

H. T. Chagnon, H. Dostaler, E. Désormeau, A. Chenvert, R. Savignac, H. Rondeau, O. Gauthier, V. Harman, C. Brault, P. P. Angers, A. Lauctot, A. Lafèche, P. Marcoux, P. Demers, L. A. Tremblay, and O. Pelletier.

The minutes of the last conference having been read and adopted, the President proposed the following subject for discussion:

"What should be the conduct of the teacher: 1st towards his pupils, 2nd towards their parents, and 3rd towards the authorities?"

Messrs. Regnault, Valade, Caron, Archambault, Chagnon, Angers, Roy, and Dalpé, each took part in the discussion, and treated the question very ably.

Proposed by Mr. Rondeau and seconded by Mr. Harman:

That the meeting stand adjourned till the last Friday in January next, at 9 A. M., and that the discussion of the aforesaid subject be then resumed.—Adopted.

MEETING OF JANUARY, 1868.

Present: Revds. Messrs. Verreau and Routhier, M. Dowling, curé; Messrs. Regnault, Duval, and Fahey, Professors in the Normal School; Messrs. Inspectors Valade and Caron; Messrs. M. Emard, President; J. O. Cassegrain, Secretary; D. Boudrias, Treasurer; U. E. Archambault, L. Kérouack, P. P. Angers, M. C. Ferland, L. T. René, H. Tétrault, R. Savignac, G. Martin, A. Lauctot, and the pupil teachers of the Normal School.

The minutes of the last conference having been read and adopted, a lecture on *The origin and development of language* was then delivered by M. Cassegrain.

The President submitted anew the subject proposed and partly discussed at the last meeting.

Mr. Abbé Verreau, Messrs. Regnault, Boudrias, Valade, Archambault, Kérouack, Angers, and Ferland, took part in the discussion which was very animated. The substance of the debate may be summed up as follows:

1. The teacher should be kind to his pupils but at the same time firm, give them good example in every thing, and endeavour to preserve, in his conduct, the dignity that his position requires, actuated always by motives of a superior order, having no other immediate end in view, but the good of his pupils. He should take great interest in their recreation and play, occasionally participating in them, that he may study their characters closely, thereby enabling him the better to correct what is faulty, and encourage what is worthy. In a word, the teacher should be to his pupils what a good father is to his family.

2. The education of children requires the active and enlightened cooperation of Parents and Teacher. If the latter had no intercourse with the parents he would thereby be deprived of powerful auxiliaries. Children are not slow in comprehending the devotedness of the teacher. But if the parents do not take a lively interest in the school and what is done there, this apathy, on their part, which soon becomes known to the children, is a serious drawback on the efforts of the teacher. Besides, this *entente cordiale* between the teacher and the parents will help to smooth difficulties, and cause prejudices to disappear.

3. The teacher should always be submissive to legitimately constituted authority, in all his relations with it acting prudently, showing by his example that which he requires from his pupils.

The following question will be discussed at the next meeting:

"What are the rights of the teacher: 1st on the part of the children, 2nd on the part of the parents, 3rd on the part of the authorities."

On the motion of Mr. Archambault, seconded by Mr. Cassegrain, the meeting was adjourned to the last Friday of May next, at 9 A. M.

J. O. CASSEGRAIN,
Secretary.

Thirty-third conference of the Teachers' Association in connection with the Laval Normal School.

Held the 31st. January, 1868.

Present: Messrs. Professors F. X. Toussaint, Norbert Thibault, J. B. Cloutier, and Fortunat Rouleau; Mr. Joseph Letourneau, Mr. Louis Lefebvre Secretary; Messrs. Frs. Fortin, Joseph Dachesne, Julien Cloutier, and Jules Poliquin, ordinary members; Messrs. Isidore Belleau and Dion; Messrs. Joseph Potvin and Wenceslas Dick, Medical Students of Laval University.

In absence of the President, Mr. Joseph Letourneau was called to the chair.

