

Thomas Kirkland, M. A.

At the meeting of the Dominion Educational Association held last August in Halifax, Thomas Kirkland, M. A., Principal of Toronto Normal School, was one of the most active and acceptable workers. He was appointed on the new board of directors and on several committees. To-day we have to record his death, which was a shock to us all and a great sorrow to hundreds who enjoyed and valued his friendship.

Principal Kirkland came to this country from Belfast, graduated from Toronto University with honors, and held the principalship of the Toronto Normal School for twenty-seven years.

Regarding his character and work, we heartily endorse the words of the Rev. Mr. Ballantyne, which we quote from the *Westminster*: "Beneath a quiet exterior and gentleness and composure of manner, there lay and was constantly in exercise in his work a steady, persistent energy and force of character which did not appear on the surface. He loved his profession, and was animated and guided by high ideals of its possibilities for doing good. Teaching, in his view of it, was above all, laying the foundation and building upon it of a true, strong and noble character, which again was to be reproduced by the teachers whom he taught in their pupils all over the land. To willingness to work and capacity for it, there were added such an amiability of disposition and kindness of manner, a patience hardly ever known to be ruffled, and such unselfish thoughtfulness for others as to make it a pleasure to be associated with him. No man who had to appear before the public could be more unobtrusive of himself. Although tolerant of the opinions of those who differed from him, and liberal and conciliatory in spirit, he was a man of strong and decided convictions concerning all matters in which he conceived principles of importance to be involved.

"His home life was one of almost ideal peace and happiness, and as husband, brother, friend, in all these relations it is but the bare, simple truth to say that the departed was a rare and model man. The noble profession to which he was an ornament and a strength has by the death of Mr. Kirkland suffered a great loss."

He was the author of a work on Statics, a work on Experimental Chemistry, and joint author of several mathematical works, among them Kirkland & Scott's Arithmetic.

Exercise in Spelling.

In a recent examination for teachers' license in New Brunswick, the following words were misspelled: Written, obedient, ventilating, discipline, vigilant, principles, intelligible, judgment, unforeseen, practice, interesting, too, meant, sympathetic, occasionally, attendance, multiplication, pleasant, preceding, extra, until, skilful, according, grouping, morals, learn, decided, misspelled, proceed, busy, sense, wilful, familiar, fourth, objectively, studied, monotonous, behaviour, whether, furniture, prepared, allotted, arising, separate, association, sentence, screech, beginners, swear.

In the same examination papers the word *learn* was almost invariably used in the sense of *teach*; as "I would *learn* them how to use," instead of "*teach* them how to use."

How to Increase Your Salary.

Some years ago a young lady was elected to a small town school employing five teachers. The board took her entirely on the recommendation of the principal. Her salary was \$350. It was soon evident that no mistake had been made in her election. She was small in stature, but very active. A visitor once remarked, "She can walk round the entire school-room in the time it takes some teachers to turn around." Her intense activity aroused similar energy in her pupils. Every one who visited her room found things going vigorously. Pupils liked her, parents liked her, principal liked her; and at the end of the year, when a reception was given to parents in the schoolroom, classes heard, work shown, the members of the board were delighted, and the comments of the visitors were favorable.

That evening the board met, and her salary was increased \$100. Any scheming on her part, do you think? Any private influence? Nothing whatever. She simply did superior work. She had come to the town a stranger at the opening of the term, and now she was given fifty dollars more than any lady teacher had ever received in that school before. A year later she was again advanced to \$475, then to \$500, and after three years at that salary she was given \$525.