

A successful entertainment was recently given by the pupils of the Listowel High School. The programme consisted of choruses, songs, duets, instrumental selections on the piano and by the mouth-organ band, dialogues, readings, etc. The performers were nearly all pupils or ex-pupils of the school. The audience was large and appreciative. Something over \$40 was realized, which we understand is to be devoted to establishing a gymnasium in connection with the school.

The Petrolia High School Literary Society gave a very successful literary entertainment the other evening. The pecuniary object of the entertainment, viz., to raise funds for the purchase of a musical instrument for use in the school, was realized, over \$100 having been taken. The exercises consisted of choruses, solos, duets, tableaux, recitations, readings, etc. The amount raised shows that the attendance must have been exceptionally good.

From the report of the Minister of Education it appears that the total number of Public Schools in Ontario during the last school year was 5,316; the number of Teachers is—male, 2,829; female, 4,082; total 6,911. Average salary—male, \$122; female, \$271. Total school population, 478,791. Total attendance 464,369, average attendance 215,561 of girls 220,308, and boys 243,675. Total expenditure \$3,108,429. Cost per pupil \$14.42. Total sum paid to teachers \$2,210,186. Of Separate Schools there are 194, with an attendance of 26,177, costing \$11.20 per pupil. The total cost was \$153,611; the 297 teachers were paid \$91,702.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The annual examination of the Fanning School, Macpeque, Prince Edward Island, in connection with the Cumberland Scholarships and Prizes, was held 24th March. It was conducted by Chief Superintendent D. Montgomery. The Prize List was based on the results of his examination, and the records of the school as kept by the Principal, Mr. John A. MacPhail. The scholarships and prizes arise from an endowment fund placed in the hands of trustees for the purpose by Mrs. Cumberland, Leamington, England, daughter of Ex-Governor Fanning. The income amounts to \$146 per year. The examination was made a public occasion, and there was present a large number of visitors to witness the proceedings. Following is the list of the prize winners.—

FANNING SCHOOL CUMBERLAND PRIZE LIST.—JOHN A. MACPHAIL, PRINCIPAL, MARCH 24, 1885.

Scholarships.—Mary Laura Hodgson. *Grade VII.*—*First Prize:* Erskine Johnston Keir. *Grade VII.*—*Second Prize:* Janie MacNutt. *Grade VI.*—*First Prize:* Clara Jane Ramsay. *Grade VI.*—*Second Prize:* Anne Craig. *Grade V.*—*First Prize:* John Owen MacGougan. *Grade V.*—*Second Prize:* Mary Jessie Ramsay. *Grade III.*—*First Prize:* William Scott Beirsto. *Grade III.*—*Second Prize:* Lizzie Crozier. *Grade III.*—*First Prize:* Emma Beirsto. *Grade III.*—*Second Prize:* Ernest Moraisson. *Grade II.*—*Prize:* Mary Beirsto. *Grade I.*—*Prize:* Emma Larkin. *Primary Grade:* William Murphy.

REV. GEORGE MACMILLANS PRIZE FOR COMPOSITION.

First Prize: Erskine Johnston Keir. *Second Prize:*—*Junior:* Mary Jessie Ramsay.

THE PRINCIPAL'S PRIZE FOR LATIN.

Susan Richards Stewart.

THE PRINCIPAL'S PRIZE TO THE MOST POPULAR PUPIL.

Erskine Johnston Keir and Bertha Beirsto. Awarded to the latter.

Literary Chit-Chat.

Mrs. Susanna Moodie, the author of "Roughing it in the Bush," "Life in the Clearings," and other popular Canadian books, died the other day at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. J. J. Vickers. Mrs. Moodie was a daughter of Thomas Strickland, Reydon Hall, Suffolk, England, and a sister of Agnes Strickland, the well-known author. The story of the struggle through which she passed, in common with many of the early settlers in Ontario, is graphically told in her "Roughing it in the Bush." She died at the ripe age of eighty-two.

Richard Grant White, the well-known Shakespeare scholar, and student of philology, died last week in New York, aged 64 years. He was long a distinguished contributor to the *Atlantic Monthly*, and other American magazines.

A new book by Mr. Stanley, the African explorer, will shortly be issued by Harper Bros. The title of the work will be "The Congo and the founding of its new state; a Study of Work and Exploration." It will have many maps and illustrations.

A new story, the scenes and characters of which are drawn from an almost virgin soil, is "Pilot Fortune," by Marian C. L. Reeves and Emily Read. The incidents are drawn from the lives of the inhabitants of Bryer Island, in Nova Scotia, a "hurly-burly of dark rocks where the eddies never rest."

The Novelist, John B. Alden, New York, publisher, has been changed from newspaper form, to the much more convenient and attractive of a magazine.

"Across the Chasin," is the title of a new novel about to be issued by the Scribners. Its title seems to indicate that it deals with relations between North and South, and the publishers claim that it is a hit.

Art and Music.

The earliest known occasion of the name *pianoforte* being publicly used was in a play-bill dated May 16, 1767, a copy of which is preserved by the Broadwoods of London. The piece announced was the *Beygar's Opera*. Part of the attraction is thus given:—"Miss Buckler will sing a song from *Judith*, accompanied by Mr. Dibdin upon a new instrument called '*pianoforte*.'"

In one corner of a poorly lighted rear room on the fourth floor of a house in Salzburg, stands a bust of the author of *Don Giovanni*, on the base of which is inscribed, in four languages, "Mozart's cradle stood here."

Some important criticisms have been given lately in Boston papers upon concerts which *did not take place*, but it is not only in America that these mistakes occur. The great Hanslick, the most prominent critic of the world, a few years ago fell into the same trap. Leaving a concert before it was over, he wrote in his paper the next day, "Herr X. sang two Schubert *Lieder* with his usual beauty of expression; while, alas! Herr X. had a sore throat, sent an excuse, and did not sing at all."—*Musical Herald*.

The Kellogg-Huntington concert in the pavilion of the Horticultural Gardens, on Friday evening last, was a rich treat to lovers of music. Miss Kellogg was warmly greeted on her re-appearance after six years of absence. Miss Huntington sustained the fine reputation she is rapidly achieving, and the renderings by the Buffalo String Quartette Club, of various selections from the masters, contributed largely to render the entertainment one of the best.

A festival of two week's duration will be held by English actors, at Shakespeare's Birthplace, beginning April 20. Performances of the poet's plays will be given at the Memorial Theatre. Unless a mob of Baconians appear to disturb the scene, the participants will doubtless enjoy themselves.—*The Current*.

Correspondence.

THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE.

To the Editor of THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL.

SIR.—In your issue of April 6th there are two articles on which I would like to say a few words. In one of them you imply that women in Ontario are less advantageously situated than women in Quebec in the matter of university education. In the other you advocate the establishment of "special courses and specialized colleges." I propose to show that the Provincial University system, if it were not "crippled for want of funds," as you admit it to be, would fairly meet the wants of both the women and the specialists without going to the expense of erecting new institutions.

At present all women who desire to do so can come up on the same terms as men to the examinations in Toronto University, and can attend the classes in University College. They can enjoy all the advantages afforded by a foundation of more than three quarters of a million of dollars in the shape of tuition, library, museums, and laboratories. True, they must take the lectures at the same