

lot to have had trustees, teachers, and inspectors willing in almost every case, to co operate in the heartiest way to bring about the results to which all our labors were directed, and a public opinion almost always ready to endorse our action—these are questions I cannot answer,—I can only express my most sincere gratitude that such has been the case.

Gentlemen, accept my heartfelt gratitude for these tangible tokens of your good will. Nothing can ever efface the memory of your kindness during my official career or your munificence at its close.

After a short address from Prof. Hart, bearing testimony to the zeal, efficiency, and marked success of the late Superintendent, the meeting adjourned.

## 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.

**NORTH SIMCOE.**—Held in Model School, Barrie, Oct. 25th and 26th. Inspector J. C. Morgan, M.A., president, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., and the minutes of previous meeting were read by Mr. R. R. Jennison, secretary, and passed. J. M. Hunter, M.A., gave a short report of proceedings of Provincial Association, to which he was delegate, and Mr. Young, another delegate, gave some additional information. On motion by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Jennison, a vote of thanks was given to the delegates, after which a general discussion took place on the several points mentioned in the report. The afternoon session was largely attended, and much interest was shown in the subjects put forward. Mr. R. Drinnan, of Midland, in showing how he would introduce Arithmetic to a primary class, gave some excellent hints, and at the conclusion of the exercise a spirited discussion arose which was joined in by Messrs. Finney, Harvey, Bartlett, Osborne, and Richardson. The president then gave a clear exposition of his method of treating the subject, which elicited general satisfaction. Mr. C. J. Dutton, of Medonte, took up a junior third class in L.C.M., and succeeded in making the subject thoroughly understood. His method was criticised by several of the members, and Mr. Bartlett exemplified his plans for teaching that rule, and also some of those dwelt on by Mr. Drinnan. The result was that some new and useful features were developed. Miss Cain, of New Lowell, gave an interesting lesson to a junior class, in Geography. In the evening a large audience assembled in the basement of the Congregational Church to hear a discussion on a General Superintendent in lieu of a Minister of Education. The president occupied the chair. The subject was introduced by J. M. Hunter, M.A., Barrie Coll. Inst., and subsequently joined in by Messrs. Harvey, Spotton, M.A., A. McNamara, and Finney. On the motion of Mr. McNamara, seconded by Mr. Finney, it was resolved to postpone further discussion till next meeting to give the members an opportunity of studying the subject more closely. *Second Day.*—Mr. N. N. Barnhart, of Coulson, gave an excellent address on School Discipline. The discussion which ensued was joined in by Messrs. Finney, Young, Harvey, Jennison, and Bartlett, and although some of the views expressed in the address were strongly opposed, Mr. Barnhart maintained his ground with an ability remarkable in so young a teacher. He was tendered the cordial thanks of the association, on the motion of Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Findlayson. The discussion of the Reader question absorbed the rest of the time devoted to business. The debate was opened by Mr. J. L. Robertson, representing the firm of W. J. Gage & Co., and he was followed by Messrs. Harvey, Hunter, M.A., Spotton, M.A., Campbell, McNamara, Richardson, Young, and others. On the motion of Mr. N. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Andrew McNamara, a resolution was passed in favor of Gage's Canadian Readers, by 29 to 6. The convention then adjourned.

**CAPE BRETON.**—The fourth annual convention of the teachers of Cape Breton and Richmond was held in Sydney Academy, Oct. 4th and 5th. About seventy teachers were in attendance. The chair was occupied by M. J. T. McNeil, Esq., inspector of schools and president of the association. After a most instructive address from the president, in which he gave some valuable suggestions on the best methods of giving instruction in the leading subjects of study in Public Schools, the general business of the association was taken up. It consisted of interesting papers on Geography, by Mr. Bissett; The Duties of the Public in Connection with Education, by Mr. E. T. Maclean; Technical Education, by Mr. D. McK. Gillis; Hygiene, by Dr. McKay; and one on The Teacher's Duties, which concluded the exercises of a most enjoyable and instructive meeting. The officers for the current year are: President, Inspector McNeil; 1st Vice-President, A. Kennedy; 2nd Vice-President, Miss A. E. Harrington; Secretary-Treasurer, E. T. Mackeen; Executive Committee, Misses McKenna and Hanrahan, Messrs. Huggerty, McIntyre, and Phalen.

