

were present. Among the prizes given on the occasion was one for the best average work in mathematics, offered for competition by Mr. Geo. S. Carson, Mr. Wilson's predecessor as Principal, now studying at Dalhousie College.

A teacher who has taught for forty years in the same parish, and who retires from his position, and from the profession, with the respect of his scholars, deserves to be publicly mentioned. Such is the case with Mr. Geo. Stewart, who has been employed for fifteen years past at Central Margerville, Sunbury County, and who, on his retirement at the end of last term, received from his scholars a token of respect in the shape of a casket containing several useful articles in silver.

Mr. Oakes, on taking leave of his school at Chatham, was the recipient of an address from his pupils, accompanied with a handsome present, consisting of two silver ornaments for the table.

Not less favored was Miss Mary A. Gifford, of Richibucto, who was presented with an address and an elegant gold chain, the gift of the townspeople, and also a gold ring from her pupils, placed on her finger by one of the number. Miss G. has, we are informed, done faithful service there for many years.

Another recipient of an address and a present from his pupils was Mr. Jas. McIntosh, of Chatham Head, who has removed to the Superior School at Clifton, Gloucester Co. And yet another was Miss Carrie Alexander, of St. Mary's, York Co.

The Provincial Normal School has a full complement of student-teachers the present session, numbering over 150, including five in the French Preparatory Department. That the entrance examinations at this institution are something more than a form is shown by the fact that of 163 candidates examined last month (Nov.), forty failed to come up to the standard and were not admitted. The actual number in attendance is made up of those then admitted and others who were entitled to admission without examination. At the formal opening of the school for the winter session, on Nov. 5th, addresses of a stimulating and instructive character were given by Principal Crockett, Dr. Rand, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, Dr. Jack, of the University, and Hon. Wm. Wedderburn, Provincial Secretary.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

As stated in last month's notes, the Cumberland County Teachers' Association held its first session in Amherst on the 30th and 31st of October. W. L. McKenzie, Esq., the popular and efficient Inspector of Schools for the County, presided over the Association, with Mr. Richey Tuttle, A.B., as Vice-President, and Miss E. G. McNutt as Secretary-Treasurer. The opening address of the President was an energetic and graphic presentation of our educational needs. The speaker maintained a high view of the dignity of the teaching profession. Interesting remarks from A. H. Eaton, A. M., Principal of the Academy, and J. Albert Black, Esq., editor of the *Amherst Gazette*, were elicited by the address of the President. E. J. Torey followed with a paper on Geometry. The paper showed much thought, and was discussed at length by the Association. On Thursday afternoon Miss M. B. McKinnon gave a class lesson in arithmetic of an instructive character. During the session the Rev. Canon Townshend, the Superintendent of Education, the Principal of the Normal School, and other gentlemen were introduced to the Association and addressed it. A notable feature of the Association throughout was the large and continuous attendance of the outside friends of education. Miss Ellen L. Read, a graduate of the Boston School of Oratory, contributed an interesting paper on Elocution. Many important points were presented as worthy of notice by the teachers present. Miss Read gave appropriate and effective illustrations of her theoretical remarks. She received a warm vote of thanks for her contribution to the interest and profit of the Association. Principal Calkin made some useful suggestions growing out of hints contained in Miss Read's paper; and the Rev. Canon Townshend (for nearly 40 years Chairman of the Board of School Commissioners for the District of Cumberland) strongly emphasized the impossibility of reading well, unless the reader fully understands and sympathizes with the subject matter which he is reading. Then followed good papers on Geography and Spelling—the former by Miss A. E. Fitchet, the latter by Mr. W. B. F. Ward. Mr. Ward's views on the proper mode of teaching to spell correctly, which, by the way, were fresh and vigorously put, gave rise to an animated discussion in which much valuable thought was struck out. C. R. Smith, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, and a prominent member of the School Board of the Town of Amherst, the Superintendent of Education, Mr. D. B. McKenzie, Principals Eaton and

