

* Question Drawer. *

ONTARIO TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE Thirtieth Annual Convention of the Ontario Teachers' Association will be held at Niagara-on-the-Lake on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 12th to 15th, 1890.

PROGRAMME—GENERAL ASSOCIATION.

"The Teaching of English and Literature," J. Squair, M.A., University College, Toronto.

"The Powers and Responsibilities of Head Masters," F. C. Powell, Principal, County Model School, Kincardine.

"Text Books," I. J. Birchard, Ph.D., Collegiate Institute, Brantford.

"Constitution of Examining Boards," L. E. Embree, M.A., Collegiate Institute, Toronto.

"Organization of a Dominion Association," Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education.

"The Object to be Accomplished in Teaching Reading," Silas S. Neff, President National School of Elocution and Oratory, Philadelphia.

"Discussion on Advanced English Schools in Rural Districts," J. H. Smith, Public School Inspector, Ancaster.

"Manual Training," W. H. Huston, M.A., Principal Woodstock College.

"Psychology in its Relation to the Teaching Profession."

Report of Committee on the Professional Training of Teachers.

Report of Committee on the Mode of Electing the Officers of this Association.

HIGH SCHOOL SECTION.

"The Preparation of Candidates for Senior Matriculation," S. Woods, M.A., Collegiate Institute, London.

"The High School Course in Physics and its Relation to the Other Science Subjects," W. S. Ellis, M.A., Collegiate Institute, Cobourg.

"The High School Entrance Examination," H. B. Spotton, M.A., Collegiate Institute, Barrie.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SECTION.

"Abolition of Technical Grammar," Mr. R. K. Rowe, Kingston.

"Report of Committee on Public School Studies," Mr. John Munro, Ottawa.

"Agriculture in Public Schools."

"Some Thoughts on Teaching Arithmetic," Mr. J. H. Smith, Ancaster.

PUBLIC SCHOOL INSPECTORS' SECTION.

"Management of Teachers' Institutes," Mr. Alexander Campbell, Kincardine.

"Mode of Conducting County Model Schools," Mr. William Macintosh, Madoc.

"Third Class Certificates—County or Provincial."

"The Bearing of the Public School Inspectors towards the Newly Organized Trustees' Association," D. P. Clapp, B.A., Harriston.

"Where Uniform Promotion Examinations are Established, no Others to be Allowed."

"Relation of Public School Inspectors to County Model Schools."

Thursday afternoon will be devoted to an excursion to Queenston Heights.

Information respecting routes, reduced rates of travel, board, etc., may be obtained from Wm. Houston, M.A., Librarian Legislative Assembly, Toronto. Blank forms for delegates may be obtained from the Secretary.

S. Woods, M.A., President, London; R. W. Doan, Secretary, Dufferin School, Toronto.

(1) AM a student studying privately. What steps should I take in order that I may be allowed to write on the Second Class Non-Professional examination in city of Toronto?

(2) Is there anything to hinder me from writing in that city? Have no particular home, and have not resided there for some time.—STUDENT.

[1, 2. Send to the Inspector within whose Division you wish to write, not later than May 24th, a notice of your intentions, stating for what class of certificate you are a candidate, and what options you have selected, and enclose the \$5 fee.]

1. CAN anyone leave a school, with one month's notice, to attend college, if there has been no written agreement?

2. What does the School Law mean by calendar month when it says "three (calendar) months' notice must be given"? Does it mean from the first of one month to the end of the same, or from a certain date of one month to the same of the next?—E. S.

[1. Only written agreements are legally binding hence, in the absence of such, we suppose one month's notice would have to be accepted. There may be, however, some legal rule governing such cases. If there was a verbal understanding an honorable teacher will, of course, be bound by it. 2. The natural interpretation of the words quoted would be three months from the date of notice. It is, however, a question of legal interpretation, and our opinion should not be taken as conclusive.]

WHAT books will be required for Normal school work next session, and price of each?—A NEW SUBSCRIBER.

[In addition to the High school books, the text-books prescribed for the Normal schools are: Browning's Educational Theories, .80 cts.; Hopkin's Outline Study of Man, \$1.25; Fitch's Lectures on Teaching, \$1.00; Baldwin's Art of School Management (Canadian Edition), 75 cts.; Manual of Hygiene, \$1.00; and Houghton's Physical Culture, 50 cts.]

PLEASE inform me, through the EDUCATIONAL JOURNAL, how many teaching days in the year 1890, and how many in the first half of it.—TEACHER.

