

Miss Barber, Dufferin; Mr. W. Eccles, Ossowo; Mr. F. A. Schultz, Millford, Mr. Alexander Acheson, St. James, Mr. A. H. Monkman, North High Bluff. The first paper was one by Mr. Byington, on "The Teacher Out of School," in which he was advised to cultivate gentlemanly deportment, associate with both pupils and parents, prepare carefully for his classes, and keep himself thoroughly abreast of the intellectual progress of the day. After a discussion, in which Messrs. Acheson, McIntyre, Garrott, Fawcett, Hewitt, Somerset, and the President took part, and the transaction of routine business, the President delivered his address. He adverted, at the outset, to his recent creation of a collegiate department in the Province in connection with public school work. One secondary school has been commenced in Winnipeg, and another was contemplated in Portage. In Brandon where, a year ago, there was no school at all, there are now from 250 to 300 scholars in attendance, and a collegiate institute is talked of. It had been considered expedient to establish also a normal department, in order that they might train their own teachers, such a department is now in operation. He commended Messrs. Fawcett and Byington, the principals of these departments, to the association, and believed their appointments would be justified by their success. He paid a high tribute to the late Dr. Ryerson, and the system he founded in Ontario, but believed they would yet have an equally good system at less expense in Manitoba. A committee was formed to frame a scheme for the formation of local associations, to be worked in connection with the provincial association, Mr. Somerset being named the convener. A paper on Music by Mr. Hunt was illustrated by class recitals, consisting of calisthenic songs and sight reading of the tonic sol fa notation, of which Mr. Hunt is a warm advocate. Remarks in its favor were subsequently made by Messrs. Hewitt and Somerset, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hewitt and his class, on the motion of Mr. Byington. The first item on the second day's programme was a normal class exercise by Miss Inglis, who illustrated the phonic method of teaching reading. This led to an interesting discussion on the teaching of reading and spelling, in which Messrs. Fawcett, Garratt, Somerset, Byington, Hewitt, McIntyre, Blakeley, Eaton, Bamford, Reid, and the President took part. Mr. Garratt next read a paper on drawing, in which he recommended strongly the practice of designing instead of mere copying. This was followed by a paper from Mr. Somerset, on "The Necessity of Normal Instruction," in which, after speaking of the power of the teacher over the characters of his pupils, he dwelt upon the extent to which during the past few years new and improved methods had superseded old and clumsy ones. He referred to the extent to which normal facilities were supplied in New York and Ontario, as compared with the small number of teachers with a normal training, and accounted for the disparity by the shortsightedness of the people, who were unwilling to pay liberally enough for the services of good teachers. He hoped to see the day when every teacher, before getting a license, would be compelled to undergo a professional training. Discussions on the papers by Messrs. Garratt and Somerset then took place, after which Mr. T. A. Bernier, Superintendent of Roman Catholic schools, at the request of the President, briefly addressed the convention, and announced his intention to have a similar one organized for the mutual improvement of his own teachers. Mr. Lindsey, of the Winnipeg Business College, read a paper on "Penmanship," in the course of which he gave a sketch of the history of the art, and of the instruments used in writing, from the ancient reed to the modern pen. His analysis of script characters into their elements was illustrated by the use of the blackboard. He deprecated sticking too closely to stereotyped headlines, and advised teachers to restrain scholars from eccentricity and flourishing. After some time spent in discussing the programme of studies, it was adopted for rural schools, the President having acknowledged his obligations in the framing of it to Mr. Somerset and his predecessor in the city inspectorate. With Professor Bryce, of the Manitoba College, in the chair, votes of thanks were passed to the President, and to those who had prepared papers for the convention. A motion of appreciation of Mr. Eaton's little work on English grammar was also carried, after which the convention adjourned.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

The Teachers' Association of District No. 5 (Counties of Hants and Kings) held its third annual meeting in Wolfville, on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of October. The first business of the association was the election of officers for the ensuing year, the following being chosen: A. J. Denton, Principal of the Kentville Academy, Vice-president. J. F. Godfrey, Principal of Hants County Academy,