Calkin and Mr. E. J. Torey spoke to the question. On Thursday evening a large and intelligent audience gathered in the Music Hall to listen to educational addresses. Inspector McKenzie occupied the chair, and introduced the Superintendent of Education, who spoke for about an hour on the practical questions and pressing problems of the day. He expressed his gratification at finding that in so busy a town as Amherst the subject of Common School education was sufficiently attractive to draw together the influential audience he saw before him. Short and stirring addresses followed from Rev. Canon Townshend, Principal Calkin, and Mr. Eaton—the last named gentleman pronouncing his valedictory to the people of Amherst, as he was about leaving to assume his duties as Professor of Mathematics in the Normal School at Truro. Altogether the meeting was calculated to give an influence to the cause of education in Amherst and vicinity.—On Friday the first exercise was a paper on School Discipline by Miss Julia Phelan, which led to remarks from the Superintendent of Education and Mr. D. B. McKenzie. Then followed an address on Drawing in the Public Schools from Principal Eaton, with an illustrative lesson on the same subject by Miss McNutt. Mr. F. W. Goodwin clearly showed "How to make School Work interesting." The remaining exercises of the Association, which we regret our inability to specify in detail, are reported to have more than sustained its general tone and spirit.

The Convocation marking the beginning of the winter session of Dalhousie College was held in the Legislative Assembly room, Halifax, on the 4th of November. The *Dalhousie Gazette*, after enumerating the prominent gentlemen present on the occasion, states that "around the sides of the building and in the galleries all the beauty, seasoned with much of the learning of the city, looked with interest on the arena." The very Rev. Principal Ross delivered a comprehensive address, replete with information pertinent to the occasion, and particularly detailing encouraging facts in the recent history of the Institution. The formal inaugural oration was pronounced by Prof. Honeyman, of the Faculty of Science. Offhand addresses followed from the Hon. S. Creelman, Commissioner of Public Works, Sir William Young, Chief Justice, His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Archibald, and Dr. McGregor, the newly appointed Professor of Physics, on the "George Munro" foundation.

The number of candidates who received license at the last Annual Examination is as follows: Academic Class (Grade A) 14; First Class (Grade B) 41; Second Class (Grade C) 118; Third Class (Grade D) 132.

Mr. Nicholas Smith has resigned the Principalship of the Morris Street School, Halifax, to succeed Mr. Eaton as Principal of the County Academy, Amherst. Mr. Smith was very successful in his management of the County Academies of Queen's and Shelburne. Amherst is one of the most prosperous of our county towns, and should aim at occupying a corresponding position educationally. Mr. Torey, associated with Mr. Eaton as second teacher, takes charge of the Graded School at Hantsport, Hants Co., and is succeeded by Mr. F. W. Goodwin, prize-man of the Halifax University at the first B. A. examination of 1878. We believe that Amherst both loses and gains thoroughly good teachers.

D. H. Burbidge, A. M., has been appointed Principal of Morris Street School, Halifax, the position rendered vacant by the resignation of Mr. Nicholas Smith. Mr. Ralph Eaton succeeded Mr. Burbidge as second Master.

The forty-first session of the Provincial Normal School at Truro was opened with appropriate ceremonies on the 5th ult. The Principal delivered a formal address; the Superintendent of Education made a short speech of advice and encouragement to the pupil teachers; the new Professors spoke very appropriately in response to calls from the Principal; while a few words from the Mayor and the Rev. Dr. Cruikshanks, of Montreal, added to the interest of the occasion. Seventy students were in attendance—since increased to nearly a hundred.

#### MANITOBA.

The next general examination of teachers commences on Monday, December 29th, not on the second Tuesday in that month, as announced in the programme.

After December 31st, Beatty's Headline Copy Books will be the authorized copy books for the Protestant Public Schools.

During the half year ending July 31st, there were ninety-five schools in operation under the jurisdiction of the Protestant Section of the Board of Education, viz.: sixty English and thirty-five Mennonite schools.