

and he exercised towards them the kindest feeling.—Mr. Aeres said that in all the intercourse he had had with teachers, he had never met with one who spoke in favour of the total abolition of corporal punishment. If any should be disposed against it, he might; for when a boy at school he had suffered much from it. He deserved a good deal, but he got a great deal more than he deserved, and corporal punishment made him as stubborn as a mule. He did not believe, however, that it could be dispensed with; but it must be injurious if not judiciously administered.—Mr. Moore, of Brantford, gave some of his own experience at school, to show the bad effects of injudicious corporal punishment. But he did not think it could be entirely dispensed with, although during two years he had only inflicted it twice.—Mr. Jas. Carlyle, of Toronto, thought it was their duty as members of a Provincial Association, to give their influence towards the abolition of corporal punishment. It had decreased in a great ratio during the last twenty or thirty years. Why should it not be done away with altogether? He thought it better to dismiss the boy who could not be governed. It was better to sacrifice the education of one child than to allow him to corrupt the morals of the other children. For whipping would not make a bad boy good; and if he remained he would corrupt the school. For his own part he found he could get along without whipping.—Mr. Watson, Superintendent of Schools in York, mentioned the case of a teacher—a man of great physical powers—who very rarely had to resort to corporal punishment. The reason was that the big boys and young men at the school knew that if they brought him on themselves he could shake them almost to pieces. An admirable preventive of the necessity of resorting to corporal punishment was the knowledge on the part of the boys that the teacher was both able and willing to inflict it when required.—Mr. Irwin, of Holland Landing, spoke in support of the efficacy of kind measures. He did not think that a man could do a little child much good by striking him. He would not abolish corporal punishment altogether, but he would only employ it as a last resort, and then firmly and unsparingly.—Mr. McCallum, the essayist, made a few remarks in review of the discussion. He was not in favour of abolishing the rod just now, but he hoped the time was coming when there would be no need for it. That time would arrive, when children were properly governed at home.

*Evening Meeting.*—A public meeting of the Association was held in the Mechanics' Hall, at eight o'clock p.m., for the purpose of listening to an address by Prof. Wilson, LL.D., of University College, Toronto. Besides the members of the Association, many of the citizens of Hamilton were present to hear the address of the learned Professor, who was accompanied on the platform by the Mayor of Hamilton and the officers of the Association. Mr. McCallum, the 1st Vice-President, having taken the chair, briefly stated the objects of the Association, as set forth in its constitution, and went on to say that in those objects the whole public were deeply interested. He claimed for the teachers of Canada, that, as educators of its people, they were the prime conservators of its public weal. As its teachers multiplied in numbers, and fulfilled well and faithfully all the duties devolving upon them, so would our country take high rank among the nations of the earth. If teachers and schools were not multiplied, gaols and gaolers would be multiplied. The cheapest and wisest course was to have the whole of our rising generation well educated, for the statistics of our penitentiaries and gaols shewed that among the inmates were included a very much larger proportion of those who could not read or write, than of those who were scholars. He believed that just in proportion as knowledge was increased, crime in many of its forms would disappear. (Applause.) He had now much pleasure in calling upon the Mayor, Mr. McElroy, who had kindly given them his presence, to address the meeting.—The Mayor said he had not expected that it would be necessary for him to make a speech. He would only say that he was very happy to meet the Teachers' Association that evening; they were a class who ought to receive the sympathy and support of the whole community, because with them rested, to a great extent, the forming of the minds of the youth of the country. He trusted they would so discharge the duty entrusted to them, as not only to communicate the elements of ordinary education, but to instil into the minds of the youth of Canada the principles of morality and true patriotism. (Applause.) The Chairman then said he had much pleasure in introducing the gentleman who had kindly consented to deliver the annual address to the Association, Prof. Wilson, of University College, Toronto.—On motion of Mr. Aeres, seconded by Mr. Henderson, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Prof. Wilson, for his able and instructive address. A vote of thanks was also passed to the Mayor, on motion of Mr. McKee, of Kingston, seconded by Mr. McGann, and the meeting separated.

