

The Institute was placed under the direction of Mr. S. R. Sweet, an experienced conductor of these associations. Among the resolutions adopted by the members of the Institute at Schenectady, we observe one in favor of *free schools*, and another in approbation of *Teachers' Institutes* as a means of elevating our Common Schools.

This is the first Institute ever held in

Schenectady county, and the first under the provisions of the law. It was well attended, vigorously and profitably conducted, and will tend greatly to advance the Common School interests of that county. We understand that several students of Union College, who had been Teachers and design to engage in the business again, participated in the exercises of the Institute."

SCHOOLS IN THE CITIES OF BUFFALO AND TORONTO.—The same School law obtains in Buffalo which has been enacted for Cities and Incorporated Towns in Upper Canada, with this slight difference—that in Buffalo the Members of the Corporation constitute the School Trustees or Commissioners for the City, while in Canada each Corporation appoints them, either from its members, or not, at its pleasure. But the machinery of the system and the principle on which the Schools are supported, are the same in Buffalo as they are in Toronto, or any other Incorporated Town in Upper Canada. We have heard no practical objection whatever to the machinery of the law; the practical objection has been to the *principle of supporting the Schools*. The only one of the sixteen City and Town Corporations in Upper Canada which has yet, as far as we know, objected to this principle by shutting up the Schools, is that of Toronto. We have heretofore shown, that when the Schools of a City or Town are properly arranged and established, the expense of the proposed efficient system of universal education will be less expensive to such City or Town than the past inefficient system of partial education has been. We copy the following from the *New-York State District School Journal* for the present month—leaving every reader to form his own opinion of the comparative intelligence and public spirit exhibited by the School proceedings of the Corporations of Toronto and Buffalo:—

"The City of Buffalo apportioned for the year 1848, the sum of \$19,000 for the support of her free schools. Of this amount, \$2,800 are for the purchase of a lot and house for the African School, leaving \$16,200 for the ordinary purposes of the schools. This is only about 40 cents per annum for each inhabitant,

which is certainly a moderate tax for the education of all the children of that city, especially when it is considered that its schools, to which every child has free access, are not surpassed in the State.

The success of the Buffalo Schools, affords unanswerable arguments in favor of the free school system."

FREE SCHOOLS IN THE STATE OF INDIANA.—It should not be forgotten that by Free Schools are not meant Schools to which access may be had without pay on the part of Parents and Guardians of Children, but Schools to which all may have free access by all paying according to property—thus making the