

schools be relaxed, so as to allow of pupils over the age of fourteen years, in exceptional cases, to take up a course of studies suitable to their circumstances, the decision in such cases to be left with the Trustees in such school sections.

2. That rural school sections be not required to provide accommodation for all the children of school age in the section, but for the largest attendance in any one month during the previous year.

3. That Trustees be empowered to engage monitors in separate departments, instead of assistant teachers, when the average attendance exceeds forty and is under sixty.

4. That the standard of Third-class Certificates be uniform, and that candidates applying for Second-class and failing, may be awarded Third-class Certificates for an additional three years, provided that said candidates obtain a number of marks equivalent to Third-class Certificates.

5. That a Committee present the above resolutions to the Hon. A. Crooks, Minister of Education, at Milton, on the 28th inst.

JOHN RAMSAY,
Chairman.

10. HURON TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Huron Teachers' Association was held in Clinton. The following particulars relating to the meeting, we condense from the report of the *Signal*. There were about 120 teachers present, and the meeting was a most interesting and instructive one. Mr. A. Dewar, Inspector, occupied the chair, and delivered the opening address. Mr. S. Martin, of Osborne, read an essay on music in schools. Mr. K. Orr, of Clinton, delivered an address on mathematics and physical geography, and Mr. H. I. Strong, of Goderich, gave an interesting report of the meeting of the Provincial Teachers' Association. Professor D. C. Bell, of Brantford, the elocutionist, gave an able address on "The Art of Reading," in the town hall, to a large audience. Mr. J. Turnbull, Clinton, gave a clear and interesting address upon Algebra, giving examples of his mode of instructing the primary classes in that branch. Mr. S. Hicks, of Tuckersmith, gave an interesting sketch of his visit to the Centennial, and what he saw there. Mr. J. R. Miller, Inspector, gave an account of his recent trip to the old country. Speaking of the educational system there, Mr. Miller said that he had heard that it was a grand old system, by which one teacher could teach three hundred scholars, but he could not agree with that statement. In one school he found six teachers attending to their classes in the one room, which every teacher must know would prove a very annoying situation. Writing, he found, was much in advance of what was attained in Canada; enunciation was more perfect; and singing was good. In Scotland the scholars wore their hats and bonnets in school, giving the rooms a strange appearance to Canadians. This was allowed because the scholars moved frequently from one room to another, and the teachers say it is more convenient to permit the scholars to wear their "head gear" continually. Mr. Miller visited one school in London where 1,600 scholars were being taught, and a board, consisting of 43 members, presided over this school. Principal teachers were better paid than here, but assistants were not so well remunerated, but their salaries increased with their experience. The system of grading salaries was done upon the work performed and promotions made and not upon the attendance as here, and the consequence was that cramming occurred to an injurious extent. He returned to his home with a greater love for Canada than ever, and with a greater admiration of our school system. After passing sundry votes of thanks, the meeting adjourned, to meet again in February next.—*Huron Examiner*.

11. PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN THE COUNTY OF BRANT.

(Extract from an address to the Minister of Education—October, 1876.)

In the remarkable progress which has characterized Public and High School education in this Province since 1872, the County of Brant has participated, in evidence of which the following comparative statements may be adduced: In the rural schools of the county, the total amount paid to Teachers was in 1872, \$16,625, in 1875, \$22,791, showing an increase of \$6,166. The value of School property in the county, was increased during the same interval in a still greater ratio. Last year the sum of \$11,046 was expended in new school-houses, and an equal if not a greater sum will be expended this year for the same purpose. In the Town of Brantford, the salaries of Teachers in the Public Schools amounted in 1872, to \$6,514 and in 1876 they reach \$9,372. The value of School property in 1872, was little more than \$25,000—it is now nearly \$40,000. Since 1872 the amount expended for High School accommodation in this Town has been \$13,980, and the amount paid in sa-

laries has risen from \$1,600 to 4,900, and the High School from a third class position, with only two teachers, and an average attendance of 45 pupils, has attained to the rank of Collegiate Institute with an average attendance of 135 pupils, and a staff of five masters.

