

## Teachers' Associations.

The publishers of the JOURNAL will be obliged to Inspectors and Secretaries of Teachers' Associations if they will send for publication programmes of meetings to be held, and brief accounts of meetings held.

MUSKOGA.—P. A. Switzer, Esq., finished his official tour of inspection in this district on Thursday and Friday last, by presiding at the meeting of the Teachers' Institute. This has proved a very interesting and instructive session, from the number of teachers present, the subjects discussed and the proportions of members who took part in the discussions and deliberations. Mr. McFarlane took up the subjects of Grammar and Music, which he treated in a practical and common-sense way. Mr. Crasweller dealt with the subject of "Elementary Arithmetic"; Miss Coulter, "Reading"; Mr. Fleming, "Senior Arithmetic"; and Mr. Dickey, "Geography." This took up the whole of Thursday. Friday was occupied by Messrs. Switzer, Symington, Nicholson, Fleming and Matthewson, who took up the subjects of "Geography," "Numeral Frame," "Analysis," "Tablets," "Object Lessons" and "Composition." All these were treated in a thoroughly business-like way, keeping always in view the requirements of the district and the end and aim of teaching. Mr. McFarlane and Miss Kirkman were appointed auditors of the Treasurer's accounts. A membership fee of 25 cents a year was imposed, and it was agreed that a copy of the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL be supplied to every member from the funds of the Institute. The next meeting of the Institute will be held at the village of Parry Sound, on Thursday and Friday, 18th and 19th August.

EAST MIDDLESEX.—The first regular meeting of the Association for 1881 was held in the County Council Chamber, Mr. John Dearness, I.P.S., in the chair. Mr. Dearness read an interesting paper on the work done by the Association, in which he traced its progress during the last ten years. Mr. Girardot, Inspector of Essex Co., being present, delivered an address. Mr. Mill took up the subject of "Notation and Numeration." Mr. Ranton, Chairman of the Committee appointed to report on Superannuation, presented the report. Rev. Mr. Hunter then gave an address, in the course of which he said that there was no class of people whose work was so important to the nation, and so poorly paid as teachers.

MITCHELL.—The teachers of the South Riding of Perth met at Mitchell on Feb. 25th. Messrs. D. G. McNeil and A. S. MacGregor were elected representatives to the Provincial Association. Mr. Cornell, of Mitchell, addressed the meeting on his "Method of Teaching Algebra," and Mr. Moran, Inspector, spoke on "Hasty and Superficial Methods of Teaching." Mr. Buchan, High School Inspector, gave a valuable address on "Grammar and Composition."

WEST LAMBTON.—A meeting of the West Lambton Teachers' Association was held at the Model School, Sarma, on Feb. 24th and 25th, J. Brebner, Esq., in the chair. An address on "Parsing" was read by Mr. J. C. Beveridge, by Mr. Jas. Turg on the "Methods of Teaching Interest and Discount." Miss Janet Patterson exemplified her system of teaching "Reading" to a third class. With regard to the important question of Superannuation, resolutions were passed advocating compulsory payment, and fees from candidates for certificates.

## REVIEWS.

THE SPIRIT OF EDUCATION. C. W. Bardeen, Syracuse. This is translated from the French of M. l'Abbe Beesan. This work discusses in a thoughtful and practical manner the great question of how to educate the whole being, not merely the intellect. Infancy, early years, youth, the intellect, the heart, the will, manners, conversation, the art of speaking well, exterior graces, character, and work form the titles of the chapters into which it is divided, and through it all runs a rich vein of common sense and piety. Mothers as well as teachers would be greatly benefited by the work.

MOFFATT'S READINGS IN GEOGRAPHY. London, Moffatt & Paige. The aim of the author has been to present to the minds of children the leading facts and principles of Geography in plain and simple language, so as to form a suitable Reader to place in the hands of young children. The practice of giving instruction as a means of using Readers in some of the other school studies is becoming popular in England. The book would help teachers of junior classes to prepare their lessons.