**STORMONT.**—The thirteenth half-yearly meeting of the Stormont Teachers' Association took place in the High School building, Cornwall, on the 25th and 26th October. After the assembly was called to order and the minutes of the preceding meeting read and approved, the real work of the session was begun by Mr. Talbot, who with a class illustrated his method of teaching Fractions. The clear and practical manner in which he dealt with his subject commended itself to those present, and was accordingly commended by them. Mr. Harrington read a carefully prepared paper on Gray's Elegy, which elicited for the essayist the compliments of his listeners. At this stage of the proceedings it was resolved that the strangers present, of whom there were quite a number, including representatives of different publishing houses, should be invited to take part in the discussions. Mr. Talbot took up the next subject, "The Art of Questioning," and divided and defined the different kinds of questions and the purposes of each in a most satisfactory manner. A dispute having arisen as to the eligibility of Model School students to become members of the association, a resolution was passed to so amend the constitution as to make them admissible, also others interested in the cause of education. Miss Carpenter gave an Object Lesson to a class of pupils, selecting for the object a piece of gum-arabic. By a series of skilful questions she drew from the class the names of the different qualities of the substance in hand. It was found to be semi-transparent, amorphous, granulous, pulvurous, insipid, odorous, mucilaginous, and soluble. Its uses were defined—cement, medicine, food. The places where it is procured—Africa and the East Indies. This was a very instructive and profitable exercise throughout. Mr. Harrington came next with a lesson in Grammar, given to a class of his pupils. He first taught the construction of sentences and then their analysis. Favorable opinions were expressed concerning the plan pursued by Mr. Harrington. Mr. Smith introduced his subject, "An Hour with Byron," by sketching in a torso and taking manner the parentage, education, and life of the celebrated poet, so intellectually brilliant, so morally depraved, so hopelessly dissipated. He also read very effectively several selections from Byron's writings which were much appreciated by his audience. A lengthy discussion then ensued upon the question of text-books without, however, securing any decided result. It had previously been decided to hold the next meeting in the High School building, Cornwall, on the first Thursday and Friday in February, 1884.

**CHATHAM.**—The Chatham District Teachers' Association met in half-yearly convention on Thursday and Friday, October 25th and 26th. Though the attendance the first forenoon was rather small, yet on Thursday afternoon and Friday a very large number was present. The different seditments were ably presided over by the president, Mr. Shaw, of the Chatham Business College, and Mr. Colles, vice-president, principal of the Model School, Chatham. Rev. Mr. McColl, the venerable and esteemed inspector for the town of Chatham, opened each day's proceedings with prayer. An interesting programme had been arranged for the meeting, and it was faithfully carried out. The National Method of teaching Reading was discussed in interesting style by Inspector Nicholls, in the absence of the author, Mr. Pucker. Mr. Nicholls, who showed a great deal of versatility with the different subjects which came up before the association, remarked, among other things, that since reading is a science with a much more difficult notation than arithmetic, it ought not to receive, as it does, a less degree of attention. Miss Dawson, secretary of the association, and teacher in Central School, Chatham, treated the subject of Object Lessons, with a small class. She took as the object a cotton-pod, and elicited from her class a great deal of information. Considerable discussion followed, the opinion being offered on all hands that the attributes of the object should be made of primary importance, and concomitant matter then be judiciously warped in. The paper on School Sanitation, by Dr. Richardson, Chatham, which followed, was certainly one of the features of the convention. The paper, after showing clearly the intimate relation between mind and body, insisted on careful attention to the latter as the surest way to secure the highest efficiency of the former. The Dr. was elected an honorary member of the association. A lesson on Reading, by Mr. Colles, consisted in testing before a class of uneducated children the merits of the primers of the two series of recently authorized Readers. The result showed that the Gage's Canadian primer has a decided advantage over its competitor of the Royal series. The lesson was given in masterly style. On the evening of Thursday, a grand literary and musical entertainment, under the auspices of the association, was given in the Opera House. It was a complete success as regards the creditable way in which a good programme was rendered, but owing to the disagreeable character of the evening and other counter attractions in the town, was thinly attended. *Second Day.*—The programme of the second day was introduced by a short paper on Composition, by Mr. Agar. The paper provoked a short discussion, in which it was agreed on all hands that composition should commence at the earliest stages, the name being suppressed of course as it looks rather formidable. "The July Examinations: their results and lessons," by A. W. Aytoun Bindley, B.A. head master of Chatham High School, followed. After pointing to some matters in the official management of these examinations which should

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