

Brockville and Alexandria, voted against the 10th and 11th clauses of the Bill—the former fixing the minimum salaries of teachers; the latter permitting the establishment of Township Boards of School Trustees at the request of a majority of school sections in a township. The Conventions at Napanee and Brockville also voted against the 13th clause of the Bill, giving trustees the same power to provide a teacher's residence that they now have to provide school accommodations. The Conventions at Brockville and Alexandria also voted against the 26th clause, which provides summer vacations in all public schools from the 15th July to the 15th of August, inclusive.

With these exceptions, the county Conventions approved of all of the provisions of the proposed Bill. The two, and almost the only provisions of the Bill much debated, are those which relate to the appointment and payment of County Superintendents—chiefly the former—and the minimum salaries of teachers. On these two points the minorities of the meetings were considerable, and as it has never been my wish and policy to have school laws enacted and the system established, only by common consent, I purpose to submit recommendations on the two points referred to, which I trust will secure for the School Bill proposed, the cordial support of all parties.

—SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS IN NORTH HASTINGS.—For the information of the friends of education, and also for the encouragement of the pupils of the Common Schools of North Hastings we give an outline of the proceedings of the recent competitive examinations for the Members, and the Warden's prizes. At Rawdon, the spacious Town Hall was crowded to excess, indeed so much so, as to inconvenience the competitors, and detract in some measure from the pleasures of the examination. But notwithstanding these drawbacks, the chairman, Frederick Sine, Esq., with much good management kept all in the best order until the close of the examination. It is with much pleasure that we are enabled to state that the Schools of Rawdon were more fully represented on this, than on any former occasion, the competition more lively, and the progress of the pupils in every way satisfactory, and creditable to the Teachers. A. F. Wood, Esq., the Warden, and Mr. C. K. Fuller, of Huntingdon, Teacher, were the judges selected by the Teachers. At the close of the examination, A. F. Wood, Esq., Dr. Boulter, M. P. P., and the Local Superintendent addressed the pupils and their friends. The examination for Stirling village was held in the Common School room, the pupils attended in force, and competed for the prizes with great animation and spirit. Dr. Boulter, M. P. P., and A. F. Wood, Esq., acted as judges, very kindly assisted by the principal of the Grammar School. At the conclusion of the examination, the pupils were addressed by Dr. Boulter and A. F. Wood, Esq. The examination for Huntingdon Township was held at the Town Hall, Moira, it was well attended by the pupils and their parents, and the utmost order and decorum maintained throughout the proceedings. In this Township more schools were represented than at former similar examinations, and the competition was most spiritedly and amicably kept up until the close of the examination, when the prizes were distributed, and addresses to the pupils and their friends, made by M. Bowell, M. P., Thos. Wills, Esq., and Henry Ostrom, Esq., who acted as judges, after which the pupils and their friends separated, highly pleased with the exercises of the day. The examination for Hungerford Township was held in the splendid new School House at Tweed, which (large as it is,) was well filled in the afternoon with inhabitants of Tweed and of the Township. The competition in this Township was kept up throughout, in the most spirited and amicable spirit. The progress exhibited by the pupils reflects great credit upon their Teachers. After the distribution of the prizes, addresses were made by James Reid, Esq., chairman, Henry Ostrom, Esq., and B. Henry, Esq., who acted as judges, and by the Local Superintendent, complimenting the pupils and their Teachers upon the results of the examination. The village of Bridgewater examination was held in the spacious and well furnished School House of Bridgewater. The attendance of the parents was small, but the pupils entered upon the examination with great spirit, and proved to the satisfaction of all present, that they are well and thoroughly taught. The Rev. Mr. Cullen, Chas. Flint, Esq., Carr, Esq., kindly acted as judges, and after the distribution of the prizes, the pupils and their friends were addressed by the Rev. Mr. Cullen, M. Bowell, Esq., M. P., Chas. Flint, Esq., and others. The pupils of the school agreeably surprised the visitors by singing several appropriate pieces,

