' building is quite up to the average. The commercial department, under the management of Professors Warrenner and Burnham, is well attended. — *Woodstock Sentinel Review*.

A CONFERENCE took place last week in the Parliamentary library between committees representing the Senate of the University of Toronto and the Education Department, with a view to bringing about harmonious action respecting local examinations. For the university there were present: Vice-Chancellor Mulock, Dr. Daniel Wilson, Prof. Loudon, Principal Caven, Rev. N. Wolverton, Principal Sheraton, Prof. Galbraith, Messrs. W. Houston and Alfred Baker; and for the Department: Hon. G. W. Ross and Prof. Young, chairman of the Central Committee of Education. A profitable discussion took place and a scheme was agreed upon which was submitted to the University Senate for consideration.

PLANS are being matured and money collected to add a building 60x50 feet, four stories high, well finished and furnished, to the Woodstock College; to thoroughly renovate and re-model the present buildings; to add largely to the philosophical and chemical apparatus and to the library, and to complete the work of re-furnishing. It is expected that the work will be begun early in the

spring and pushed on to completion. When these improvements are completed there will be accommodation for sixty women, and one hundred and twenty men, boarders, besides day pupils, and large and thoroughly furnished class-rooms laboratories, reading-rooms, libraries and society and chapel rooms.

THE Farmersville correspondent of the *Recorder* says:—"An estimable young lady school teacher whose field of labor for the last year was about five miles from Farmersville, upon trying to make an engagement for another year was asked by the trustees to positively agree to three things, not generally found in school teachers' agreements. 1st, She must not be seen skating on the Farmersville rink or any other public rink. If she must skate, to go off quietly on some flooded flat and indulge in the questionable pastime in the presence of females only. 2nd, She must not go with many young fellows during the year (just how many is not stated). 3rd, She must not dance. The saved army has been working in the neighborhood. The young lady has been engaged in another section."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Daily News* writing from Paris says:—"To-day I received a visit from the Director-General of Public Instruction in France. In the course of conversation with me he gave me some information about his department which he thinks justifies him in considering that his country has made serious progress under the Republic. Each year the corps of well trained teachers increases. Under M. Ferry a great deal was done to endow France, not only with village school-houses, but with schoolmasters and school-mistresses, and particularly with the latter. I was told that it is intended gradually to confide the education of all children, boys and girls in the primary schools and junior lycées to women. Many experiments have been made to test the merits of this scheme, and they have all been successful. The children under exclusively feminine direction were better instructed, neater, and more obliging and sociable, than those under male preceptors. Another very unexpected fact was told me. About eighteen months ago M. Buisson, the Director-General of Primary Instruction, addressed a circular to the communal schoolmasters, directing them to try and ascertain what class of literature was in most favor among their pupils, and their adult relatives. I guessed novels, like those of old Dumas and Jules Verne, but was wrong. The peasants prefer poetry to everything else. The favorite of favorites is La Fontaine all over France. Great store is set on Victor Hugo's short poems, and on those of Manuel and Coppée on subjects taken from working-class life. Manuel's father was a doctor who practised in a poor and thickly populated quarter of Paris, and used, when he was at home, to tell his wife, in the presence of his children, about the scenes of distress he daily witnessed. It was in this way that his son became so much in sympathy with the poor, and so thoroughly acquainted with their trials. Lamartine is not much appreciated by the inhabitants of farms and hamlets, but Nadaud's chansons are constantly found on their bookshelves. Neat, easy, clever, unpretentious poetry, with a touch of realism and more than a touch of some kind of sentiment, is what the schoolmasters found pleased best."