

not the only business of the Association, is to bring all the teachers in Reach and Scugog together once a month, if possible, in order to consult together on the best modes of conducting school, and the most approved methods of teaching the various subjects embraced in the programme for Common Schools. Or in other words, the Association may be termed a Teachers' Mutual Improvement Association; the benefits of which, however, are not to be confined to the teacher, but extend to every pupil coming under his care, and through the pupils again to seek a wider circle. And, as we view it, every child in the townships, it matters not where they may chance to be located, has a perfect right to participate in the benefits derivable from such meetings, in consequence of their teachers taking part in them. We anticipate a large meeting next time.—*Ontario Observer*.

—**BROCK COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION.**—The competitive examination of the Common Schools of the township of Brock was held at the Schoolhouse, Vroomanton, on Tuesday, 5th inst. The attendance was such that the large and commodious school house could scarcely contain all that were present. Many came from a considerable distance. There were about twenty teachers present and forty competitors. The Reeve, M. Gillespie, Esq., was appointed Chairman. He, the chairman, having explained the design and plan of the competition, the Rev. A. Currie, M.A., L.S. of Brock, gave out the first subject—Writing from Dictation; this was followed by Reading, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Geography, History, Geometry. The Rev. Mr. Colman, the Head Master of the Manilla Grammar School, and the L.S. for Reach and Scugog, assisted the L.S. in the examination. In very many instances, the competition was so close that the shade of superiority was exceeding light, so light indeed, that it was difficult for the examiners to discriminate. Every one of the competitors passed a most creditable examination. In fact it would be a difficult matter to select from any township in the Dominion, forty brighter or more intelligent pupils than met at Vroomanton on this occasion. Each pupil, who did not succeed in obtaining a prize in competition, got a laudable book as a reward of merit, and these were certainly well merited. There was a large number of valuable books distributed, alike creditable to givers and receivers. The day was agreeably and profitably spent, all present appeared to enjoy themselves well. To say that all were satisfied with the decisions would be equivalent to asserting that the competitors on this occasion were differently constituted from any other class of the community; but we believe, nevertheless, that very little dissatisfaction can exist with regard to the awards; for certainly there is no cause for it. A generous, noble minded youth never strives to attribute his defeat to some act of injustice in others, but will calmly view the situation, correct defects, and double his efforts to secure victory in the next encounter. We congratulate our Vroomanton friends on their excellent and commodious new brick school house; it is a credit to that part of the country. If we might whisper to the Trustees, we would say by all means put in ventilators.—*Ontario Observer*.

—**\$20,000 TO MCGILL COLLEGE.**—At the meeting of the McGill College Endowment Committee on Saturday, in addition to several other subscriptions, it was announced that, as intimated by the Vice-Chancellor, in his address on Thursday, an endowment of \$20,000 had been subscribed for the chair of Natural Philosophy. The liberal donor is Peter Redpath, Esq., already a benefactor of the University, more especially in his large and valuable donation to its library. The endowment now given will provide for the perpetual maintenance of one of the most important branches of scientific study. This is the second professorship endowed in McGill College, the other being the Molaon professorship of English Literature, endowed in 1856. It is the first chair endowed by an individual benefactor. The example is one which few are able to imitate; but there are some of our more wealthy citizens who might follow it. Those who can should come forward and take their places beside Mr. Molson and Mr. Redpath. There is still time to aid other and equally important chairs, besides the need of additional scholarships, in regard to which the donation of Mr. W. O.

McDonald, previously announced, equals in money value those above referred to.—*Montreal Gazette*.

—**GIFT TO MCGILL COLLEGE.**—The best proof that a man deserves wealth is a wise administration of it for the benefit of his fellow-men. We commend to our citizens the example, in this respect, of Mr. W. C. McDonald, who, in addition to a donation of \$5,000 to McGill College for its general funds, has established therein ten scholarships of the annual value of \$125 each. The good that these will do is incalculable. With the history of the ancient Universities of Great Britain and Ireland before us, there can be no doubt but that, hereafter, many a man eminent for his services to his country will trace the beginning of his success to the winning of a "McDonald scholarship" in the University of Montreal.—*Montreal Gazette*.

VI. Departmental Notices.

NEW ELEMENTARY ARITHMETIC AUTHORIZED FOR 1871.

The Council of Public Instruction have adopted the following minute in regard to the new Elementary Arithmetic published by Messrs. Copp, Clark & Co., of this city:—

"*Ordered*,—That on and after January 2nd, 1871, the only Elementary Arithmetic authorized to be used in the Public Schools shall be Smith and McMurphy's."

Education Office, March, 1870.

NO PENSIONS TO COMMON SCHOOL TEACHERS UNLESS THEY SUBSCRIBE TO THE FUND.

Public notice is hereby given to all Teachers of Common Schools, or Teachers of the English branches in Grammar Schools, who are legally qualified Common School Teachers in Upper Canada, who may wish to avail themselves at any future time of the advantages of the Superannuated Common School Teacher's Fund, that it will be necessary for them to transmit to the Chief Superintendent, if they have not already done so, their subscriptions, at the rate of \$5 per annum for each preceding year, commencing with 1854, and at the rate of \$4 per annum for the current year's subscription. The law authorizing the establishment of this fund provides, "That no teacher shall be entitled to share in the said fund who shall not contribute to such fund at least at the rate of one pound per annum." No pension will be granted to any teacher who has not subscribed to the fund, in accordance to the preceding regulations of the Council of Public Instruction.

PRE-PAYMENT OF POSTAGE ON BOOKS.

According to the Postage Law, the postage on all books, printed circulars, &c., sent through the post, *must be pre-paid by the sender*, at the rate of one cent per ounce. Local Superintendents and Teachers ordering books from the Educational Depository, will therefore please send such an additional sum for the payment of this postage, at the rate specified, and the Customs duty on copyright books, as may be necessary.

TABLET READING LESSONS.

The new Tablet Reading Lessons, consisting of thirty-three large sheets, can be obtained at the Depository at 75 cts. per set; at \$1.00, free of postage; or \$4.50, mounted on cardboard. The 100 per cent. is allowed on these lessons when ordered with maps and apparatus, &c.

TRUSTEES' SCHOOL MANUAL.

In reply to numerous applications for the Trustees' School Manual, we desire to intimate that a new edition of the School Acts is now ready. Single copies, 35 cents, including postage. New School Sections will be supplied gratuitously.