[Regulation 204 says: "The Public school year shall consist of two terms: the first shall begin on the third day of January, and end on the first Friday of July; the second shall begin on the third Monday of August and end on the twenty-third day of December. Every Saturday, every statutory holiday, and every day proclaimed a holiday by the municipal authorities in which the school section or division is situated shall be a holiday in the Public schools." The statutory holidays are: Sundays, New Year's Day (if Sunday, next day), Good Friday, Easter Monday, Christmas Day (if Sunday, next day), Queen's Birthday, Dominion Day, (or if Sunday, July 2nd.) Any day appointed by proclamation for a public holiday or for a general fast or thanksgiving throughout Canada. Any day appointed by proclamation of Lieut.-Governor for public holiday, fast or thanksgiving. With these data you can solve the problem.]

A PUPIL, having been repeatedly warned against using his knife in school hours, is finally deprived of it. The knife is placed in teacher's desk, but when wanted cannot be found. Is the teacher responsible, and should he make good the property?—X. Y. Z.

[The question is a legal rather than an educational one. If asked our opinion we should say "Yes." The teacher has no power, so far as we are aware, to confiscate a pupil's property. Suppose the article in question had been worth a hundred dollars, instead of a few cents, would not the teacher be responsible morally and legally? But the difference in value does not affect the principle.]

(1) IN the last stanza of "The Bridge of Sighs," High School Reader:

Cross her hands humbly,
As if in prayer dumbly,
Over her breast;
Owning her weakness,
Her ill behavior—
And leaving, with meekness,
Her sins to her Savior.

What is the subj. of *owning* and leaving? Is it *her hands, you or she*?

2. What is the county town of Durham?—X. Y. Z.

[(1) *She*, undoubtedly, we should say. (2) Bow-manville.]

PLEASE answer the following questions in your Question Drawer:

1. Are there any newly-erected States of the Union besides North and South Dakota? If so please name them and their Capitals.

2. Is Burmah entirely a British possession? What is its Capital?

3. Is it wrong to pronounce Wycliffe with "y" long?

[1. Yes. Montana, capital Helena, and Washington, capital Olympia. Bills are now before Congress for the admission of Wyoming and Idaho. 2. Yes. Burmah has been entirely a British possession since the proclamation of the Viceroy on January 1, 1886, deposing Thebaw, the last king of Ava, and incorporating Upper Burmah in the British Empire. 3. We know of no authority or usage that sanctions such a pronunciation.

WHAT important tracts of land has England acquired possession of in Africa during the nineteenth century?—SUBSCRIBER.

[Cape Colony was taken from the Dutch in 1806. Port Natal was settled in 1838. Nearly all the other British possessions in Africa, with the exception of Sierra Leone and Gambia have been acquired recently. It is not easy to define these, as they are for the most part dimly outlined and imperfectly explored regions in the interior. Some of them can hardly be called possessions, but are loosely described as "within the sphere of British influence." Among them is a large district between Victoria Nyanza and the coast. The final divisions of territory between Great Britain and other European nations are not yet fully settled. Whether the British suzerainty of the Transvaal and Protectorate of Egypt will result in permanent control remains to be seen. It is probable that the habitable regions of the vast interior of the Continent will be definitely portioned out amongst the great Powers within a decade or two, when Britain is sure to come in for a large share. Two powerful British companies have been chartered within a few years, with extensive powers, to acquire possessions and do business in different parts of Africa.]

YOU are mistaken in your answer to question in JOURNAL, May 1st, in reference to limit of number of scholars in rural S.S. for the engagement of an assistant. On p. 96 of Trustee School Manual you will find the limit fixed at 120.—SUBSCRIBER, Queensville.

[Thanks for the correction. We could find no limit in School Law or Regulations. But the number is too large by half.]

WHAT is the English for

"Amicitia est bona

Amo est melior?"—J.A.G.

[The sentence, as given, is unmeaning. Substitute *amor* for *amo*, and it means, "Friendship is good, love is better."]

I HAVE a class of pupils who have just commenced school work and I find it difficult to give them work suited to their capacity. They are between the ages of five and seven. Would you kindly ask some teacher of experience to give a few hints with regard to his method of procedure with pupils at the above stage, and oblige a young teacher.—SUBSCRIBER.

IN the following line from the Forsaken Merchant, "When guests shake the door," I substituted "gusts" as what I considered the correct reading, and have since ascertained that I am correct.—W. R. LOUGH, Clinton.

[Thanks; the correction simplifies the passage.]

1. "THE Ocean," p. 247, Fourth Reader, 1st stanza, "And feel what I can ne'er express, yet cannot all conceal." What is referred to?

2. 3rd stanza. Explain "Spurning him from thy bosom to the skies."