

of these did not necessarily receive a prize, but were kept for determining the rank in General Proficiency.

The Examiners were, for Drummond, Inspector Slack, Dr. Thornton and Rev. R. L. Stevenson; and for Bathurst, Inspector Slack, Dr. Thornton and James H. Stewart.—*Perth Expositor*.

2. MAP DRAWING IN THE HAMILTON SCHOOLS.

A noticeable feature in the fine arts department of the Exhibition was some excellent specimens of map drawing by various pupils of the Central School. They were entered this time as extras among the fine arts, but we hope to see them classed in future as a regular branch of the department. The drawings consisted of maps of the continental divisions of the globe, and of smaller portions of country. One of the latter class was a map of the County of Wentworth, displaying the townships, concessions, etc. Another drawing was a sketch, taken probably from imagination, of the burning of the steamer *Kingston*, on Lake Ontario, very nicely done in pencil. We trust attention will be given to this branch at exhibitions yet to come off, and that every encouragement will be tendered to the pupils of other schools, inducing greater competition. It is a fact well known—or should be at least—that by drawing maps of countries the pupil will imbibe a more lasting impression of their outlines and physical features than by any other mode of teaching them. Geography, with this method of teaching, becomes a live pleasure for the pupil instead of a hated task. The specimens shown were recommended for a prize, which they richly deserved.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

3. NEW SCHOOL HOUSE FOR COLOURED PEOPLE, CHATHAM.

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE.

In lately noticing the new buildings in the course of erection in town, we mentioned, amongst others, a brick School House, to be erected on the corner of King and Princess streets, for the exclusive use of our coloured population. The corner stone was laid yesterday (Tuesday) at four o'clock, p.m. The Chairman, Major Baxter, opened the proceedings with a short speech. He said that they were met there that day for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a new School House. He had much pleasure in stating that Mr. R. K. Payne, an old townsman and the oldest school trustee, was to have the honour of performing the ceremony. He (the Major) had no doubt but the new building would prove of great benefit to the rising generation, as well as be a credit to the town. The stone was then hoisted into position, and Mr. Payne stepped forward and said that, in the name of the Almighty God of all, he would lay the corner stone of the building about to be erected. He hoped that He would bless the labours of the teachers of the school; it was for the good of society it was erected, and he hoped that many attending the school would be made good citizens and good Christians. Mr. Payne then gave a reminiscence of the progress of school building and school matters in Chatham for a period of 30 years. He said that when he first knew the place, the census amounted to 364, and the number of buildings was 64, and now they had no less than 1,200 children alone attending school. In the year 1851 the present gaol was opened, and for 8 or 9 years afterwards the number of prisoners averaged 100 yearly, but since then the number was very few indeed, and he attributed the cause of this to the attention paid to the education of the young. Mr. Payne then took hold of the trowel and spread the mortar, the stone was lowered into its place, the square, plumb and level were artistically applied, a sufficient number of blows were given with the mallet, and Mr. Payne pronounced the corner stone laid. Rev. Mr. McColl said that it was a matter of great thankfulness that the schools were in such a good condition as described by Mr. Payne. From the time that he had been connected with the schools he could testify to the anxiety of all members of the board to do the best in their power for all parties. He was glad to see that the school, the corner stone of which was then laid, was to be erected in such a commodious and suitable place. The chairman then proposed three cheers for the Queen, leading off himself, which having been given, the ceremony was over. The Trustees afterwards treated the contractors, workmen and visitors to an excellent lunch of ale and bread and cheese, on the ground. The stone is in the north-east corner of the entrance porch, and the figures 1873 are engraved upon it in bold relief. In a galvanized iron box, hermetically sealed and placed in a cavity in the stone, has been deposited a sheet of parchment on which is engrossed the following:—"This School House was erected in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, in the 36th year of Her Majesty's reign; His Excellency

