

ization of the youth of both sexes of our country. Mr. Dickson expressed dissent to that part of the report which recommended military drill, as it would tend to foster a military spirit among our youth.—Mr. Cullen said that he would resign his position as a teacher of youth if he were called upon to imbue his pupils with a spirit of military ardour which was inconsistent with the spirit of christianity.—Mr. Preston ascribed his mental activity, cheerful spirit and physical strength to the gymnastic exercises he practised in youth, resulting in giving him the choicest of earthly blessings, health of mind and of body.—Mr. Nelles spoke on the beneficial effects of which these exercises were productive. He advocated the necessity of giving our youth a military as well as an intellectual education, in order that they may be able to stand up at a moment's notice to drive marauders from our land. Mr. Nelles' arguments in favor of physical education was warmly received, and on taking his seat he was warmly applauded.—Messrs. Alexander, McCallum, McNaughton and Ferard spoke in favor of the recommendations of the report.

Professor Robbins, head master Normal School, Montreal, and delegate from the Lower Canada Protestant teachers' association, addressed the meeting, giving explicit views of the working of the educational system of Lower Canada.—The following resolution was then moved by Mr. J. B. Dixon, seconded by Mr. R. Canfield, "That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to Prof. Robbins for his excellent address to which we have just listened, and we cannot refrain from expressing our hope that Lower Canada may before long enjoy the blessing of a national system of education, free from all sectarian tests, and that we deeply sympathise with the Lower Canadian minority, and hope that they may enjoy the privilege of the Upper Canadian minority."—Carried.

Dr. Wickson, on the second day, read an appropriate address, for which the thanks of the convention were unanimously voted him.

Finance Committee.—Mr. McMurchy moved, seconded by Mr. A. McCallum, "that Messrs. McCabe and David Ormiston be a finance committee to examine the treasurer's accounts for the year 1865-66, and report at the first session to-day."—Carried.

Incorporation.—Mr. Anderson moved, seconded by Mr. McCabe, "that a committee be appointed to consider the propriety of having this association incorporated, and the best means of carrying out this object, and that said committee consist of Messrs. McCabe, Alexander Buchanan, and the mover, to report in the afternoon."

Mr. McCabe read and submitted the report of the committee on the incorporation of the association, as follows:—"Your committee recommend that steps forthwith be taken to secure the incorporation of this association, provided this can be done under the general act applying to Mechanics' Institutes and Literary Associations. But, if on due inquiry it be found that this cannot be accomplished, your committee would recommend that we ask the legislature for a special act, provided that, after due consideration, the association do not consider the expense attending the passage of such an act too great." After a somewhat lengthy discussion the report was received. Mr. J. C. Buchanan presented the report of a minority of the committee, which was also on motion received. This minority report was in the shape of a petition to the legislature for an act to incorporate the local teacher's associations of the province. As the principal features of such an act it was suggested that all the legally qualified teachers of grammar and common schools in each electoral division for a representative in the legislative assembly of Upper Canada, be a body corporate under the name of "The Local Teachers' Association of—" and as such have a perpetual succession and a common seal; that each of the local associations shall annually elect a delegate to represent it in the general association; that the delegates so elected be a body corporate under the name of "The General Association of the Teachers of Upper Canada;" that the associations, both local and general, have power to frame by-laws for their government, to impose fines, &c; that the common and grammar schools of Upper Canada be entitled to send a member to represent them in the legislative assembly, such member to be elected by the general association. The minority report did not receive the approval of the convention, and the majority report was adopted on motion of Mr. Scarlett, seconded by Mr. Alexander. Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. W. Watson, "That Messrs. McCabe, McCallum, David Ormiston, Alexander and Buchanan be a committee to take into consideration the feasibility of carrying into effect the report of the committee on the act of incorporation and report at the next meeting." In amendment it was moved by Mr. McAllister and seconded by Mr. Seath, "That Messrs. McCabe, Rev. Dr. Wickson and Anderson be a special committee to carry out the wishes of the association as expressed in the report of the committee on incorporation"—which was carried. Moved by Mr. McAllister, seconded by Mr. David Ormiston, "That a committee be appointed to draft a by-law defining the duties of standing com-

mittees, which committee shall consist of Messrs. D. Ormiston, McCabe and the mover."—Carried.