The gentlemen who were to lecture not being present, the meeting was adjourned till the following day, 1st. February, after having, on motion of Mr. Norbert Thibault, seconded by Louis Lefebvre, passed a vote of thanks to the Revd. Principal Chandonnet, for having postponed,

at the request of the association, his conversation on Rome, from the 29th. till the 31st. January.

SÉANCE OF 1st. FEBRUARY.

Present: The Revd. Principal Chandonnet, Mr. Bruno Peltier, Pres.; Mr. Louis Lefebvre, Secretary; Mr. l'abbé de la Chevrotière, F. E. Juneau, School Inspector; Messrs. Professors, F. X. Toussaint, Mr. Lacasse, Norbert Thibault, and F. Rouleau, Messrs. Joseph Letourneau, J. B. Dugal, S. Fortin, Frs. Fortin, J. Gravel, A. Esnouf, M. Ryan, E. Gauvin, E. McSweeney, Jos. Poliquin, Julien Cloutier, Jos. Duquesne, E. St. Hilaire, C. Géroix, Isidore Belleau, and the pupils of the Normal School.

Messrs N. Thibault and M. Ryan read Essays which were warmly applauded.

The subject proposed for discussion at the last meeting then came up: Messrs. Joseph Letourneau and Hubert Thibault, taking part therein, and Mr. Hubert Thibault summing up as follows:

1st. As citizens, teachers have the right to take part in politics, but they should exercise the right temperately.

2nd. They should receive political Journals.

3rd. On ordinary occasions they may express their opinions privately on public affairs; but in election struggles, they should abstain from all action in political contests.

4th. At no time should they make political speeches or harangue the people at the church doors or at any other place.

Moved by Mr F. X. Toussaint, and seconded by Mr. Fortin: That this association sees, with the greatest pleasure, the Revd. Mr. l'abbé Chandonnet occupying the place that Mgr. Langevin so worthily held during nine years.

That this association is singularly fortunate in possessing a man so eminent, and whose distinguished talents and high reputation merited for him the honor of being called, by the government, to succeed Mgr. Langevin.

This motion was unanimously agreed to amid loud applause.

The following subject, proposed by Mr. Thibault, will be discussed at the next conference.

"Would it be expedient to diminish the number of conferences and to change the time at which they have been hitherto held?"

The following gentlemen promised to prepare lectures for the next conference: J. B. Cloutier, E. St. Hilaire, D. McSweeney, and Louis Lefebvre.

The meeting was then adjourned until the last Friday of May next.

B. PELLETIER,
President.
LOUIS LEFEBVRE,
Secretary.

New Books.

A New Grammar of French Grammars, by Dr. DE FIVAS, M. A., F. E. J. S. &c. Appleton & Co., 1868.

The works of De Fivas are justly held in estimation on account of their general excellence and their judicious adaptation to the requirements both of instructors and learners.

His latest, published under the above title, merits, and will no doubt receive in other quarters, a more extended notice than our space admits of; and it may be stated, as indicative of some of its chief peculiarities, that it cannot fail to be most useful to those students in French, who, having already grounded themselves in an elementary knowledge, desire to become familiar with the true principles and niceties of the grammar of the French language. In regard to most of the features deemed essential to a first class text-book, the definitions are clear and precise, the numerous observations and rules selected from the best authorities, all the verbs given are illustrated by well chosen exercises, while the arrangement of the several parts is systematic and generally perfect. On the other hand, and with reference to our own wants in the Dominion of Canada, where, as is well known, really good teachers of French are not so plentiful in the towns and villages as in those of many other countries, some improvement, such as may easily be included in future editions of the work, might be suggested in order to render it more useful in our schools and colleges, notwithstanding the necessary consequence of a slight increase in the bulk of the volume: for instance, a short but comprehensive treatise on *pronunciation* and *prosody*, some rules on the terminations of regular verbs with a table of irregular verbs, rules on nouns and words complements of a preposition, also on the use of the present participle and verbal adjective, together with a few pages on the figures of syntax, on synonymes, on difficult and on paronymous words.