Lord Dufferin, K.C.B., &c., &c., Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada; His Honour W. P. Howland, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario; Rufus Stephenson, Esq., M.P., and James Dawson, Esq., M.P.P., County of Kent; Robert Lowe, Esq., Mayor of the Town of Chatham; Thomas McCrae, Esq., Police Magistrate, Commission dated 1855; Alexander Brown Baxter, Wm. McKeough, James A. Holmes, Tecumseh K. Holmes, M.D., Daniel R. Van Allen and Robert K. Payne, Esquires, Public School Trustees; Rev. A. McColl, Inspector; David Smith, Esq., Secretary; Wm. Gonne, Esq., Architect, and Messrs. James Baxter & Co., Builders. The population of the town of Chatham, 6,500; number of children attending schools, 1,200; five School Houses; fifteen teachers; one High School; two Roman Catholic Schools—separate."—*Chatham Planet*.

4. ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL PIC-NIC, CHATHAM.

A GREAT SUCCESS—OVER 1,500 PERSONS PRESENT.

The Grand Pic-Nic in aid of the funds for the erection of a new Separate School in Chatham came off in McGregor's Grove, near the town, on Wednesday last, and proved to be one of the most successful affairs of the kind we remember. By eleven o'clock, a.m., there were assembled beneath the shade of the trees in that popular rendezvous fully fifteen hundred people, of all creeds and origins, from town and country—amongst them being many from Windsor, Sandwich, Wallaceburg, Dresden, Thamesville, Blenheim, and other distant points—all bent upon a day's enjoyment. The *coup d'œil* was, indeed, very pleasing and picturesque, with the innumerable carriages, waggons, &c., encircling the chief points of attraction. D. Mills, Esq., M.P., spoke for a considerable time, taking for his subject the importance to all of good education, and showing the advantages the young now possessed in obtaining it. His remarks were interspersed with anecdotes. R. S. Woods, Esq., was next called upon and introduced by the chairman. Mr. Woods spoke at some length, and his remarks were well received by the immense assemblage. The third speaker was Mons. J. A. Foisy, who was introduced by the chairman in English as well as French, and delivered a lengthy address in French, on education and nationality, enjoining his compatriots never to cease cultivating their own native tongue, which was one of the most useful as well as elegant of modern languages. He regretted to find that many Frenchmen, when they settle in this country, allow their children to acquire the English language almost exclusively, taking no trouble to have them also taught their native tongue, which should not be. Dr. Holmes next spoke shortly on the same subject, and he was followed by Jos. Northwood, Esq., who approved of this movement to increase the educational facilities of the town, and said he would use his influence with the Council in procuring a grant for the new school. W. S. Stripp, Esq., then spoke at some length, and well, upon the general subject of education. R. Stephenson, Esq. M.P., briefly addressed the audience, expressing the great pleasure he had in being present on such an interesting occasion, late though it was. His remarks were well received. At the intervals in the delivery of the speeches, the old Chatham Cornet Band neatly executed several popular airs, which gave general satisfaction. A novel proposition was then made, that the audience should intimate their ideas of the party who made the most effective speech by subscribing in his name toward the school fund, he in whose name the largest amount was raised to be presented with a handsome walking cane, exhibited by the chairman. Two names were given in, viz.: R. S. Woods and D. Mills, and, the hat having been taken round in name of each, the former received \$11.50, and the latter only half a dollar. Therefore, it was decided that the speech of Mr. Woods was that of the day, and the cane was handed to Mr. Salter for presentation to him, and that that was done well may be taken for granted. This most successful *fête* broke up at six p.m.—*Chatham Planet*.

III. Papers on General Educational Subjects.

1. NECESSITY FOR RAISING TEACHERS' SALARIES.

We are glad to hear that the question of salaries has been referred to a Committee of the Board of Trustees to report at the next meeting. The City Council very properly took into consideration the salaries of their officials, and raised them so as to bring them into greater conformity with the advance that has taken place in all the necessities of life. Every one knows and admits that any salary, say of \$500, \$700, or \$1,000, is a very different thing to-day, as a means of providing for a family, from what it represented only a short time ago. Neither need we look upon the change that has taken place in the purchasing power of these sums as of only