

To refer with only a passing remark to all the speakers who addressed the convention, would carry this article much beyond the limits assigned to it. We must content ourselves with mentioning the names of Mrs. Parker, Miss Magee, Sir Leonard Tilley, Judge King, Mr. Ferguson, Dr. Allison, M. Vitrain, and Prof. Ray Greene Huling, to whom the convention was greatly indebted for able and suggestive papers or speeches, interesting and instructive. But there was one characteristic of these meetings which we would not willingly overlook, the presence of all the Presidents, save one, of the colleges in the Atlantic Provinces, and the fact that one of the evenings was devoted to the discussion of the university in relation to the industrial and social interests of the community. The liberal spirit that pervaded the speeches of that evening, and the prevailing desire to effect a closer union between the general education of the country and the universities, must have been cheering to educational reformers. And while the members of the convention met in sections on Thursday forenoon, the college presidents and professors held an informal meeting and discussed matters of mutual interest. So pleasant and profitable was the conference that they determined to meet annually. This, of itself, we consider one of the most important of the immediate results of the convention.

This wonderful gathering is now dispersed, and most of the teachers have again entered upon their duties. We trust that their work will now have greater attraction for them, that they will pursue it with greater zeal and self denial; that they will have become more impressed with the dignity and honor of their calling, and determine to put forth every endeavor to make themselves worthy of it. With Judge King we hold that the most valuable residuum that will be left of the convention will be its salutary influence upon the heart and life of the teacher.

JACQUES CARTIER'S FIRST VOYAGE.

In the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada for 1887, recently published, appears a paper under the above title, by Mr. W. F. Ganong, A. M., of Harvard University. There has always been much uncertainty as to Cartier's course in his first voyage to Canada in 1534, and as he was the first explorer of the Gulf of St. Lawrence who has left us any account of his discoveries, historians have considered it of much importance that his exact course should be traced and the identity established of the places he visited and described. This has not hitherto been done except for small portions of the course, and it

has remained for a New Brunswick student to present to a Canadian society a clear and consistent account of the voyage from beginning to end.

There are known four accounts of the voyage—one in Italian, one in English and two in French. One of the latter is a reprint of a recently discovered manuscript, supposed to be the original account written by Cartier's own hand. It was by the use of the English and two French editions and their comparison step by step, together with old maps and charts, that the voyage was worked out.

Cartier, with two ships and one hundred and twenty-two men, set out from St. Malo, April 20th, 1534, to seek a passage to Asia by way of the north-eastern coast of America. After a prosperous voyage he reached Newfoundland on May 10th. Coasting to the northward, he entered the Strait of Belleisle and followed the coast of Labrador as far as the present Shecatika Bay and Cumberland Harbor, giving names, a few of which still survive, to all places visited. Finding the land so barren and rocky that it "seemed like the land allotted to Cain," he retraced his course as far as the port of Brest (at present Old Fort Bay), and thence crossed to Newfoundland. The first land sighted on the island was the present Highlands of St. John, to the north of Point Rich. Thence he coasted southward, visiting and naming nearly all of the bays, harbours and capes as far as Cape Anguille.

Leaving Cape Anguille, named by him Cape St. John (because he sighted it on St. John's day), he visited Bird Islands and then Brion Island, to which he gave the name by which it is still known. Mr. Ganong's paper traces minutely each step of Cartier's course up to this point, and it has been done in a general way by different historians, but from this point on, until he enters the Bay Chaleur, the interpretation is different from any other.

From Brion Island he went to the largest of the Magdalen Islands and coasted along its western coast to its southern extremity. He named a cape on the present Entry Island, Cape St. Peter, and the present Deadman's Island, Allezay. Thence he sailed to the westward, forty leagues, when he saw land which appeared to him to be two islands. The next day he saw that it was really not two islands, but "firm land lying S. S. E. and N. N. W.," approaching which he entered a beautiful but very shallow river which he named "The River of Boats."

Curiously enough, all writers have considered this coast to be that of New Brunswick, and the River of Boats to be either the Miramichi or some river to the south of it. But such an interpretation is entirely inconsistent with the facts given in the narrative.