accompanied by Miss J. Higgingbotham on the melodeon. The Elziver examination was held at the School House, Bridgewater. The attendance of parents and friends was not numerous. Mr. Tuttle, Teacher, of Bridgewater, and Mr. Humphreys, were appointed judges. We have great pleasure in stating that the pupils of this Township acquitted themselves very creditably, and exhibited a marked improvement in the branches in which they were examined. At the close, the pupils and audience were addressed by M. Bowell, Esq., M. P., James Reid, Esq., and the Superintendent. The Madoc pupils and their friends met in large numbers at the Wesleyan Church, Hazard's Corners; nearly every school in the Township was represented. The judges, selected by the Teachers, were A. Smallfield, Esq., Mr. James Allen, Teacher, Elziver, and Dr. Loomis. The competition in every branch was well maintained throughout the whole of the examination; the pupils proving themselves to be carefully and systematically taught. At the close of the examination addresses were made by M. Bowell, Esq., M. P., the judges and the Local Superintendent. The examination of the village of Madoc was held at the Town Hall, and as there are a boy's and girl's school in the village the competition between the schools was maintained by both with much spirit. The judges selected were the Rev. Mr. Wishart, Rev. Mr. Mockridge, and A. Smallfield Esq. Those who remember the former examination in the same branches must have been most favourably impressed with the improvement which the village schools of Madoc exhibited. With scholars far older, the former examination was a complete failure, the present one was very creditable. The boys' school laboured under a great disadvantage, viz.: A recent change of Teacher. At the conclusion of the examination the judges addressed the pupils and their friends. From the commencement of the examinations at Rawdon until the close, a continued succession of snow storms rendered the cross roads almost impassable, and interfered very materially with the attendance of parents and friends. The examinations at Marmora and Tudor were obliged to be postponed; they will however be held at an early date in the spring. Comparing these examinations with those of former occasions in similar branches, we find that the pupils of Rawdon and Hungerford maintained the high reputation they had gained, and that those of Huntingdon, Madoc and Elziver are decidedly in advance of all their former efforts, teachers and pupils evidently aiming at the attainment of a higher standard. The Common School of Stirling, from being connected with the Grammar School, does not, for obvious reasons, present a fair comparison with the Common Schools of the Townships, the advanced scholars being systematically drafted to the Grammar School; but with all disadvantages, the Teacher, Mr. Sines, maintained, through his scholars, his high reputation as a Teacher. It is to be regretted that there were not more prizes, the number of competitors in many places exceeding fifty in each branch, and the competition so closely maintained that very great difficulty existed in deciding to whom the prize should be awarded. In most Townships it would have afforded the Judges great pleasure to have given six or eight prizes in each class, as many of the pupils elicited warm commendations from them though failing to obtain the prize. At each of the Townships and Villages votes of thanks were passed by the inhabitants to the donors of the prizes—M. Bowell, Esq., M. P., Dr. Boulter, M. P. P., and the Warden of the County, A. F. Wood, Esq.—*Com. to Belleville Intelligencer.*

—KNOX COLLEGE.—The session of 1868-9 of Knox College was closed on Monday in presence of a large audience. After devotional exercises of singing and prayer, the Principal gave a short sketch of the state of the college as to numbers, amounting to nearly seventy, and of arrangements that had been made and carried out to supply the place of Dr. Burns—whose department is Church History, and who has been absent some months in Scotland, but who, the Principal remarked, has been showing, in the course of that time, in more ways than one, the interest he cherishes in that institution; also of the Rev. Mr. Ure, of Goderich, who had been taken ill at an early period, and compelled to withdraw from his duties. He then announced the subject of his lecture to be the Relation of Systematic Theology to the work of the pulpit. The lecture was an able one—appropriate in its subject, clear in its language, forcible in its reasonings and every position laid down was supported by the authority of the divine word.

—EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF THE ENGLISH POOR.—There was a long and interesting discussion in the House on Friday evening on this