*Second Day (Aug. 6th).*—The convention again met. Mr. McCallum in the chair. The proceedings were opened with prayer. A number of new members were proposed and admitted. Prof. Wilson was proposed and admitted as an honorary member.—Mr. Alexander, of Newmarket, read an essay on "The duties of Teachers in relation to their professional brethren." He shewed the benefits which teachers might derive from associating together, visiting each other's schools, and profiting by each other's experience. He thought much good would result from their meeting in this Provincial Association, by their stimulating each other and comparing notes as to difficulties in the profession, how they arose, and the best means to be adopted for their removal. He recommended, as tending to the same end, the formation of County and Township Associations. These would be productive of direct good, and would, moreover, increase the permanence and stability of the Provincial Association. He spoke of the duties of teachers to each other when assembled in these associations. He then referred to the duty incumbent on teachers to sustain and raise the standard of the profession. They could do this by discouraging any from becoming teachers who, from want of ability, natural or acquired, or from the want of high moral character, were likely to bring a reproach on the profession; and by encouraging those who were fitted for the profession to enter it, and to make the best use of the means within their reach to qualify them for it. Another duty incumbent on teachers was to support educational periodicals, not only by subscribing for them, but by writing for them, and this in a proper spirit.—On motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Irwin, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Alexander for his able essay.—Mr. McFarlane made some remarks on that portion of the essay which referred to the importance of teachers obtaining facilities for visiting each other's schools. In Brant there was a Teachers' County Association, which had been well sustained for nearly two years. At one of their meetings this resolution was brought forward and passed unanimously: "Resolved, that our Councillor, Mr. McFarlane, be requested to bring before the next meeting of the Provincial Association, the desirableness of urging a request for such an alteration of the School Act as will place not less than four days in the year at the teacher's disposal for the purpose of school visiting, the said days being determined by the teacher and his employers." The School Manual recommended teachers to visit each other's schools, and yet the Act was so constructed as to impose a fine on the teacher and the section in the event of his being absent a day for such a purpose. He thought some action in this matter ought to be taken by the Association.—Mr. Moore, of Brantford, said the essayist deserved the thanks of the members for having brought this important question before the Association. At present the teacher sometimes took a day to visit other schools, and made up the lost time on Saturdays; but this was illegal, and if parties made complaints, the teacher and the section were liable to be deprived of some share of the Government grant.—Mr. Watson, Superintendent of York Township, thought it well that some action should be taken to have the present state of the law altered. He had occasion to know that the Chief Superintendent of Education was favourable to facilities being enjoyed by teachers for visiting each other's schools.—Mr. Anderson, of Paris, moved: "That our secretary be instructed to invite the attention of the Chief Superintendent of Education to the necessity of providing greater facilities for school visiting on the part of teachers, requesting that not less than four days in the year may be placed at their disposal for that purpose, the particular days to be determined by the teachers and their employers." The resolution passed unanimously.

*Examinations by School Trustees.*—Mr. W. Carlyle, of Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Anderson, of London, moved: "That whereas certain Boards of School Trustees are assuming the duty of subjecting teachers applying to them for situations, to a competitive examination, notwithstanding that these teachers hold certificates of qualification from County Boards of Instruction, the Provincial Normal School, or other legal authority,—we, as an association of teachers, cannot regard with respect any member of this association who submits to such an examination; and that we as an association would remind all qualified teachers throughout the Province, that they, as educated gentlemen, have a dignity of character to maintain which is sacrificed by submitting to such unauthorized examination."—After a short discussion, the resolution was carried with but three dissentients.

*Denominational Schools.*—Mr. McGann asked the chairman whether it would be in order to bring up, in the afternoon, a resolution with reference to the proposed denominational schools.—The Chairman said he believed it was the intention of some members present to bring up that matter as