Vagrant Children.—The following topic was introduced, viz:—The consideration of what means can be adopted, in connection with our system of education, for ameliorating the condition of the vagrant children of our cities and towns. In connection therewith, it was moved by Mr. McNaughton, seconded by Mr. Scarlett, "that in view of the great and growing evil of irregularity of the attendance in our schools, this convention would recommend the following as a remedy: That every child in a school section shall be required to attend school at least four months' in each year, in default of which the parent, or guardian, shall pay 25 cents for each pupil for each month during which he fails to comply with the above requirement; that for the non-payment of fines, the proper authorities shall have power to punish by imprisonment for a term not exceeding two months, and that no month shall be counted in which the pupil has been absent more than five days." In amendment it was moved by Mr. J. Carlyle, seconded by Mr. Seath, "that this association fully recognize the importance of regular attendance, and hope that ere long measures will be adopted to compel the attendance of all children at school for at least four months of each year." There was a lengthy discussion upon both the resolution and the amendment, in which several of the members took part. On a division, there appeared for the amendment 19 ayes and 15 noes, and it was consequently pronounced carried, and the resolution lost. It was moved that the second topic (viz: The consideration of the present system of granting certificates of qualification to teachers), be the first order of business this morning.—Carried. It was afterwards moved that the third topic (viz: The advisability of appointing township boards of trustees in the rural sections), be considered immediately afterwards.—Carried.

Reception of Delegates.—The following delegates were then received and addressed the convention, viz: Messrs. William Watson of York; Edward Scarlett of Northumberland; William Meredith of the North Riding of Ontario; J. Seath of Peel; Robert Alexander of the North Riding of York; J. C. Buchanan of Waterloo; A. J. Campbell of Wentworth; Thos. Frood of Wentworth; H. Reazin of North Ontario; Arch. Dewar of Huron; W. W. Nelles, M.A., of Huron, and Charles McCartney of Wentworth. Their remarks were principally upon the workings of the school system in the respective localities which they represented.

Interests of the Association.—The report of the committee appointed for the purpose of suggesting the best means of advancing the interests of this association was presented and read by the chairman, Mr. Wm. Anderson, as follows:—

"Your committee having met and taken into consideration the question submitted to them beg leave to recommend: 1st. That a secretary be appointed in each county whose duty it shall be to advocate the formation of associations within the limits of their respective counties, and report annually the result of his labors to the provincial association through its secretary; 2nd.—That a committee be appointed to prepare a circular letter to be addressed to the teachers of the province, upon the importance and advantages of teachers' associations; 3rd.—That in order to facilitate the attendance of teachers at the annual conventions, the summer vacations throughout the rural sections as well as in cities, towns and villages, consist of four weeks, commencing not later than the middle of July; 4th.—That in the opinion of your committee the incorporation of the association would be attended with decided advantages." The report was considered clause by clause, the first and second of which were adopted unanimously and without discussion. The third clause occasioned considerable discussion, and the following was substituted in its place: "That in the opinion of this convention the holding of local and provincial conventions is of great importance to the interests of education and the improvement of the teachers, and that since the present holiday regulations necessitate the holding of local conventions during the sitting of the provincial association, the authorities be respectfully requested to grant the last two weeks in July and the first two weeks in August as a summer vacation for common schools in general, and that all teachers availing themselves of the two weeks additional vacation be obliged to spend at least one week each year in attending either the local or provincial conventions during said vacation." The health of both the teachers and pupils was dwelt upon by several of the speakers as an urgent reason why the four weeks' vacation, as in the cities, towns and incorporated villages, should be extended to the rural sections. The fourth clause was unanimously adopted, and did not call forth any discussion.

Mr. J. C. Buchanan moved, seconded by Mr. J. Hunter, "That the board of directors appoint, in each County of Upper Canada, secretaries in counties or parts of counties to attend to the interests of this association."—Carried.

Recording Daily work in Schools—System of Merit Cards.—The chairman, Mr. McCabe, presented the report of the special