

Teachers' Associations.

PETERBORO'. Extract from minutes, Teachers' Association, Peterboro', held in Peterboro' on 12th ult.: "Moved by Dr. Tasse, seconded by Mr. Rooney, that the thanks of the teachers of the Town and County of Peterboro' are due and hereby given to the Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, for the judgment shown in the selection of Scripture Lessons to be used in the High and Public Schools of the County, and that a copy of this resolution be sent for publication to the *Mail, Globe*, and to the various educational journals of the Province."—Carried. (A true copy.)—K. MARK, Sec. Teachers' Association, Peterboro'.

LENNOX AND ADDINGTON.—Held in the Model School building Napanee, February, 18 and 19, and although the roads were much blocked by snowdrifts, there was a large attendance. After the minutes of the last meeting were read, Inspector Burrows addressed the Association on the subject of the "Teachers' Reading Circle." Mr. Burrows then introduced the subject of promotion examination. After a short discussion by Messrs. Rose, Lyman, Rice, Suderson, Black and the President, it was decided that the system of uniform promotions to the fourth class should be continued, that some knowledge of vulgar fractions should be imparted before promotion to the fourth class, that only the first half of the third book should be prescribed for the promotion examination to be held in July next, and that all the teachers whose schools are grouped together should be present at the reading of the papers. At 2 o'clock p.m. the President again took the chair, and 120 teachers answered to their names at roll call. Dr. Baptie, Science Master of the Ottawa Normal School, was introduced, and gave a very interesting lecture on "Chemistry in the Kitchen," showing how any teacher, by means of simple apparatus, obtainable without cost, in any school section—and a few substances, such as vinegar, soda, etc., which may be brought to the school by the children themselves—can perform many interesting experiments. A few remarks were made by Messrs. Burrows, Fessenden, Hicks, and Bowerman, expressive of the satisfaction given by the lecture, and urging the teachers present to repeat some of the experiments in their own schools. J. G. Hodgins, LL. D., Deputy Minister of Education, next addressed the teachers, congratulating them on the progress made on educational matters since his visit ten years ago. The Association then adjourned at 5 p.m. to meet at the town hall in the evening. At 8 p.m., Mayor Wilson was called to the chair, and called upon Misses Nettie Empey and Mabel Herring, who gave an instrumental duet. A. Ruttan, Esq., M.D., was then introduced, and read a carefully prepared paper on "Temperance in Schools." Miss Mabel Aylsworth gave as a recitation "The pride of Battery B," which was deservedly applauded, and the Misses Leslie in a finely executed duet, added to their already high reputation as skilful musicians. Dr. Baptie delivered a carefully prepared lecture on "Man and Nature," in which he referred to the influence of climatic and local surroundings, on the character of nations and individuals and said that modifications of the conditions of existence will produce corresponding modifications of character. The lecture was written in choice language and was full of good points and food for thought. At 9 a.m. on Friday the President called on Mr. Lyman, who read a paper on the teaching of language lessons, giving in detail the method adopted by himself. Mr. Burrows supplemented his remarks and recommended teachers to use (for themselves, not for a text book to be placed in the hands of the pupils, a book edited by Principal McCabe of the Ottawa Normal School. Dr. Ward then addressed the teachers on "School Hygiene," confining his remarks to the course they should pursue in case of diphtheria, scarlet fever, whooping cough and other contagious diseases. After intermission Mr. Martyn took up the subject of drawing. He called attention to its utility in developing the powers of observation, quickness of perception and skill in execution. Officers for ensuing year, President, A. Martyn; Vice-President, Miss Belliss; Secretary, W. J. Black; Treasurer, C. Fessenden M.A.; Committee of Management, J. M. Lyman, R. R. Lennox, Miss Fraser, Miss M. Smith, and Miss Conner. Inspector Burrows was made Honorary President, and by resolution, all ex-presidents shall be ex-officio members of committee of management. Mr. Bowerman took up the subject of "Inaccrainers in Canadian Geography." Owing to the shortness of the time at his disposal, Mr. Bowerman confined his remarks to local subjects, and mentioned the inconvenience, resulting from the misunderstanding of the peculiar name of the county which by outsiders is considered to be a union of two counties in the same sense as Northumberland and Durham, instead of one single county named "Lennox and Addington." Dr. Baptie then gave his lecture on "Heating, Lighting, and Ventilation of School Rooms." The report of Committee on the Teachers' Reading Circle was read as follows: "It is highly desirable that the course of reading presented by the Minister of Education should, as far as possible, be carried on by each teacher, and your committee would recommend that all persons desiring to take up the course in full or in part should hand their names to the secretary,

stating which books of the course they desired to read, and that the secretary try to procure such books for them at a reduced rate. The report was adopted. Cortez Fessenden, M.A., then gave some very interesting electrical experiments, illustrating the construction and principles of the telegraph, telephone, etc., and showed how it was possible for electricians to locate a break in a submarine cable. The auditors' report for 1885-6 was then read, showing as receipts since last audit \$98.15, and disbursements \$47.90, leaving a balance on hand of \$50.25.

