

tion of the true relations subsisting between general and technical education. Great sympathy was expressed with farmers whose lands are running out and whose crops are failing, and, who feeling assured that there is a right and scientific way of tilling land are demanding for their sons education or opportunities denied to themselves, and with all who are striving to build up in Nova Scotia technical schools such as in other lands have revolutionized industrial methods and national life. At the same time the audience was reminded that man does not live by bread alone, that his higher nature has its rights, that those professions which are sometimes sneered at as unproductive are honorable and necessary, and that all true teachers and all just educational systems should aim at a reasonable compromise, or rather, conciliation, of the literary and practical elements of education. A hearty vote of appreciation of the Superintendent's address was moved by the Rev. V. E. Harris (Anglican Rector), and seconded by Rev. Father Hamilton, P.P. The latter gentleman took occasion to refer to the excellent condition of the public schools of Acadia Iron Mines, and his personal knowledge of the meritorious services of the teacher. The Rev. Mr. Harris was also present at several of the regular meetings of the Association and spoke interestingly on some of the topics thereat discussed. Rarely does it fall to the lot of an educational gathering to hold its meeting amid a more appreciative community or among more instructive surroundings. Acadia Iron Mines, a village of some 2,500 inhabitants, situated in a picturesque chasm of the Cobequid Mountains, is the seat of the vast business of the celebrated L. A. Macdonald Iron and Steel Manufacturing Company. Here upwards of 100 men are constantly employed in smelting and cogate processes. The enthusiastic Secretary of Trustees, Mr. Hutchinson, to whom the excellence of the village schools is largely due, occupies a position of prominence and trust under the company, and at the close of the Superintendent's lecture on the evening of the 14th, invited the Association to accompany him to the works and witness the interesting process of casting, or drawing off the pig iron. Many of the visitors remained till nearly midnight, extending their observation to the extensive rolling mills of the company, where at a vast series of furnaces the sons of Vulcan were forging bars not inferior in ductility and strength to the best products of Wales or Sweden.

### 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.

OWING to the crowded condition of our JOURNAL, we are sorry to be compelled to give the briefest notice of the different Teachers' Associations lately held. Many pages could well be filled with accounts of essays, talks, and interesting discussions, while instead of the mere mention of a name, laurels have been well merited by those who have labored long and successfully in their arduous profession.

MINTO.—The teachers of Minto township, held their first annual township convention in school house, school section No. 1, Minto, on Friday, June 8th. The attendance was very good, ten teachers being present. A number of course did not put in an appearance, some of whom, we believe, have contracted the habit of being absent. This habit of being absent will be lessened in future we trust, as the names of the absent few have to be sent to Toronto without delay. The programme as rendered consisted of the following: "Literature, II Class," which subject was ably rendered by P. H. Harper; an interesting and instructive essay was then read on "Text Books," by Mr. Clapp, inspector, then followed a lesson on "Numeration," by M. Ferguson; followed by "Writing," by Jas. Wiseman; both of which lessons were well taught. In the afternoon Mr. Clapp passed some remarks on "Dictation and Spelling," which we hope will not be lost to the teachers present. Miss Harper next followed with a highly instructive lesson on "Addition, Part II." "Map Drawing" was then taught to third class, in a manner which reflected great credit on the teacher, A. M. Spence. W. McEachern then read an essay or criticism on "Promotion Examinations" as carried on this year, holding forth some views which we anticipate will be taken advantage of in future by the examiners. The place of meeting was then considered, when it was resolved to meet in school section, No. 8, Minto, after which the meeting adjourned. The thanks of the institute are hereby tendered the resident teacher and friends of the section for their cordial reception of the visiting teachers. —Harrison Tribune.

