

Notes and News.

ONTARIO.

The publishers will be much obliged to teachers and others for items of information of interest to the profession in Ontario. It is much better that notes should be written instead of clipped from newspapers.

If ever an able and ambitious student had reason to feel grievously disappointed, Mr. Huston, of the Pickering College staff, certainly has. He was really "three days too old" when he began to write, although not 22 when he made his application. He reflected great credit on Canadian scholarship, and entered upon the examination with the assurance that he was eligible, as the following letter shows plainly:

[No. 993.]

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, ONTARIO,
TORONTO, 11th June, 1880.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, respecting the age of applicants for the "Gilchrist Scholarship," and to inform you, in reply, that a candidate who has not completed his twenty-second year at the time of his application is eligible for the scholarship.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. USSHER,

Acting Asst. Secretary.

W. H. HUSTON, Esq.,
Whitby.

By hard work and his own native ability, he stands ahead of all competitors, and out of some 600 or 700 candidates from the English Universities who wrote from the same papers, holds the high position of only eighth from the head of the list, and thirteen higher than Mr. Murray Howard, to whom the scholarship was awarded. A mere technicality or error, for which Mr. Huston is in no way responsible, may deprive this gentleman of the honor given to another. Justice certainly gives Mr. Huston the Gilchrist Scholarship, and his friends will warmly congratulate him on the result.

The following gentlemen constitute the staff of the St. Mary's Collegiate Institute.—James E. Wetherell, B.A., Medallist in Classics, Toronto University, Principal; John E. Tom, First Class A, Medallist of Toronto Normal School; Wm. McClure, B.A., Gold Medallist in Mathematics, McGill University, Montreal; Isaac M. Levan, B.A., Honor Graduate of Toronto University. A fifth Master will be appointed for the Winter and Spring Terms. It is good policy for a Board of Education to get good men, and better still to pay them good salaries.

The Ontario Commercial College is doing a good deal to add to the respect entertained abroad for Canadian schools. During the last term of the college it was attended by students from Bermuda, West Indies, New York State, Pennsylvania, Quebec, New Brunswick, and all parts of Ontario. The following, clipped from the Belleville *Intelligencer*, shows that the reputation for thoroughness which the college has earned is producing results which must be gratifying to its managers:—"A young man named Donald Ross, son of Roderick Ross, Esq., Chief Factor of the Hudson Bay Company in the Norway House district in the North West, arrived in Belleville yesterday to attend Ontario Commercial College. The journey from Norway House to Winnipeg took fifteen days, and from Winnipeg to Belleville four. Mr. Ross chose the Belleville College for his son from among Canadian institutions owing to the reputation it has in the Hudson Bay Company service."

Farmersville High School passed 12 students at the last Intermediate—3 A, 5 B, and 4 Int. Well done, Farmersville!

The following is the Time Table of the next Entrance Examination for admission of candidates to High Schools and Collegiate Institutes in Ontario. Wednesday, December 21st, 1881: 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Geography; 10:45 a.m. to 12 m., Composition; 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Grammar. Thursday, December 22nd, 1881: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Arithmetic; 11:10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Dictation; 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Fourth Book and Spelling; 2:35 p.m. to 4:05 p.m., History.

We are glad to learn that Mr. J. A. Wismer is succeeding in evoking a spirit of enthusiasm in Parkdale in favor of the Public School. Earnestness and tact generally produce this result. We clip the following from the *Parkdale Gazette*: "I have visited the

school several times since the new regime has been established, and find that the newly appointed master, Mr. Wismer, a gentleman of kindly disposition and classical attainments, has already raised the standard of the classes and brought the school to a state of discipline hitherto unattempted, adopting a curriculum intended to advance rapidly the progress of the pupils; but in order to successfully carry out this, a change in a few of the text books is absolutely necessary—without which the studies of the children would be seriously retarded."

We are glad to learn that Mr. J. C. Glashan, Inspector of Public Schools in Ottawa, and a member of the Central Committee of Examiners for Ontario has recovered from his recent severe illness.

The public spirited School Board of Kingston has provided an excellent library of over three thousand volumes in their handsome Board Room, for the use of the ratepayers of the City. It is gratifying to know that during the past year over twelve thousand volumes were taken out.

Mr. Kidd, Inspector of Public Schools in Kingston, has been suffering from a severe illness for a considerable time. His many friends will be glad to learn that he is now convalescent, with the prospect of entire restoration to health.

Mr. James McNevin's recent experience is an illustration of the fact that trustees throughout the Province are keeping watch for the men who are most successful in raising the standard of their schools. When the comparatively small High School at Caledonia passed nearly as many pupils as the "Ambitious City Institute" many were surprised, and at least two School Boards decided to secure a portion of the Caledonia leaven. Mr. McNevin was appointed Mathematical Master in Walkerton High School, but had only spent a week in his new position when he received an offer of a similar position in Ottawa Collegiate Institute. He is worthy of the attention he receives, and his humility is as noteworthy as his ability.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The first meeting of the Teachers' Association of Antigonish and Guysboro' was held in one of the rooms of St. Francois Xavier's College on Thursday and Friday, the 25th and 26th August, under the *ex officio* presidency of Inspector McDonald. After a short and appropriate introductory address by the President, the appointment of officers was proceeded with. The following officers were elected: Vice-President, Mr. Wm. McIsaac; Secretary, Mr. Wm. F. Kiely; Treasurer, Mr. Alex. McKinnon; Committee of Management, Messrs. Angus Chisholm, A.B., W. G. Parsons, A.B., Alex. McKinnon, R. C. McDonald, J. P. Hogan, W. H. Cameron, Wm. McIsaac. The programme of the first day consisted of papers from the following gentlemen: Mr. Jos. A. Chisholm, on the "Study of History"; Mr. Wm. McIsaac, on the "Duties of Teachers"; and Mr. Angus Chisholm, on "Mathematics,"—all of which were admirably written, and elicited animated discussions, participated in by Messrs. Parsons, McIsaac, Cameron, McDonald, Parker, Chisholm, and others. The proceedings of Friday were opened with a discussion on the duties of teachers to themselves and to one another, and the means that should be employed to raise their calling to the dignity of a profession. After a spicy debate on this question, a motion was preferred by Mr. Parsons to gain an expression of opinion relative to compulsory education. The subject was vigorously and eloquently discussed, and on being put to vote resulted in a majority of four in favour of Compulsory Education. The last paper was from Mr. Parsons, A.B., on the "Art of Teaching," and attracted great attention by the brilliant and philosophical style in which he presented his views on the practical application of the principles of education. The paper was eloquently commented upon by Mr. McIsaac, who also paid the writer's ability a well-merited tribute of praise. By request of the meeting, Mr. Parsons consented to authorize its publication in the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL. The meeting was then brought to a close by an address from the President, who expressed his satisfaction at the very successful and creditable manner in which the proceedings had been conducted.

Copy of Resolution moved by Mr. Parsons.

"Whereas, by the Free School Act of 1864, provision has been made for the education of all the children of our province. And whereas, through the wilful neglect or stubborn opposition of parents on the one hand, or the gross carelessness of the children on the other, the average attendance of the latter is lamentably below what, by the law, was contemplated. Therefore Resolved, that