

Educational Meetings.

The Teachers' Association of the District of Kings and Hants, Nova Scotia, met in Kentville Academy, July 11th, with about fifty teachers present. The President, Inspector Roscoe, gave the opening address. Papers were read by Mr. E. B. Newcombe "School Houses and Grounds;" Principal A. M. McLeod on "Health;" Principal Smith, of Windsor Academy, on "Physical Training;" Principal Reid, of Wolfville, on "Teachers' Salaries." This was followed by a brief discussion on a Teachers' Union and cognate matters, in which Principal Calkin, of the Normal School, Principals Reid, Miller, McLeod, A. McN. Patterson, Shaw, W. F. Cogswell and Mr. F. J. A. McKittrick took part.

On motion a committee of five, namely, Messrs. McLeod, Miller, Shaw, Miss Burgoyne and Mr. Smith were appointed a committee to draft a memorial to the Government in this connection. In the evening a public meeting was held and largely attended by the citizens. The speakers were Principal Calkin, W. E. Roscoe, barrister, who read an able article on School Punishments, from an historical and legal point of view, which we shall put before the readers of the REVIEW at some future day; Professor Kierstead, of Acadia College, Dr. Allison, Superintendent Education, A. McN. Patterson and Rev. W. P. Begg. On the second day, Miss West, of the Kentville Academy, gave an exhibition of good teaching. Mr. W. T. Gratz read a paper on Arithmetic; Mr. W. S. Shaw on the "Nature Lessons" of the course of study, in which he gave important and sound advice, advocating the lessening of time given to the memorizing of geography, history and kindred subjects in favor of objective science teaching; and Mr. G. W. Coffins on the "Trials and Triumphs of Teachers." In the afternoon a paper on "School and Discipline," by Miss Chute, of Berwick, was read by Mr. B. W. Wallace. Mr. Bishop was elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Association. Closing addresses were delivered by Dr. Allison, Superintendent of Education, Mayor Chipman, of Kentville, and the President, Inspector Roscoe; and the Association adjourned to meet in Hantsport.

Any of our readers who purpose investing in a life or endowment policy will do well to peruse the card of the Ontario Mutual Life Company, published in another column. The General Agent, Mr. E. M. Sipprell, is quite able to explain the merits of his Company which on account of its safety, liberal policy and profit returns is without doubt, one of the best, if not the very best Company doing business in the Dominion.—*Advt.*

N S. Educational Association.

This Association meets in Halifax on Monday evening, December 29th, and will probably adjourn at noon Wednesday 31st—the day before New Year's Day. The programme is not yet complete; but it is expected to be unusually interesting on account of several circumstances. Our readers will find more detailed information in our subsequent issues.

The Summer School of Science of Atlantic Canada will next year be held at Antigonish or in Cape Breton. As soon as the Executive Committee makes its decision we shall have much pleasure in reporting the same. The eastern *Ultima Thule* of the continent is notably one of the most interesting to the tourist as well as to the scientist.

Educational Opinion.

While the colleges of the Maritime Provinces are training a larger number of students, they appear to be in a position to do it better. This indicates great progress in higher education. It remains for some person, or college, or government to come to the front with a project for providing scientific training in agriculture, engineering, the mechanical arts and handicraft.—*St. John Sun.*

From Mr. A. W. Edson's address before a section of the Massachusetts Teachers' Association: "The primary school should furnish an easy and natural transition from the free and unrestricted life at home or the kindergarten to the more arduous life and work of the intermediate and grammar schools. When the true spirit of the kindergarten imbues the heart of every primary teacher then will school life be made pleasurable to every pupil. Into the heart and life of a child there cannot enter too much sunshine. Before school days a child's greatest delight is in acquiring knowledge; the same pleasure in learning may be continued through all school life. All actions should be spontaneous, and should spring from a right motive. In the æsthetic training of children much may be done to lead them to recognize and love the beautiful in nature, art, literature and action. Too often we are reminded of eyes that see not and ears that hear not."

Rev. Edward Thring had a theory upon which he worked. His main principle was simple enough—that every boy is good for something, and that education means to help him to find out what he is good for, and to make the very best of him without making the capacity of one boy the standard of another. The principle sounds almost too obvious for statement. And yet to put into consistent practice, would be to sweep away the very last relic of cram, to change test by examination out of all recognition and