SOUTH KENSINGTON DRAWING CARDS. By Moffatt & Paige. Leaves and Vases. This is one of the best series of cards we have seen for freehand drawing; the vases are especially excellent.

A MANUAL OF SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHING FRACTIONS. By W. W. Davis, Syracuse, N. Y., C. W. Bardeen, Publisher. Price 25 cents.

This manual was originally written to accompany a fractional apparatus

designed by the author, consisting of large wooden balls divided into halves, thirds, fourths, sixths, eighths, ninths and twelfths—the special idea being that while a child looks upon each of the halves of a broken stick as itself a stick, and hence a unit, he readily sees that a half or a third of a ball bears a fractional relation to the entire ball.

But the book has a value entirely apart from the apparatus it was designed to accompany. The whole subject of fractions is divided into sixty lessons, so as to occupy just a term, and the successive points are developed with a skill that can come only from careful study and long experience. It is a book which young teachers may rely upon, and older ones may look to for suggestions which cannot fail to be of service.

## MAGAZINES.

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY for April. We strongly advise the purchase of the February, March and April numbers of this beautiful magazine, which the publishers offer for \$1.00. Mrs. Burnett's story, "A Fair Barbarian," is alone worth the money—and in addition there is a collection of literature and art which must prove a source of delight and culture in any household. A feature of the April number is the article containing the prize engravings made by the successful competitors for the Scribner prizes for non-professional engravers. "Father Hyacinthe," with a splendid portrait; "Elementary Instruction in the Mechanic Arts"; "The Greatest Active Volcano," and "Marine Forms as Applicable to Decoration," are the most interesting articles for teachers. The Editorial Department is of course good.

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY for April. There are fifteen articles in the April Popular Science Monthly, all of them readable and instructive, and several of them of great practical value. Herbert Spencer opens the number with his sixth paper on "The Developments of Political Institutions," in which he discusses the subject of "Political Heads," or the causes and conditions that determine the concentration of authority, and power of chiefs, kings, etc. "The Black Races of Oceania," by Dr. R. Verneau, is an illustrated article devoted to a study of the cranial and facial characteristics of the principal negro races of the Pacific Islands. Dr. Felix L. Oswald continues his common-sense treatment of the subject of "Physical Education" in an article on "Out-door Life." He claims, and with reason, that as a natural preventive of disease, nothing equals active exercise in the open air; and for respiratory ailments especially, it is superior to anything else as a curative agent. For the healthful development of children it is indispensable, and with its associated opportunities may be profitably substituted much of the drill of the schoolroom. The notes are unusually full.

The contents of APPLETON'S JOURNAL for April are as follows: "A Question: a Greek Idyl," by Professor George Ebers, author of "Urada"; "An Egyptian Princess," etc. in two parts (part first); "Mysteries and Miracle-plays," by Lucy H. Hooper; Oliphant's "Land of Gilead"; "On Some of Shakespeare's Female Characters" (II). Portia, by Helen Faucit Martin; "Greek Dinners," by F. A. Paley; "Why does the Crab go Sideways?" by Robt. B. Roosevelt; "A Culture Ghost: or Winthrop's Adventure," by Vernon Lee; "The Caliph Haroun Alraschid"; "The Earl of Besoumfield as a Novelist"; "Euakiniana" (Ruakin Arrows of the Chace); "Concerning the Cheerfulness of the Old," by A. K. H. B. (the Country Parson). EDITOR'S TAXI: Camille as a Thinker—The English Estimate of Carlyle—Tact not a Special Feminine Quality.—NOTES FOR READERS.

A Technical Library has been opened by the Government of Brussels, with foreign periodicals, and every important modern work of science, legislation and the fine arts.

The Schoolmaster (England, Feb. 1881), advocates the abolition of the system of Senior Wrangler lists at Cambridge, on the ground that the exclusive application to mathematics of young men till the age of twenty-two causes neglect of other branches of education.

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