

cized. At some of the sessions, a choir favored the institute with music.

The Kent County Institute met at Kingston at the same time as that of Charlotte. About forty teachers were present. The officers elected were Geo. A. Coates, President, Daniel Gillis, Vice-President, C. H. Cowperthwaite, B.A., Secretary-Treasurer. We have not seen a very full report of the proceedings, but we learn from the *St. John Telegraph* that the following subjects were discussed, some being introduced by written papers:—"Are Educational Institutes a success?" "The Scope and Method of Lessons on Health as required by the course of instruction." "The Essentials of Good Order in schools." "Means of Mental and Moral Culture," a lesson on Geography, the Elementary Rules of Arithmetic, the Merit Book. As at Fredericton and St. Stephen, samples of manual work from the schools of the town were distributed for inspection by the assembled teachers. The work of this institute was held to be eminently practical and useful.

On the same days the King's County Institute met at Hampton. The teachers present numbered sixty, Inspector Wetmore was re-elected President, J. H. Wright, Vice-President, and Wm. Levinge, Secretary-Treasurer. The last named gentleman seems to have taken a prominent part in the work of the institute, giving two papers and an oral lesson, the subjects of which were respectively "How the study of Plant Life may be made interesting in school," "Industrial Drawing," and "Atmospheric Pressure and the Barometer." Mr. F. H. Hayes introduced the subject of Written Examinations; and one fact brought out in the subsequent discussion was that many teachers found great difficulty in getting their pupils to procure the necessary paper for such work. A paper on singing, by Miss Brown, and a lesson on Form, by Miss Bennet, were also on the programme. In the evening the Chief Superintendent, Dr. Rand, delivered a public address, of which we clip from the *Telegraph* the following account.

The speaker commenced his subject by pointing out the obligations and duties of parents in reference to the education of their offspring, calling attention to the fact that a true index of the greatness of a country may be had in the men that it produces. The kind of education that our country requires, he remarked, is that which will produce men and women capable of bringing themselves under the control of the will. He then took up the "Course of Instruction" for the Province, and the new regulations for school inspection. The criticisms passed on these throughout the Province were fully dealt with. He proceeded to show the relation that should exist between teachers, trustees and parents, the waste of force attending a frequent change of teachers, and the consequent loss to the community. These and other matters connected with the Institute brought the address of the chief superintendent to a close, when a vote of thanks was tendered him by the Institute.

The St. John County Institute also was in session on the same days, in the Exhibition Hall of the Victoria School. At the opening session Dr. Rand was present, and addressed the Institute by request of the President. The election of officers resulted in the choice of Inspector Dole, as President, Mr. G. U. Hay as Vice President, and Mr. J. M. Coyngraham as Secretary-Treasurer. A large amount of time was consumed on the first day in discussing points of order, and modes of procedure, the only practical questions taken up being "The place Latin should occupy in the School Work," and the teaching of colour to children. The discussion of the latter was continued the next morning, mixed up with further discussion on matters of routine, etc. Mr. W. H. Parlee read a paper on "The place of written examinations in the schools," arguing strongly in favor of written examinations. The subject was afterwards discussed at some length, *pro* and *con*, by members of the Institute, Dr. Rand, who had returned, also taking part. There was also conversation as to the Province of the Teachers' Institute and of the Educational Institute respectively, Dr. Rand pointing out that the latter was the place to discuss such matters as the course of instruction, textbooks regulations of the Board of Education, etc. Mr. McGinnis read a paper on Canadian History, Mr. Coyngraham one on Drawing, Mr. Hay on "The beneficial effects of Museums in connection with High Schools." The four institutes meeting simultaneously exchanged friendly greetings by telegraph.

At the Chatham Grammar and High School, the midsummer examination took place on 9th July. Three pupils received certificates of graduation, one of whom, Master Ernest McKay, the winner of the Lorne medal for highest school standing, delivered a valedictory address. Other prizes were carried off by Thomas Narquis, Wm. Kerr, and Dicie Davidson.

The Educational Institute for the Province met in the Normal School Building at Fredericton, on Tuesday afternoon, the 13th July. This body, it will be remembered, is not a voluntary association of teachers, but is organically connected with the School System, and works under a simple constitution established by the Board of Education. The same is true of the county institutes. Membership is voluntary; Any member of a County Institute and any public school officer may become a member of the Provincial Institute by payment of a small annual fee. The objects in view are "the professional instruction and culture of its members, and the discussion of educational questions." While there is large liberty in discussion, the right of recommending or excluding questions for consideration by the Educational Institute rests, exclusively with the Executive Committee, one half of whose members are permanently appointed *ex officio* by the Board of Education, and the other half are elected annually by the members of the Institute. Many at the recent meeting seemed to be ignorant of these facts.

The meeting occupied three days, and several of the sessions were very protracted. About 120 members were enrolled, but a large number of teachers and others were in attendance, some not qualified for membership, and others who preferred to share in the benefits rather than the burdens. Dr. Rand, Chief Superintendent of Education, presided over all the sessions. Mr. F. C. Creed, M. A., was re-elected Secretary, and Mr. J. D. Lawson was elected Assistant Secretary. At the last session but one, the elective members of the Executive Committee were chosen by ballot, viz.: S. C. Wilbur, B. A., of Moncton, H. S. Bridges, M. A., of St. John, G. R. Parkin, M. A., of Fredericton, J. A. Freeze, B. A., of St. Stephen, A. J. Denton, B. A., of Shediac, and John Montgomery, of Carleton.

Our space will not allow us further to detail the proceedings of this important assembly at present.

QUEBEC.

The chief interest throughout this Province in educational matters during the latter part of June and the beginning of July, especially in our towns and cities, is centred in the closing examinations for the scholastic year before the midsummer holidays in our Normal school, Academies, and Commissioners' Schools, and in the awarding of Academic honors and prizes.

In the Normal School, diplomas are granted to successful candidates, Academy, Model School, or Elementary, as the case may be. All these institutions are year by year advancing in efficiency, increasing in numbers, and attracting more and more the attention and support of the public as well as of advanced educationalists and lovers of learning generally.

Rewards for proficiency in the different branches taught are now becoming quite numerous in the shape of gold, silver and bronze medals. These are eagerly competed for, and form a strong stimulus to exertion and study on the part of the pupils. At the closing exercises of these Institutions there is a large attendance, especially in the city of Montreal, of the parents and public generally. In all that pertains to the instruction of the young, there are several men of distinction in that city who encourage in every way by their presence and speeches the schools of all grades, such as Dr. Dawson, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. McVicar, Dr. Robins, Canon Norman, &c.

Dr. Howe, Rector of the Montreal High School, stated in his Annual Report, that the result of written examinations showed better answers than formerly, that in the 3rd or lowest form, each division averaged an attendance of 35, the 4th 34, the 5th large, and that the 6th promised to be good for next session; that outside, the year had been marked by more than usual success; as in the graduating class of McGill College, out of 4 gold medals, three had been taken by High School boys; in the third year under graduating class, a High School boy of 1878 carried everything before him.

Master Gnaedinger, the 3rd boy of the 6th form, received the Murray silver medal, very handsome in design and workmanship, and Master Cahoes, of the same form, received the Murray bronze and the Lorne silver medal. Master Bluckader was the High School gold medallist.

In the Quebec High School, Master Ross gained the Lorne silver medal for classics, and Master Dunbar the Fry silver medal for English.

In the High Schools of Montreal and Quebec there have been for some time preparatory departments doing excellent work.

Principal Hicks presided at the annual distribution of prizes in the McGill Normal School. Beside him on the platform were