

One of the Bills to be introduced during the present session of the Ontario Legislature is "An Act to provide for the Election of School Trustees by ballot," in the same manner as elections of councillors.

There were three private Educational Bills before the local House this session. One relates to the College of Dental Surgeons; one to the Canadian Literary Institute, Woodstock; and one to the Alma Ladies' College, St. Thomas.

In the year 1875 there was 30 per cent. of the entire school population in the first or lowest reading book; 19 per cent. in the second; 29 per cent. in the third; 15 per cent. in the fourth; and only two per cent. in the fifth or highest.

The total number of educational institutions of all kinds reported by the Educational Department as in operation in Ontario during 1875 was 5,258, attended by 494,065 pupils, and expending \$4,212,360 in their support.

The Montreal *Gazette*, referring to the establishment of an Educational Depository for the Province of Quebec, lately provided for by a grant of \$15,000, says:—"It is a step in the right direction, and we hail its establishment with pleasure."

Among the measures to be introduced at the Manitoba Legislature, now sitting in Winnipeg City, is "An Act for establishing a University of Manitoba, and, eventually, a Provincial Normal School."

A change of Readers will shortly be made in the schools in Nova Scotia. The Collins series and the Royal series of Readers each has its own advocates. We trust an intelligent choice may be made, as the series chosen will doubtless be used a good many years.

The death of Alexander Bain, LL.D., Professor of Logic in the University of Aberdeen, is reported. He was an eminent psychologist, and an author of high reputation. One of his best works is "Mind and Body," in the International Scientific Series.

The number of Public Schools in Ontario in 1876 was 4,834, and of teachers 6,018, of whom more than one-half held third-class certificates. Out of 1,801 candidates who were successful at the July Examination, 1,668 were for third-class, 122 for second-class, and only 11 for first-class certificates.

Connected with the Educational Department is a Museum, containing specimens of school apparatus and furniture, a collection of Italian, Dutch and Flemish oil paintings, and statuary casts and busts. This Museum is open to the public from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

The Board of Education in New York City have decided to have the children in the public schools trained in an alarm drill, so that in case of fire or other accident they may be got out of the building in order in the shortest time possible. This is an example worthy of general imitation.

The pupils attending the Vellesey street and Berkeley street schools, Toronto, complain bitterly on account of a non-supply of water, and the oversight of the Public School Board is the subject of serious complaints on the part of parents. About 600 children are in attendance at Dufferin School.

A correspondent of a city daily argues "that after a certain number of years' service (say twenty or more) every teacher should, whether sick or well,

rich or poor, be entitled to the pension he has so hardly earned, and which he himself has helped to pay for."

From the Tiverton *Watchman* we learn that Mr. D. W. Ross, of Walkerton, and Mr. Campbell, of St. Catharines, were the applicants for the position of Public School Inspector in West Bruce, Mr. B. Freer having resigned. Mr. Campbell was elected by a vote of 16 to 13.

The library in connection with the Port Burwell Public School contains 400 volumes. The number taken out in 1876 was 2,024 volumes, of which only one was lost. At the late annual meeting a committee was appointed "to draft and forward to the Government a resolution favorable to the substitution of township for section boards of trustees."

Mr. Deroche, M. P. P., and others of his colleagues, have expressed a desire to see the *Journal of Education* "wiped out of the estimates" at no distant day. The predominating feeling, however, is that the *Journal* occupies a sphere of usefulness that can be filled by no other publication, and that as such it should be continued.

Mr. McEvoy, a late and efficient member of the County Council of Middlesex, has re-entered the ranks as a teacher, and is now engaged in S. S. No. 12, Caradoc. "Mr. McK.", says the *Strathroy Dispatch*, "was chairman of important committees, and brings back to school life an enlarged experience in the art of governing."

The Minister of Education has formally stated that the Government will not propose any expenditure for additional Normal Schools this year, inasmuch as the necessity for Normal School accommodation is lessened by rigidly excluding from the Normal Schools all except those who actually intend to teach.

School Inspectors in Quebec receive \$4,500 more this year than last. The individual salaries, however, are still miserable pittance, ranging in many cases from only \$125 to \$500 per annum. In Ontario the lowest salary which can be paid to those officials is \$500 or \$600; while the average salary and allowances are from \$800 to \$1,200.

Dr. Miles, Secretary of the Council of Public Instruction in Quebec, sued Mr. Tackabury, a publisher, for \$275, being price claimed for an article written by him for the "Dominion Atlas." A few days ago Judge Johnston ruled that the plaintiff should receive \$25 and a copy of the Atlas, and that he (plaintiff) should pay costs of the action.

The *Lakefield News* says:—"A friend informs us that several school sections in Stanhope are in want of teachers—*females preferred*. Now, girls, get on your finest frills, smiles, &c., and apply for a situation. The last two lady teachers in one section secured good husbands by teaching the young idea how to shoot out there."

The following programme will be taken up at the next meeting of the Warwick and Bruce Teachers' Association, to be held in Watford on the third Saturday in March—Fractions, A. Leitch; Education, J. Mitchell; Grammar, H. Leacock; Arith. Analysis, J. Tullock; Etymology, W. Brice; and an essay by Miss M. Corry.

Quebec has borrowed \$800,000 to build railways. It would be better if half that sum had been expended in building school-houses and paying fair salaries to teachers, many of whom only