

practicable ; but that we invite the Alumni of all the other colleges to meet with a delegation from this society to discuss the desirability and feasibility of united action in receiving and sustaining the University of Halifax scheme, or any other scheme based on its principles.

This resolution was passed by a vote of 12 to 9, as an amendment to the following resolution :

Resolved, That with it expressing an opinion as to the feasibility or desirability of university consolidation, this Society instructs the President and Council to take such steps as may be necessary to secure the conference prayed for by the Alumni of Acadia, Dalhousie, King and Mount Allison.

We have observed no report of action taken in the matter by the Alumni Association of King's College.

Readings and Recitations.

THE CHILDREN.

The following lines were found in the desk of Charles Dickens after his death :—

When the lessons and tasks are all ended,
And the school for the day is dismissed,
And the little ones gather around me
To bid me "Good night" and be kissed ;
Oh, the little white arms that encircle
My neck in a tender embrace !
Oh, the smiles that are halos of heaven
Shedding sunshine and love on my face !

And when they are gone I sit dreaming
Of my childhood, too lovely to last ;
Of love that my heart will remember
When it wakes to the pulse of the past.
Ere the world and its wickedness made me
A partner of sorrow and sin—
When the glory of God was about me,
And the glory of gladness within.

Oh, my heart grows weak as a woman's,
And the fountain of feelings will flow,
When I think of the paths steep and stony,
Where the feet of the dear ones must go ;
Of the mountains of sin hanging o'er them,
Of the tempests of fate blowing wild ;
Oh, there's nothing on earth half so holy
As the innocent heart of a child.

They are idols of hearts and of households,
They are angels of God in disguise—
His sunlight still sleeps in their tresses,
His glory still beams in their eyes ;
Oh, those truants from earth and from heaven,
They have made me more manly and mild,
And I know now how Jesus could liken
The Kingdom of God to a Child.

Seek not a life for the dear ones
All radiant as others have done,
But that life may have just as much shadow
To temper the glare of the sun ;
I would pray God to guard them from evil,
But my prayer would bound back to myself,
Ah ! a seraph may pray for a sinner,
But a sinner must pray for himself.

The twig is so easily bended,
I have banished the rule and the rod ;
I have taught them the goodness of knowledge,
They have taught me the goodness of God.
My heart is a dungeon of darkness,
When I shut them from breaking a rule,
My frown is sufficient correction,
My love is the law of the school.

I shall leave the old house in the Autumn,
To traverse its threshold no more ;
Ah ! how shall I look for the dear ones
That meet me each morn at the door.
I shall miss the "Good nights" and the kisses
And the gush of their innocent glee,
The group on the green, and the flowers
That are brought every morning to me.

I shall miss them at noon and at even.
Their song in the school and the street ;
I shall miss the low hum of their voices,
And the tramp of their delicate feet.
When the lessons and tasks are all ended,
And death says the school is dismissed,
May the little ones gather around me,
And bid me "Good night" and be kissed !

Teachers' Associations.

The publishers of the JOURNAL will be obliged to Inspectors and Secretaries of Teachers' Associations if they will send for publication programmes of meetings to be held, and brief accounts of meetings held.

EAST KENT.—The teachers of East Kent held their semi-annual meeting in Ridgeway on Friday and Saturday, May 27th and 28th. The President, Mr. Masales, occupied the chair. The meeting was opened by a discussion on the "Half-time system," as applied to the daily work of the school-room. This drew forth expressions from many teachers, and all seemed to regard it as a step in the right direction ; especially so in the case of junior pupils. No resolutions were passed, but it is quite probable it will be introduced at some future meeting when a more decided stand will be taken. An essay on the "Physiology of the Respiratory Organs," by W. H. Carleton, was well received. His essay was well written and showed a complete knowledge of the subject. The ventilation, etc., of the school-room was well treated upon in "Hygiene of the School-room," by E. B. Harrison, I. P. S. J. E. Pickard gave some admirable methods of presenting Grammar to junior pupils. On Saturday, E. B. Harrison, I. P. S., read a departmental communication in regard to the Relief Fund. A warm discussion ensued and the several clauses were voted upon by the Association. The election of officers was postponed until the next meeting of the Association on the first Thursday and Friday in October next.

W. S. McBRAYNE, Secretary.

NORTHUMBERLAND.—The semi-annual meeting of the teachers of this County was held in Colborne on 12th and 13th May. The chair was occupied by the President, D. C. McHenry, M. A., Principal of Cobourg Collegiate Institute. The following subjects were discussed : "Book-keeping," introduced by W. J. Black ; "Spelling," by J. T. Slater ; "Relation of Teachers to Parents," by E. J. Flewelling ; "School Legislation and Regulations," by D. C. McHenry, M. A. ; "Algebra," by W. S. Ellis, B. Sc. ; "Morals and Manners," by G. Dowler ; "Question Drawer," by G. K. Knight, B. A. ; R. K. Orr, B. A., and W. E. Sprague, H. M. Model School. The discussions were vigorous and unusually interesting, and elicited much valuable information. The thorough manner in which the leaders on the various subjects executed their part of the programme was one of the commendable features of the Association, and, we are persuaded, conducted largely to its success. On Friday afternoon the vexatious question of superannuation was brought up. After a somewhat animated discussion the Association decided to take no definite action in the matter until its next meeting in October. A peculiar case of school discipline was then brought before the meeting. A pupil in the township of Haldimand had been detained from school for two days by his parents ; on being sent to the school on the afternoon of the second day to secure the lessons for the day following, he arrived as school was being dismissed, and while in the room committed an offence for which the teacher administered mild corporal punishment. For this he (the teacher) was summoned before a magistrate and fined, on the ground that the boy was *not* a pupil of the school when the offence was committed. A resolution was unanimously adopted by the Association, expressing sympathy for the teacher, and condemning the action of the parent and the decision of the magistrate, and promising aid, if requisite, to appeal the case. Excellent music was furnished by the young people of Colborne.

NORTH YORK.—The semi-annual Convention of this Association was held in the Model School, Newmarket, on the 3rd and 4th ult. The President, Mr. D. Fotheringham, I. P. S., opened the proceedings at 10 a. m. with devotional exercises, after which the minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mr. S. E. Je vett, Secretary-treasurer, and confirmed. Miss McMurchy's 2nd class being present, it was resolved to have them put through a reading lesson, showing that lady's plan of teaching the subject. This was done in a manner reflecting the highest credit on both teacher and pupils. The President afterwards gave an illustrative object-lesson to the same class, taking as his "object" a school crayon box, and several new features and ideas were elicited not previously discernible in that useful receptacle. During this exercise the Vice-President, Mr. G. Rose, occupied the chair, and Mr. Fotheringham's interesting lesson was criticized with much spirit by Messrs. McMurchy, S. Holland, Hall, Brody, Vandewater, Armstrong, McMahon and Dunton. A committee, consisting of Messrs. Rose, Rannie, McMahon, and McMurchy, was appointed to nominate officers for the ensu-