

Notes and News.

ONTARIO.

[We have to thank a number of correspondents for sending us contributions to this column. We hope that all our friends will continue to send us the current news. Items of educational news clipped from the local papers and enclosed in an envelope are particularly acceptable. We beg to state again that the disorder caused by our removal to new premises last autumn was the cause of our apparent neglect of many interesting communications. Our friends must not be discouraged but please write again. It would save us much trouble if they would kindly place matter for this column on separate sheets, and it would prevent many oversights which occur when business and news are intermingled. Rally round the JOURNAL and assist in making it still more useful! EDIT. C. S. J.]

The Hon. G. W. Ross has expressed his intention of giving a Gold Medal at the close of the present session to the Normal School student who obtains the highest standing at the final examination in June. We trust that still more substantial rewards will be offered to those who make the profession of teaching their life work and that some means will yet be devised for making the salaries of teachers bear some proportion to the amount of capital and energy they invest in the noble work. Meantime, it is inspiring to find a Minister of Education setting such an excellent example. Some of our wealthier citizens could not make a more patriotic use of their money than by founding scholarships at the Provincial Normal Schools.

At the last Entrance examination at Newmarket thirty-two out of sixty-four candidates passed. The Newmarket school sent up fourteen of the successful pupils, which made twenty-six passed during 1883.

The staff of teachers in the Caledonia High School for this session is as follows:—L. A. Kennedy, B. A., Head Master, J. Elliott, B. A., and L. H. Alexander, B. A., assistants. The County Model School is under the direction of Mr. R. C. Cheswright. The present staff is giving very general satisfaction. At the last examination, out of thirty-six candidates thirty-two passed—eight second class, fourteen third class, and ten intermediates.

We have received the announcement of Holy Trinity School, London. C. Turner Esq., C. M. is the Head Master.

"I don't feel healthy intellectually without your valuable JOURNAL." A. K. Feb. 7th, 1884. This is but one of numerous kind expressions we are continually receiving.

At Christmas, the pupils of the Newmarket Schools contributed to the inmates of the Industrial Home 111 apples, 23 oranges, 5 lemons, 1 box of figs, 2 lbs. sweets, 1½ lbs. nuts, 1 lb. raisins, cash \$6.00, and 165 cakes of all kinds. A handkerchief was purchased and a 3 lb. paper bag was filled with nuts, candies, etc., for each inmate. Mr. W. Rannie, the principal, conveyed the present on Christmas morning. The folks seemed to enjoy very thoroughly the treat and bestowed many a "Merry Christmas" on the donors. The plan might be adopted by many schools. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

A correspondent says: "You ask for jottings for the JOURNAL. Would items regarding changes, examinations etc. be suitable." Certainly, dear friend, we want to have in our columns a faithful record of every matter of educational interest. Again we repeat, we have to rely entirely upon our friends for the current news. Send it along, please.

Mr. A. Kerr, has entered on his fourth year with increased salary as headmaster of the school in Warton.

Mr. Brebner succeeds Mr. Ross as Inspector of the Petrolia schools, which receive 950 out of the 1,000 children in the town. The average attendance for 1883 was about 510. There are four school buildings and ten teachers in the town. Their names and salaries for 1884 are:—Mr. S. C. Woodworth, \$800; Miss A. Langton, \$400; Miss MacDougall, \$340; Miss Corry, \$340; Miss Echardt, \$300; Miss A. Dibb, \$240; Miss E. Austin, \$240; Miss McRobie, \$240; Miss Dawson, \$240; Miss Ross, \$240. About 38 pupils passed the Entrance Examination in 1883. A by-law to raise \$7,000 for the purpose of building a new High School was carried on Feb. 2nd. The school will employ three masters, and will probably open in Sept., next. Music and Drawing are taught in nearly every department of the Petrolia schools.

The London Free Press, says: "It were far better for the rising generation that they be given a whole year's holiday than that they be exposed to disease and death for the sake of the little imperfect education that may be snatched in the depressing and poisonous air of poorly-ventilated school-rooms. . . . The minimum of absolute air space provided for each child should be in no case less than 500 cubic feet, and this small space should be permitted only when there are such efficient means of ventilation and heating as will change the air contained in the room six times per hour, thus allowing 3,000 cubic feet of healthy air per hour to each child. People shut their eyes to the matter of drainage and ventilation because building is expensive." These are timely remarks, and deserve earnest attention from every teacher.

At the final examination of the Toronto Normal School, Inspectors Maxwell and Carson were assistant examiners. The report of both Normal Schools closes with the following pleasing paragraph:—"With respect to the undermentioned candidates who have hitherto held grade B certificates, the examiners report that marked improvement has been made by them during their attendance at the Normal School, and their answers at the final examination were excellent. It is recommended that the grade of their certificates be raised from 'B' to 'A.'"

Toronto Normal School:—Alex. F. Birchard, James A. Edmiston, Neil S. McEachern, Mattio Murphy, Henry Chappel, George Kerr McDermall, Jessie Alexander, Emily F. Rose.

Ottawa Normal School:—Edward J. Etherington, Rowland John Hastings.

Among those who have grade A certificates the examiners report the following as specially worthy of mention for their satisfactory course and examination:—

Toronto Normal School:—David A. Burgess, Robert H. Carnie, Alice M. Banister, Christina Niven, Harold Clark, Alfred Orr, Agnes Henderson, Sarah Ross.

Ottawa Normal School:—Peter D. McDonald, Enos J. Norrish."

Principals Davies and McCabe recently spent two weeks among the Normal Schools of New England to observe their methods of working. This is an excellent plan of the Education Department and will, we hope, be further developed.

On Feb., 15th the Banquet of the University of Toronto was held in the Pavilion of the Horticultural Gardens, and proved a great success. The capacity of the building was scarcely sufficient to accommodate the gathering of friends, graduates and undergraduates which assembled. The most note-worthy speeches were made by the Hon. Edward Blake, Dr. Daniel Wilson, Principal Caven, Hon. G. W. Ross and Rev. Dr. Lemuel Moss, President of the Indiana State University. The latter gentleman said that he came from a State where by easy and successive stages, the poorest boy or girl in the commonwealth may pass from the room where the alphabet is taught to the room where the bachelor's degree is given, without one penny of expense. People are beginning to recognize that the higher education was beneficial not only to him who received it, but also to the community at large. Schools are built on the same principles as penitentiaries—for the public good. The public school and the state college are for the benefit of all, and every educated man who comes into a capital increases the value of every corner lot in the city. What is the State for, if it be not to reach out its arms of beneficence? In the republic of letters is no custom house, no officer with suspicious glances, no State lines; all are bound together for the elevation of man.

The greatest enthusiasm prevailed in favor of granting further aid to the University, and at the same time the most cordial expressions of good will towards the sister Universities were uttered by the numerous speakers. The question of University Federation received favorable notice, and some significant hints were dropped that further reforms of a liberal character are needed within the Provincial University. Mr. Harcourt, M. P. P., amid loud applause, said that it was a shame that the doors of the University should be closed to the ladies, thus shutting out half the population. The fact is perfectly clear that if the *alumni* had more power entrusted to them the institution would speedily become thoroughly liberalized and enter on a new career of popularity and usefulness. Great confidence was manifested that the needed grant would easily be obtained.

In consequence of the increasing population and rising importance of the village of Tira, a new school-house is being constructed, which is much needed. The old building is too small and is unsuitable in every respect.