12. AMELIASBURGH TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

A desire having been long felt by the Inspector and teachers of the county to make the Teachers' Convention of a more interesting and practical nature, the Inspector has suggested the idea of utilizing the "visiting days" allowed to teachers by holding Teachers' Institutes in some central school of each township throughout the county, retaining the scholars for the purpose of exhibiting more practically the instructions given.

The ever progressive staff of energetic Dominees of Ameliasburg resolved to act upon the suggestion, and held their first Institute in Roblin's Mills School, on Friday last. A large number of teachers, male and female, were present, notwithstanding the short notice given, and all took a lively interest in the various subjects taught.

Mr. Jas. Glenn gave his method of teaching spelling and derivation. Mr. Kinney, assisted by Mr. Shannon, taught a junior third class. The sentences were first read as in the book; then words of the same meaning were substituted, when it was again read in a number of different ways with different substitutes and different words emphasized. Spelling orally and in writing were given, but Mr. Shannon ignored entirely the system of oral spelling, which he termed "spelling by jingle." Rewards and punishments for recitations were discussed at some length, the principal incentives used being tickets, cards and position in the class to juniors, the number varying from one to five, with prizes according to merit, honour cards, honour rolls hung up in the school room, position in the class, together with the great and lasting benefits derived from an education, were the chief inducements held out to seniors. It was argued that the prizes were impracticable, as many trustees were opposed to them. Mr. Rothwell said his trustees had granted \$5 for cards and presents. Mr. Glenn thought there were few sections so liberal. Mr. Kinney thought nearly every section could be induced to grant at least five dollars for presents, cards, prizes, &c., if the teachers took the trouble to get the parents and children interested in the matter, and he believed it would be five dollars well invested.

In the afternoon, Mr. Jas. Benson taught a class in arithmetic illustrating in a clear, impressive manner his method of teaching fractions and proportion. Wm. Benson experimented very successfully on some youths who had never learned arithmetic. He would commence with small numbers and gradually work up to large, using marks to ascertain the result at first. Mr. Rothwell followed with a very interesting class in junior grammar. He explained nouns by things, verbs by acts, such as whittling, moving, books, handing a stick, knife, &c.; adverbs, by moving books slowly, quickly, &c.; prepositions by the position of the object, as, over, under, between, &c.; each act being expressed orally or on slates by the pupils and on the black board by the teacher. Mr. Shannon deprecated the black board exercise as being very injurious to the health to swallow so much chalk. Mr. McKibbin gave a very interesting lesson on history, using notes on the lesson containing the leading facts which he wished to impress on his class. Messrs. Rothwell and Kinney would commence at Victoria's reign and reverse the general order pursued. Mr. Rothwell next took up drawing, which, from long experience, he succeeded in making very interesting. Mr. Shannon was entirely in favour of perspective drawing, and utterly ignored the imitative system. The thanks of the Convention were tendered to Mr. McKibbin and his school for the privilege afforded, and the meeting adjourned, to meet again in January.—*New Nation*.

13. EDUCATION SOCIETY OF EASTERN ONTARIO.

The meeting for the organization of this Society was held in the Ottawa Normal School. After welcoming the delegates present, who numbered about 100, Mr. McCabe, as Chairman of the Temporary Committee, introduced the report of that committee.

Mr. Slack, P. S. I. for South Lanark, having been appointed Chairman, and Rev. T. D. Phillips, Secretary, the proposed constitution was considered, and the general articles adopted seriatim, as follows:—

Art. I.—Name.—This Society shall be called "The Education Society of Eastern Ontario."

Art. II.—Members.—Two classes of members shall be recognised in the Society, viz.: "Active members" and "honorary members."

Art. III.—Membership.—All legally qualified members of the profession actually engaged in the work of education shall be eligible for active membership, and upon the payment of an annual fee of 50 cents, and the signing of this constitution, shall become entitled