

LA GRAMMAIRE du Premier Age. By SAUND. E.
 LA GRAMMAIRE élémentaire. By the same. E.
 COURSE GRADUÉE. By the same.
 MANUEL D'ANGLAIS. Sixième partie: Leçons de Littérature anglaise. Par P. Sadler. Paris, 1841.
 MANUEL D'ANGLAIS. Cinquième partie: Leçons de Littérature anglaise. Par P. Sadler. Paris, 1841.
 MANUEL D'ANGLAIS. Deuxième partie: Versions et Dialogues. Par P. Sadler. Nouvelle édition. Paris, 1857.
 Exercices anglais, ou Cours de Thèmes gradués. Par P. Sadler. Douzième édition. Paris, 1857.

Thirtieth Meeting of the Teachers' Association in Connection with Laval Normal School.

(Held 25th and 26th January, 1867.)

FIRST SITTING.

PRESENT: Rev. Principal J. Langevin; Mr. F. X. Toussaint, President; Mr. L. T. Dion, Secretary; Messrs. N. Lacasse, Norbert Thibault, J. B. Cloutier, D. McSweeney, A. Esnouv, T. Morisset, S. Fortin, Ls. Blanchard, E. St. Hilaire, Eug. Boulet, P. Paradis and pupils of Laval Normal School.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

Two of the members who were expected to lecture being absent, the Principal opened the proceeding with a very interesting paper on Ornithology, in which the peculiarities of the *Rapacious*, *Passerine*, and *Gallinaceous* birds were more particularly dwelt upon.

The Principal having concluded amidst general applause, the thanks of the assembly were tendered to him.

Mr. Lacasse proposed to introduce the two following questions for discussion at the next sitting:

1st. *Should a merchant charge his private expenses as a loss in his accounts?*

2d. *What is the method followed by English and French authors, with regard to entering these expenses in the books?*

On motion of Mr. Norbert Thibault, seconded by Mr. Joseph Letourneau, the meeting adjourned to the following day at 9 A. M.

SECOND DAY.

PRESENT: Rev. Principal J. Langevin; Abbé Langlois; Mr. F. X. Toussaint, President; Inspectors Juneau and Bardy; Mr. L. T. Dion, Secretary; Messrs. N. Lacasse, Norbert Thibault, J. B. Cloutier, D. McSweeney, A. Esnouv, J. B. Dugal, J. Gagné, C. Dion, Frs. Fortin, Frs. Turgeon, Jos. Letourneau, F. Morisset, P. Paradis, H. Rousseau, M. Ryan, Thomas Deschênes and pupils of the Normal School.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and adopted, the President submitted the following subject for discussion:

"Of what utility is the teaching of algebra in the Normal schools and academies, and how far should this branch be taught in these schools?"

He remarked that algebra was generally too much neglected in model schools and academies, and even in our higher educational institutions, where the teaching of this science should be more insisted upon, since it was an auxiliary and supplement to arithmetic.

Several members joined in the discussion, among whom were Messrs. Thibault, Cloutier, Lacasse and Letourneau.

In the course of the debate Inspector Bardy read an essay on *Algebra*.

The Principal then gave his opinion on the subject. The teaching of algebra, he said, was attended with direct and indirect advantages; it exercised the judgment, and contributed to the perfect understanding of difficult operations. It should not be taught in elementary schools; and in model schools and academies, it should be taught to those pupils only who have a sufficient knowledge of arithmetic—say as far as arithmetical progression. Still algebra might be very advantageously introduced in cases of much difficulty, and to shorten the solution of problems in commercial operations; but care should be taken to

avoid confounding the subject with arithmetic in the minds of the children. As the education of our young men should be practical, it would not be advisable to teach the elements of this science in the common schools.

Proposed by Mr. Charles Dion, seconded by Mr. François Fortin, and unanimously.

Resolved: That this association accepts the conclusions which Principal Langevin lays down in his excellent course of Pedagogy, viz.: Algebra by operating on the quantities which have an undetermined value, abridges calculations, generalises the results and furnishes useful formulas. It should, however, be reserved for model schools and academies, and for such pupils as shall have acquired a sufficient knowledge of arithmetic.

The subject suggested by Mr. Lacasse was then taken up:

1st. *Should a merchant charge his private expenses as a loss in his accounts?*

2d. *What is the method followed by English and French authors with regard to entering these expenses in the books?*

Mr. N. Lacasse, in reply to these questions, spoke at some length. He said, as in commerce net profit is the difference existing between the price of selling over that of buying, warehouse or ship expenses deducted, it follows that private expenses must not be considered as a part of the loss. Therefore the merchant who has made \$200 in trade, has not the less realized the profit, though his private expenses should have absorbed the whole amount; it is not his profits, but his capital alone that is affected by private expenses.

After some further discussion on the subject, in which a comparison was made between the English, American and French systems, the members expressed themselves unanimously in favor of the English system.

Mr. Norbert Thibault then moved, seconded by Mr. Jos. Letourneau, and it was

Resolved: That the members of this association celebrate in the month of May next, the tenth anniversary of the foundation of their conventions, and that a committee composed of the Principal, the President, Mr. C. Dion, and the mover and seconder of the resolution, be appointed to organize the meeting.

The convention then adjourned.

Extracts from the School Inspectors' Reports.

Extracts from Mr. TREMBLAY's Report for 1863.

According to Mr. Tremblay's report for 1863, the number of schools in the District of Gaspé had increased considerably, the majority of the teachers, male and female, held diplomas, the commissioners displayed more zeal than formerly, and the accounts were generally well kept; but on the other hand, the necessary material was wanting in several schools, and the pupils were not punctual in attending.

Newport.—Mr. Manseau had charge of a good school in this municipality.

Pabos.—Two schools were in existence here; that in District No. Two was good; the other left much to be desired.

Grand River.—This place possessed four good schools; and the organization of the municipal body was perfect.

Cap Despoir.—There were three schools under the control of the commissioners and one dissentient school in this municipality. The school conducted by Miss Belliveau had made great progress. Mr. Lacroix proved himself a competent teacher, and Miss Neville was very successful. The school in charge of Mrs. P. Savage was making rapid progress.

Percé.—There were five schools under control, and one independent school, in Percé. Several of these schools were on a good footing, but the dissensions which had taken place among the commissioners had retarded their advancement.

St. Bonaventure.—Miss Enright conducted her school to the satisfaction of the rate-payers.

St. George of Malbay.—The commissioners discharged their duties satisfactorily, and the teachers showed much capacity and zeal.

Douglas.—This municipality had as yet but one school, under the management of an able teacher, Mr. Anderson.