

In the rural school adjacent to the village of Tara, Miss Rogers is doing good work. Miss Rogers is an excellent, painstaking teacher, and we shall be glad to hear of her promotion, in the early future, to a larger and more important sphere of labor where her teaching power will have a better opportunity of development.

During the six years that Mr. H. W. Hicks has occupied the principalship of Invermay public school, he has succeeded in adding considerably to his reputation as an energetic, well-qualified teacher. In passing candidates for entrance examination he has been very successful. He is preparing a large class at present for the ensuing examination. The school building is too limited for the increased attendance.

The prosperous village of Warton is rapidly increasing its population, and in consequence, the school building is not large enough for the numbers of pupils. The school trustees have, therefore, rented another building for a class under the care of Miss Stahn. The head master, Mr. A. Ferr, has won the confidence of the trustees and inhabitants by his acknowledged ability and untiring zeal. He is well assisted by Miss Kirk, from Toronto, who brings with her the experience of the work carried on in that city.

The literary society connected with the St. Mary's collegiate institute recently gave one of their popular reunions, which was very favorably noticed by the local press. Such meetings do great good, both in the way of enlisting public interest and of benefitting the pupils by a sort of experience that must have a powerful educative influence.

We commend the following instructions issued to pupils at the recent promotion examinations by one of the ablest inspectors in the west, Mr. Alexander, Stratford. They will be found of great importance in the marking of the papers: The value of each answer is to be marked in the margin, and total value marked on the outside and copied into the report. Much, of necessity, must be left to the judgment of the examiners in determining the value of an answer, but the following hints may be found useful: 1. *Spelling*—The omission or addition of an unimportant word, letter, or capital letter should not be marked as an error. The intention of the paper is to test the pupil's ability to spell, not to "catch" at a trivial oversight. The examiner is expected to mark all real errors, but not to lay too much stress on an evidently unintentional omission which does not necessarily show inability to spell a word. *Mathematics*—Great stress should be laid on accuracy of work in these papers. A correct method of working a question should, however, be entitled to about half value, even should the answer be wrong on account of inaccuracy of work. *Grammar*—In marking the parsing and analysis considerable latitude should be allowed as to technical terms, and different schemes. *Geography*—Half a mark should be deducted for each error in spelling, including omission of capitals. Examiners will bear in mind that every teacher has the right to see the papers of his pupils when they are returned to the inspector; they will, therefore, be careful to so perform their work as to leave no grounds for complaint as to the fairness of the examination. The papers of each school are to be kept separate.

The late James Michie, of Toronto, willed \$4,000 to Queen's University.

The high school at Orangeville has largely increased in numbers; the daily average attendance being about one hundred. For this number of pupils there are only two rooms, which are set apart in the public school building. In addition to the head master there are two teachers, and, therefore, two separate classes have to be assembled in one room, thus causing the greatest inconvenience and some confusion. In the meantime a disused church in the town has been rented by the School Board for the accommodation of about 150 public school pupils, and the attention of the head master of these schools is more distracted than if he had the whole school more immediately under his supervision. The deduction is obvious: the public school building should be enlarged and a new building of, say, four rooms at least should be erected for high school purposes. If this were done, as it is hoped it will be, the progressive town of Orangeville would be in a right position in educational matters; and, in the course of a few years, judging from present appearances, the high school may be promoted into a collegiate institute.

The tonic sol-fa system of sight singing was introduced some time since into the schools of London west. Messrs. Leslie, Lockey, and Macdonald have signified their intention of subscribing \$5 each towards the expenses incurred. "Music hath charms."

The expenses of the educational establishments in Gananoque amount to \$3,000 per annum.

Dr. C. W. Connon, M.A., LL.D., died in Hamilton a few days ago. The deceased was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, on the 9th April, 1816, and has occupied positions as principal of the Liverpool Mechanics' Institute, and chief master at the Government Naval School, Greenwich Hospital. In 1858 he accepted a position as English and classical master in Upper Canada College, where he remained till failing health in 1873 compelled him to retire, since which time he has been living with his son in Hamilton.