Secretary-Treasurer; and Mr. Pineo, Mr. Craig, Misses McKeen and Calhoun, Executive Committee. After some preliminary work Miss McKeen of Wolfville school gave an illustrated lesson on "Color and Form." This lesson clearly proved that the mind of the child can be made to grasp quite difficult points and retain them when presented in a proper way. Miss Blackadar followed with a paper well written and very practical subject, the "Teachers' Stipend." This called forth considerable discussion, in which Dr. Allison, superintendent of education, Mr. Roscoe, inspector of district No. 5, Mr. Denton, and others took part. Through the kindness of the authorities of Acadia College the Academy Hall was opened to the association for its afternoon session. Accordingly quite a large number of teachers and others were present. At the second session of the association Mr. Sedfield read the first paper on the subject of "Text-Books, their use and abuse." This was a paper of great interest and brought out an animated discussion. Dr. Hall of the normal school being present made a few remarks on the "Text-Books of History." Mr. Elliott then followed with a paper on the "Study of Geometry." He advanced some ideas concerning the study of that science, which, if followed out, would greatly increase the interest in it. His paper was spoken to by Mr. Coldwell, Professor of Science in Acadia college, and warmly endorsed by Dr. Higgins, Professor of Mathematics. The association adjourned for the purpose of visiting the museum and library of Acadia college kindly opened for inspection. At 8 p.m. a public educational meeting was held in the college hall. The president of the association was in the chair. Dr. Allison was the first speaker. He spoke of existing misconceptions concerning the work of the teacher, concerning the moral influence of our schools, concerning the effects of our present system of education. He contended that the public did not view the educational work in the same way nor test it by the same standards as they apply to ecclesiastical and political organisations. Dr. Sawyer, president of Acadia college, was the second speaker. He gave an encouraging address to the teachers, aiming to make them more contented and more earnest in the work in which they were engaged. He said the teacher was one of a vast army seeking to promote the moral, physical, and intellectual growth of the world. He proved clearly that the difference between the workman at his work and the professional man engaged at his profession depended on the fact, that the latter held a vastly more responsible position than the former, and this great responsibility gave dignity to the profession. He compared the teacher to the artist who labors energetically and untringly to make himself master of certain principles, not for the principles' sake, but for what may be gained from their use. Dr. Higgins then followed with a short address, in which he compared the status of education of the present day with that of thirty-five years ago. He thought vast progress had been made and gave some very conclusive and amusing facts to substantiate his statement. If, he said, we do not all hold the same views with regard to the political course adopted by Sir Charles Tupper, we at least agree that by the introduction of the present school law he conferred an inestimable boon on Nova Scotia. He thought teachers should study more the character of their pupils and all must not be treated in the same way. He was pleased to hear (as he had heard that afternoon) teachers discussing how, and when, and where to present certain subjects to their pupils. It is only when a fact has the power of promoting mental growth that it is worth presenting, and this fact the teacher should constantly keep in mind. Dr. Hall of the normal school was the last speaker of the evening. After some remarks concerning the normal school the Dr. said the aesthetic side of education was too much neglected. The surroundings of school houses were not beautified or adorned as they should be, neither was sufficient care taken with the interior of those buildings in which the child is to be educated. Much education is obtained through the perceptive faculties, and as our great aim at the present day is more refinement among not only our men but our women, he contended that the surroundings of the school-house, the building itself—both inside and out—should be made attractive. He hoped ere long to see this matter more particularly attended to. Friday morning was occupied in listening to a very amusing paper by Mr. Bishop on the "Professional Relations of Teachers." Miss Parsons of the Wolfville school then read a carefully prepared paper on the "Method of Teaching Reading." Dr. Hall contended that reading was not as important a branch of education as many considered it. Mr. Parker of the Canning school followed with an address to the association, in which he strongly urged every teacher to devote more time to study, to attend some college, and by no means fail to spend a term at the normal school. Mr. Denton fol-