

States was represented, even the Catholic parochial and collegiate work through its most accomplished advocate Monseigneur Capel. The greatest harmony and good feeling prevailed throughout the meeting. All old antagonisms between different departments of instruction seem to have been sunk for the time under a generous breadth of mutual understanding. The members represented all grades and methods of teaching; the greatest enthusiasm, profound research, and marked ability are said to have characterised the discussions, both oral and written. The educational exhibits were specially interesting, and showed the great improvements in apparatus, aids, and textbooks. The points of most original interest were the admirable concentrations of material in the Kindergarten, art, and industrial departments of the exhibition. The reunions, cordial greetings, and apparently good feeling of all were pleasant features of this important gathering. As an exchange justly remarks, "It is a mighty thing for six thousand representative teachers to 'touch elbows' for a week. It does everyone good even to look into the eyes of his neighbor, to revive old friendships and establish new ones, and to go home feeling that one is even a private in the army of the Lord." We regret that the pressure of home matters makes it impossible to give even a synopsis of the proceedings.

DR. TASSIE.

By the appointment of Dr. Tassie to the principalship of Peterboro' Collegiate Institute the valuable services of that well-known educationist are once more devoted to the interests of the provincial system of secondary education. The success achieved in past years, while he was connected with the Galt Institute, gained Dr. Tassie a wide reputation, and we join his extensive circle of ex-pupils and friends in wishing him a new and still more successful career in this fresh field of labor. We are always pleased to see a veteran educationist placed in the position of highest honor and responsibility.

MR. SEATH'S APPOINTMENT.

The vacancy in the Inspectorship of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, caused by the promotion of Dr. McLellan to a higher position, has been filled by the appointment of JOHN SEATH, M.A. Mr. Seath has long been known as one of our progressive educational workers, and his administrative and executive abilities have been shown by his success in the management of the St. Catharines Institute. He is a gold medallist in science from Queen's University, Ireland, and has had twenty-two years' experience in the teaching profession. His services in the high schools at Brampton, Whitby, Dundas, and St. Catharines have made him fully acquainted with the organization and management of our secondary schools. Mr. Seath is still in his prime, and we hope that by his energy our schools may soon reach as high excellence in English and science as they have already done in mathematics under the distinguished administration of his predecessor.

DEATH OF MR. CLARKE.

We have to add another name to the death roll for the year. Joseph A. Clarke, M.A., B.Sc., late head master of the Smith's Falls High School, departed this life Aug. 26th. Mr. Clarke was known as one of the most promising men in the province in connection with high school work. He was an excellent scholar, a most successful teacher, full of energy and enterprise, and was highly respected for his manliness and kind disposition. His unexpected demise at the early age of 38 will be deeply regretted by the profession throughout the province.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The progress of education in Japan is indicated by the rapid extension of the public school system. The reports for the past year show that there are 29,081 common schools, 339 over the preceding year. The number of pupils was 3,004,137, an increase of 396,960; and the number of teachers 84,765, an increase of 8,147.

The summer session of the School of Art at the Education Department, Toronto, proved highly successful. A very large number of teachers availed themselves of the free course offered by the Minister of Education, and spent five hours a day for a month on elementary drawing. A very pleasing feature was the conversazione at the close. There is no doubt that in future a still greater number will thus spend a portion of their holidays in qualifying themselves to teach this important branch of education. The result of the experiment proves the accuracy of the statement made by THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL that the teachers of this province have always taken advantage of the means provided for their information.

"The Art for Schools Association" was founded in London about a year ago. The leading printsellers and publishers readily associated themselves with the society, and the London School Board warmly assisted the movement. An exhibition of pictures was held in the winter for the information of teachers and school managers, a catalogue prepared, and more than 800 pictures have since been issued to elementary schools. We have published during the year several notes of progress in this matter in Ontario. There is a great silent power in pictures, flowers, natural history collections, etc., which has hardly begun to be properly realised here. We shall most gladly receive accounts of all efforts to make the schoolroom a comfortable, cheery, happy, BEAUTIFUL, homelike place.

A recent number of *The Century* contains a noteworthy paper by President Eliot, entitled "What is a Liberal Education?" He contends vigorously for the admission on an equal footing with Latin, Greek, and mathematics, of our own language and literature, natural sciences, and modern languages, especially French and German. His plea for the study of history contains the following sentences:—"If any study is liberal and liberalizing, it is the modern study of