LANARK COUNTY.—The semi annual meeting of this Association was held in the high school building, Almonte, on May 25 and 26. The meeting was one of the most successful yet held, a pleasing feature of it being that most of the essayists were young teachers who had not previously appeared before the Association. Friday. The president, F. L. Michell, I. P. S., opened the meeting with a brief address, in which he gave a retrospective view of the teaching profession, and endeavored to impress upon the teachers present the nobility as well as the importance of their profession. The first paper read was by Mr. W. P. Robertson of Almonte. Mr. Robertson thought that there was a danger of our educationists running to the other extreme from that which prevailed some years ago when almost everything was required to be memorized. An interesting discussion followed the reading of this paper. Mr. N. S. Dunlop, of White Lake, followed with an excellent paper on spelling. He pointed out some of the anomalies and difficulties of English spelling and advanced many strong reasons for the introduction of the phonetic system. On the text-book question a committee was appointed to examine the rival sets of readers, and to report at next meeting as to their respective merits. The afternoon session was opened by the teaching of a model object lesson to a class from the Almonte public school, by D. A. Nesbitt of Pakenham. He showed that object lessons can be made the means not only of developing the perceptive and reflective faculties, but of teaching that much neglected subject, English Composition. Mr. Rothwell, Principal of Perth Collegiate Institute, gave a blackboard illustration of his method of teaching decimal fractions to an advanced class. His explanations were well received and called forth considerable discussion. The last paper of the afternoon was one by Mr. J. G. Dunlop of Carleton Place, on "English Grammar." The necessity of presenting correct forms of speech to the child from infancy onwards, was urged. He referred, also, in a general way, to teachers' difficulties, home training, and text book deficiencies. Want of time prevented any discussion on this interesting subject. In the evening a lecture on "The Art of Caricature," accompanied by sketches of several Almonte "celebrities" was delivered in the Music Hall, by J. W. Bengough, the Grip cartoonist. If we may judge from appearances the teachers enjoyed this part of the programme immensely. Saturday.—On motions duly made and carried the following were elected officers for the ensuing year:—President, F. L. Michell, I. P. S.; Vice-president, John McCartar, Almonte; Sec'y-Treas., H. S. Robertson, Perth; Auditors, Messrs. Rothwell and Steele; Management Committee, Miss Sim and Messrs. Errat, Clarke, Caswell, Smitherman. Messrs. Robertson, Clarke, Errat, Nesbitt, and Steele were appointed a committee to invest \$100 in the purchase of educational works for the library, and to devise a plan for the better distribution of the books. The Treasurer's statement for 1882 showed a balance of \$159.29 to the credit of the Association. Mr. Smitherman's paper on "Fourth Class Literature" was so highly appreciated that he was requested to allow the secretary to publish it in the local papers. Mr. J. M. Cleland then introduced the subject of "Opening Exercises and Task in School." During the discussion on the subject the inspector said that Mr. Cleland had the neatest school-house and most tastily kept grounds in the county. Mr. McGregor, Chairman of the Question Drawer Committee, now answered several questions which were of much interest to the teachers present. A lively discussion on the question of granting permits then followed, which ended in the Association entering its protest against the system. Mr. J. A. Sinclair opened the afternoon session by reading an excellent paper on "How to Promote Obedience in Pupils." Both in this paper and in the discussion which followed were many points brought out which must be especially beneficial to young and inexperienced teachers. The president brought the meeting to a close with a very suggestive address on "The Teacher and his Assistants," in which aptitude, training, and experience were laid down as the essential qualifications of a good teacher. The meeting adjourned to meet next in Perth at the call of the executive.

NORTH YORK.—About fifty teachers in the northern division of York county, assembled in the model school room, Newmarket, on Thursday, 7th inst., at 10 o'clock. The President, Mr. D. Fotheringham in the chair. The first subject discussed was "Methods of marking Attendance, Conduct, and Recitation," by Messrs. Rannie, Jewett, Armstrong, and Holland. An excellent practical essay was read by Miss Birnie on "How to secure Correct Language from Pupils," which was followed by a long discussion on Vocal Music by Messrs. Holland, Eckardt, and Love. Professor Loudon, of Toronto university, added to the interest of the meeting by the manner of treating his subject "Certain Hindrance to Substantial Progress in Learning," and by his lecture on "Production of Sound." Mr. Buchanan's lecture on "American Humor" was thoroughly appreciated, and showed an extensive literary knowledge on the part of the lecturer. The remarks of Dr. Forrest, of Bradford high school, on "Primary Reading by the Phonic System" were very satisfactory. Messrs. Rose, Price, Shields, Love, and Dr. Forrest, discussed at considerable length the advisability of "Punishment," each giving some good ideas on home work. After the adoption of an excellent programme for the next session the convention adjourned.