Literary Reviews.

ERAPIDES BACCANTES. Based on the text of Wecklein (Leipzig, 1879). Edited by J. T. Beckwith, Ph. D., Professor in Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., U. S. Boston: Ginn & Co.

The addition of this book to the excellent series already issued by Messrs. Ginn & Co. cannot but be hailed with delight by all lovers of classic literature. The purport of the author is to make more accessible a play, which, though one of the most brilliant of the Attic drama, has been but little read. In the Introduction is given in excellent literary form, the aim of the play, the myth upon which it is based and a sketch of the plot. The grammatical notes which are on the same page with the text will be found to contain all that is necessary to assist the student in construing the difficulties of the text, while the Synopsis and Literary Analysis of the difficult passages will enable him to understand the meaning and perceive the beauties of the drama as a whole. At the end of the text are found the principal metres in the lyrical parts, and an Appendix containing the various readings.

STUDIES IN GREEK THOUGHT. By the late Lewis R. Packard, Hillhouse Professor of Greek in Yale College. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1885. p.p. 192.

We have here seven of the late Prof. Packard's best essays: (1) Religion and Morality of the Greeks; (2) Plato's Arguments for the Immortality of the Soul; (3) Plato's System of Education; (4) The Oedipus Rex of Sophocles; (5) The Antigone of Sophocles; (6) The Oedipus at Colonus of Sophocles; (7) The Beginning of a Written Literature among the Greeks. The essays are all brilliant and valuable. It would be impossible in a paragraph to do even scant justice to their lamented author. The first and second essays are of universal interest in these days of ethical criticism. The third essay presents to our view an ideal system of education as proposed by the most learned of the Greeks. The fourth, fifth and sixth essays are running summaries of the plays with which they respectively deal. The last essay is a neat contribution to the discussion of one of the most difficult questions of literary history—when did the Greeks first have a written literature? This collection of attractive essays should find its way into the library of every classical scholar, and there is much in it to satisfy even the popular taste.

THE LEADING FACTS OF ENGLISH HISTORY. By D. H. Montgomery. Boston: Ginn & Co. p.p. 254, \$1.12.

The author styles the present work "an attempt to present materials, gathered during several years' residence in England, in a manner that shall illustrate the great law of national growth." He traces, in language well chosen and easily understood by the general reader, the gradual rise of the English nation, and the development of the political and constitutional history of the country. Details of birth and descent of royal nobodies are omitted, and only those facts are dwelt upon that are important by reason of their bearing upon the life, liberty and advancement of the nation. The writer is particularly happy in discriminating and in summing up in a few terse sentences, sometimes in a single sentence, the character of a ruler, or of his reign. His style is concise, his language vigorous, but not wholly free from an occasional blemish in composition. His quotations are numerous, but short and judiciously chosen. An American, and writing for Americans, he could hardly be expected free from bias upon points where English and American interests have clashed, and his remarks upon the war of 1812 will not be considered ingenious by Canadian readers, at any rate. The literature of the country and its intimate relation to the advancement of a nation is scarcely touched upon, probably as being considered too abstruse for the scope of the book. Nevertheless, the work is a most readable and instructive one, and, with slight revision, might advantageously be placed in our public schools; pupils would certainly gain an intelligent idea of what is most worth knowing in English history.

THE COMMERCIAL AND STATISTICAL ATLAS OF THE WORLD. Canada Publishing Company (Limited), Toronto.

This excellent Atlas comprises 53 principal maps and a Statistical Table of the Nations of the Earth, with Explanations. It possesses many new and valuable features, of which the leading are: (1) Modern delineation, neatly and clearly shown; (2) clear, readable type in the names; (3) railway systems, wherever in use, correctly marked; (4) sectional maps of the United States—particularly useful in a map of a bordering country; (5) provinces or counties shown in countries hitherto not so divided in general atlases, namely, Japan, Egypt, Abyssinia, The Soudan, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and New Zealand; (6) a Commercial Chart of the World, showing the principal trade routes, by ship or caravan, submarine cables, etc., as used at the present time.

For ordinary school purposes the maps in the geographies are perhaps sufficient, although names are frequently given in the text which do not appear in the accompanying maps. A reference book for school, family, or library, is therefore needed, and we commend this Atlas, which seems, so far as we have examined it, first-class in every respect. It is strongly bound in cloth, gilt lettered, and the price is \$2.50.