

by Messrs. D. D. Campbell, S. Ranton, R. A. Coleman, S. J. Kilpatrick and Rev. A. F. McGregor. Excellent music was discoursed by R. H. Collins, J. W. Laird and the Misses Wilson and Patmore.

On Saturday the first item of business was an address by S. Ranton on pupils' reports. Valuable hints were given in the address.

The analysis of "Gray's Elegy" was next in order, introduced by J. Wilson, B.A. An hour was profitably spent in unravelling the difficulties of this composition, the discussion at times being quite spirited.

Mr. Dickenson introduced a resolution to the effect that the next meeting of the Association be a joint one with the South Riding Association, if the latter consent, to be held in Stratford, which was unanimously carried. Messrs. Dickenson and Rothwell were elected as delegates to the Provincial Association, after which the convention terminated. Judging from the attendance and interest manifested, the North Riding Association may be said to be in a prosperous condition.

EAST MIDDLESEX TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the above named Association was opened on Friday morning, 27th February, at the County Buildings, London; the President, Mr. J. Dearness, in the chair.

A discussion took place on the proposed amendment to shorten the summer holidays. The general expression of opinion was, that the worst feature of the proposition is its indefinite character. The holidays ought to be either four weeks or six, not left indefinite as proposed by the amendment. A committee, consisting of Messrs. J. Hodgins, Donaldson and Hunt, was appointed to draft a report on the subject. Mr. Eckert gave notice that he would move that this Association petition the County Council to establish a High School in the East Riding of Middlesex.

The President gave a very interesting address on the subject of "Our Flag." He pointed out the various kinds of activities that make up human life, and shewed how far Spencer's definition of an ideal education

harmonized with them. It is obligatory on the State to prepare its youth for citizenship, and the public schools mainly are entrusted with this high duty. The influence of the Prussian and Canadian School systems in fostering patriotism were compared, much to the detriment of the latter. The principle of proceeding from the concrete to the abstract in teaching history as well as other subjects was insisted on. He gave an interesting and vivid illustration of this by a model lesson on the British Flag. While he gave its description and history, Miss Wilkinson, a lady teacher, dexterously drew it in colours on the black-board.

Mr. Dearness' original and practical address was followed by a spirited discussion on "National Character and Loyalty," by Messrs. Eckert, Jarvis, Fawcett, and McQueen, all of whom agreed on the importance of cultivating a love of country in the mind of the young. Mr. McQueen then explained how to use the Lithogram, and recommended it for examination papers, book-keeping, monthly reports, etc. His statement of its benefits was corroborated by the experience of a number of teachers present. A treat was reserved for the Middlesex teachers on Friday evening in the shape of an address by Dr. Bucke, Superintendent of the London Asylum for the Insane, on "Walt Whitman." Now, though we are far from agreeing with the doctor in his extravagant estimate of this writer, and of his work, "Leaves of Grass," we think the members of the East Middlesex Association were most fortunate in being able to listen to the eloquent utterances of a man of such a cultivated mind, upon a subject on which he is so enthusiastic.

On Saturday Mr. Dearness favoured the Association with his views on Spelling Reform. Mr. Jarvis spoke of the use of newspapers in schools, and shewed their utility as an aid in teaching composition, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, and literature. He was followed by Mr. Wilson on "How to Teach Composition." Mr. Amos, who evidently keeps pace with the age, described his plan of promoting gen-