Mr. Dobson, who took charge of Picton high school some two years ago, has succeeded in keeping the school in a high state of efficiency. The average attendance is now 94, over 50 of these pupils coming from the county. Last year this school was successful in passing 23 pupils at Intermediate, and the prospects are that an equally creditable showing will be made this year. The principal is ably assisted by Mr. Schmidt, B.A., recently appointed classical master, with Miss Gillespie taking junior work. Mr. Dobson has offered a gold medal to all of his pupils attaining the standard of 2nd A certificate.

R. W. Murray, for the past two years principal of the model school, Picton, is reported as one of the most successful teachers in the east; his excellent discipline and thoroughness in his work are especially praised. The school board have shown their appreciation of his faithful services by increasing his salary at the beginning of the year.

G. D. Platt, B.A., the well-known inspector of schools, Prince Edward county, repeats the complaint made by many inspectors, of difficulties arising in the working of the 29th clause. One or two schools have been closed under its operations. The school-house having been burnt down, a number of the ratepayers who are non-residents, taking advantage of this clause in the School Act, refuse to have a new school building erected.

New school buildings have been erected in Picton by the separate school board. The schools have been for a number of years under the management of the two Misses Moran.

G. W. Kidd, the popular inspector of schools for the city of Kingston, has succeeded in collecting a very large and valuable assortment of minerals, which are kept in his office for the benefit of both teachers and pupils of the city schools.

J. C. Gashan has been appointed as one of the examiners of the Royal Military College. Mr. Gashan is well known as one of the ablest mathematicians in the country.

Mr. Wood, head master model school, Kingston, has finished his third year at Queen's University, taking a high stand at the examinations just closed. Last year he succeeded in securing a first class Provincial certificate. That Mr. Wood should be able to discharge so satisfactorily his duties as head master and at the same time pursue an extended course of studies successfully, bespeaks a brilliant future. We wish him continued success.

Kingston has lately appointed a teacher of drawing, Mr. C. H. Scott; also instructor of drill, Sergeant Lyndon.

The attendance at the schools in Kingston has been greatly reduced owing to the prevalence of measles, whooping-cough, &c.

Great complaint is made about inefficiency in writing of the pupils in Kingston schools. A few of the teachers, Mr. McGuire and others, have tried to give special attention to the subject, but as yet results are not all that can be desired. The matter is likely to be taken up by the school board.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The announcement in last month's notes regarding a prospective law faculty in Dalhousie College was not premature. Such a faculty has been organized, and work will regularly begin in November next. It is proposed that the period of attendance upon lectures extend over three years, and that degrees in law be granted by the University. The following are the gentlemen who will compose the law faculty, with the subjects upon which they will respectively lecture:—Richard C. Weldon, M.A. (Mt. Allison), Ph.D. (Yale)—International and Constitutional Law. Hon. S. G. Rigby, Judge of the Supreme Court—Torts and Crimes. Hon. J. S. D. Thompson, Judge of the Supreme Court—Statute Law, Evidence and Procedure. James Thomson, Q.C.—Real Property and Conveyancing. Wallace Graham, A.M. (Acadia), Q.C.—Mercantile Law. Robert Sedgewick, B.A. (Dal.), Q.C.—Equity Jurisprudence. Benjamin Russell, M.A. (Mt. Allison)—Principles of Contracts.

Mr. Longley, M.P.P., presented to the legislature, at its recent session, a petition from the Archbishop of Halifax, the Bishop of Nova Scotia, and the President of Acadia College, claiming in behalf of St. Mary's, King's, and Acadia Colleges an annual grant of \$400 in perpetuity, in virtue of an implied contract entered into between the legislature and those institutions in 1865, in connection with the wiping out of an old obligation of the governors of Dalhousie College. It is understood that the petition had the sympathy of the authorities of St. François Xavier College and Mt. Allison College, Sackville, N.B. The matter was referred to the Government, and no legislative action was taken thereon.

The annual session of the Teachers' Association for District No. 4 (Counties of Annapolis and Digby) was held at Digby, on the 26th and 27th of April. A full report of proceedings will appear next month.