

the resolution to Mrs. Dewar.—Unanimously carried. The nomination committee presented their report as follows: President, Mr. W. G. Duff, Roxboro; Vice-President, Mr. W. R. Lough, Clinton; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. W. E. Groves, Wingham; Provincial Delegate, Mr. J. Ferguson, Wingham; Executive Committee, Messrs. J. Ferguson, L. L. McFad, D. C. Dorrance, A. A. McKay and J. King. The nominations were one by one adopted. J. A. Morton, Esq., and Dr. McDonald, Wingham, were re-appointed Auditors. A vote of thanks was tendered the retiring officers and the Association adjourned.

CHATHAM DISTRICT.—The semi-annual convention of the Chatham District Teachers' Association was held at the Central School, Chatham, on Thursday and Friday, May 22nd and 23rd, 1884. After the opening exercises Miss Metcalfe read an essay on Culture; after which a chorus was rendered by some of the teachers. New business, including the appointment of Mr. Shaw as delegate to the Ontario Teachers' Association and the reading and adoption of the Treasurer's report was then disposed of. After a few questions for the question drawer were collected the following new officers for the incoming year were appointed, viz: President, Mr. J. Birch; 1st Vice-President, Mr. J. Brachen; 2nd Vice-President, Miss M. E. Orr; Secretary, Miss Mary O'Neil; Treasurer, Mr. W. M. Nichols, P. S. I. In the afternoon the Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, addressed the Association on various topics, such as superannuation of teachers; the renewal of third class certificates, and granting of permits, (these permits the gentleman considered a great evil, inasmuch as every teacher applying to the Inspector for a permit loses his independence, and often places the Inspector as well as himself in a false position;) the intended changes in text books; the propriety of requiring county councils to aid in supporting High Schools in towns separated from the county, especially as many of the county teachers are educated in the said High Schools, &c. The superannuation question was discussed pretty warmly and such words as "stepping stone teachers" and "unfair competition" were pretty freely bandied. Even the fact that there were many ladies in the profession was by some considered a great grievance and it was openly stated that their competition kept down the salaries of the men; and stalwart men in receipt of high salaries noted that contribution to the superannuation fund should be compulsory for the lady teachers, though these same men openly opposed that the contributions required should be a percentage on the salary received. They also passed a resolution that no monies paid into the fund should be refunded except in case of the death of the teacher while employed in teaching. As the results of these discussions the following resolutions were passed:—1st. That the superannuation fund be continued. 2nd. That a service of 25 years should be considered sufficient to entitle a teacher to the superannuation fund. 3rd. That no refund be made to any teacher, of the amount contributed to the fund except in case of death while employed in teaching. In the evening a public meeting was held at which Rev. Dr. Laing, of Dundas, delivered a very able address on "The End of Education, and the proper means of obtaining that End," and the Hon. G. W. Ross delivered a lecture on educational matters in general. A chorus of children rendered songs. On Friday morning the subject of "School Periodicals" was brought forward by Mr. Nichols, P. S. I., West Kent. The subject of Phonography was then introduced by Mr. Smith, after which Rev. Dr. Laing, of Dundas, addressed the Association in a very able manner on the subject of "Examination" the relative value of which the Dr. thinks is far too highly estimated inasmuch as many of the qualifications necessary to a successful man in any capacity can never appear on examination papers. At the commencement of the afternoon session Dr. Laing again addressed the meeting on "The Bible in the School," noting the fact, that, education is not so much the mere storing the mind with certain abstract facts, as it is the development of mind and moral nature in such a manner as to make the pupil a useful member of society, and as an immortal soul, to fit him for eternity. Therefore is it consistent that while five days in the week are given to the mere temporal matters of education about twenty or thirty minutes on a Sabbath are given to the study of the Bible? At the end of Dr. Laing's address a vote of thanks was given him and he was made an honorary member of the Association. Dr. Cameron then delivered an address on "Physical Culture," at the close of which he was given a vote of thanks and made an honorary member of the Association. A paper on "Frequent changes of Teachers" was read by Mr. Rothwell; an illused member of society, to judge from the tenor of his paper which was full of the wrongs which fall to the lot of some teachers. The frequency of change and the unfair competition of "stepping stone teachers," and last, but obviously not least, female teachers. What a crying evil lady teachers seem to be to some of these gentlemen! In our country though a man has every profession open to him, and he has all trades to choose from, while ladies have in reality but one profession—that of teacher open to them; and though from time immemorial woman has been the teacher of the young, still it seems that our competition in our own particular profession is an irredeemable wrong to some men who through force of circumstances (for they acknowledged that to be the fact) were compelled to remain teachers. Probably Mr. Rothwell would like the Chinese system to be adopted and all super-

fluous females to be put to death during infancy. The next subject "How to Think and Write on Simple Subjects" was introduced by Mr. J. G. Rose, and after a few questions from the question drawer were answered, the meeting adjourned. ELIZABETH S. E. DAWSON, Secretary.

DURHAM.—The next meeting of Durham Teachers' Association will be held in the High School Buildings, Port Hope, on Friday and Saturday, June 13th and 14th, at 2 p. m. On June 13th Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, will be present, and he desires to meet Teachers, Trustees, Municipal Officers, and all interested in education. J. Gilfillan, President; A. Barber, Secretary.

## REVIEWS.

NEW NATIONAL FIRST READER: NEW NATIONAL SECOND READER; NEW NATIONAL THIRD READER: A. S. Barnes & Co., New York and Chicago.

These books are really first rate. The presswork, the paper, binding, illustrations, gradation and suitability of matter, and general plan are unsurpassed. The illustrations are gems of art, the matter is instinct with sympathy for child life, and the volumes are neither too small nor too large. The type is large and heavy and the lines well leaded out, thus saving the eyes of the children. This series must prove a great success.

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY: WHEN SHALL IT BE? WHERE SHALL IT BE? WHAT SHALL IT BE? pp. 22, paper. JOHN W. BURGESS, PH. D. OF COLUMBIA COLL. Ginn, Heath & Co., Boston, 1884.

In this timely brochure, American means United States. Every one interested in the University question should read it. It is immensely suggestive, exceedingly lucid, and has the rare merit of saying the actual truth about the American higher and secondary education.

NOTES ON SHAKESPEARE'S VERSIFICATION. With two appendixes.—pp. 34, paper. By Geo. H. Browne, A.M. Ginn, Heath & Co., Boston, 1884.

A very useful book for class purposes, crammed with information. Readers will here find the spelling reform put into practice—"giv, hav, publisht, foret," etc. There is "a short descriptive bibliography" at the end. The book is interleaved for notes.

ENGLISH OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY, illustrated by notes grammatical and philological on CHAUCER'S PROLOGUE AND KNIGHT'S TALE. By Steven H. Carpenter, A.M., Univ. of Wis., cloth 313 pp. Ginn, Heath & Co., Boston, 1884.

Morris's text, full notes, and glossary with short grammatical outline. The notes are in large type; copious, and judicious. Those who value their eyes will prefer it to the Clarendon Press series. The book forms the best introduction to the study of early English.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF THE ANGLO-SAXON, with selections for reading, explanatory notes and a vocabulary. Cloth 213 pp. Same Author and Publishers, 1884.

The grammar covers forty pages, giving just sufficient to enable the student to begin reading. The extracts are easy and the notes supplement the grammar. The time is near at hand when those who have made a specialty of such studies as these will find a ready market for the skill they have acquired in our early literature. This book is the best we have seen with which to make a good beginning.

LIBRARY OF ANGLO-SAXON POETRY. VOL. I. BEOWULF—Harrison & Sharp. Cloth, 319 pp. VOL. II. EXODUS AND DANIEL—Hunt. Cloth, 120 pp. Same Publishers, 1884.

The texts are accurately and beautifully printed. Vol. I. follows Heyne's fourth edition; Vol. II. follows Grein's text. The glossaries are very full, and we heartily recommend these cheap, handy volumes to all students who have any taste for our earliest literature. To those who have not had the advantage of early training in Latin and Greek, an effectual door is opened to our own early classics. The mine is worth working.

## MAGAZINES.

St. Nicholas for May is exceedingly good. Its illustrations are life-like and its stories excellent, especially "Historic Boys." Young Olaf, the boy viking afterwards king of Norway, is the hero of the story for this month and is a good story character. Boys and girls who study history as well as those who do not would find "Historic Boys" very useful and interesting. In the April number a good part of Henry of Monmouth's youth is described. This great and historic boy was afterwards Henry V of England. The "Scarlet Tanager" is another good story and is one which all the 7,000 teachers of Ontario should read with care. It shows forcibly how a wayward boy was reclaimed not however by his master's stick but by the interest and kindness shown on the part of the teacher towards the boy.