

HAMILTON.—Fogs, 9th, 10th. Snow, 20th, 28th. Rain, 4th, 5th, 11th, 13th, 16th, 18th, 20th, 21st, 23rd, 27th, 28th, 20th.  
 SIMCOE.—Hail, 14th. Wind storm, 11th. Snow, 19th, 20th, 27th—29th. Rain, 2nd—5th, 15th—23rd, 26th, 27th, 30th, 31st. Very wet month. Last week of September and first of October leaves assumed their gorgeous hues.  
 WINDSOR.—Lightning, 9th. Lightning and thunder, with rain, 11th. Wind storms, 20th, 21st, 28th. Fog, 7th. Snow, 20th, 21st, 28th, 29th, 30th. Rain, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 11th, 16th, 17th, 23rd, 26th, 30th. Meteor in Z. towards W., 23rd. One through *Auriga* towards N., 24th.

## IX. Educational Intelligence.

OTTAWA PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—At the recent examination of the Ottawa Schools the following address was presented to His Excellency the Governor-General and to the Countess of Dufferin: "May it Please Your Excellency—May it Please Your Ladyship: In the names of about 1,500 children in attendance at the public schools of this city, I have the great honour of offering you very sincere thanks for your kindness in attending the exercises of this evening. It is now very widely known that Your Excellency entertains strong, but just, opinions on the subject of popular education, and especially in regard to the education of girls, and we have not been without the hope that Your Excellency would favour us this evening with some observations tending to encourage and guide us in our future studies. We feel that, as the rising generation, we are in advance of all who have preceded us in this country in point of facilities for moral and intellectual improvement, and it is our purpose to endeavour to show that we prize our privileges. From the rewards to be presented this evening, Your Excellency will necessarily infer that the gentlemen who manage the public schools have been well pleased with the progress of the scholars, and we hope that, should Your Excellency attend any similar gathering hereafter, you will find we have not been less diligent or successful. Respectfully praying leave to offer to Your Excellency and Lady Dufferin our best wishes for a very happy and enjoyable Christmas, as well as for a long life of usefulness and prosperity, I now beg Your Excellency's permission to hand you a written copy of this short address." His Excellency, in replying to the address just read to him, expressed the pleasure he experienced at being present on the occasion. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the arduous and painful duties of a teacher, and made particular reference to the subject of the education of women, which was now engaging general attention, and to her influence in society. He also expressed his deep regret that he and Lady Dufferin were unable, owing to an unforeseen accident in his household, to be present earlier in the evening, and wound up by wishing them all a happy Christmas. Readings, recitations and singing followed, Professor Workman, the efficient music master of the schools, also giving an admirable illustration of his method of teaching music. The Rev. H. J. Borthwick then read the prize lists. His Excellency and the Countess then presented the gold and silver medals to the successful pupils. Dr. Grant, M.P., at the request of the Chairman, briefly addressed the audience. He spoke of the great progress which education had made in the city during the past twenty years, as evinced by the brilliant assemblage before him that night. He alluded to the higher education of women, and spoke of the duties of mothers in bringing up their children. He referred in happy terms to the presence of His Excellency the Governor-General and Countess of Dufferin at their meeting that night, which was an evidence that they entered heartily into the work of educating, and took a lively interest in everything pertaining to the welfare and prosperity of the people throughout the whole length and breadth of the Dominion. The Chairman having made a few appropriate remarks, in which, on his own behalf and on that of the Board, he thanked their Excellencies for their attendance on the present occasion, the proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.—*Ottawa Times*.

## X. Departmental Notices.

### INTER-COMMUNICATIONS IN THE "JOURNAL."

As already intimated, a department is always reserved in the *Journal of Education* for letters and inter-communications be-

tween Inspectors, School Trustees and Teachers, on any subject of general interest relating to education in the Province. As no personal or party discussions have, ever since the establishment of the *Journal*, appeared in its columns, no letter or communication partaking of either character can be admitted to its pages; but, within this salutary restriction, the utmost freedom is allowed. Long letters are not desirable; but terse and pointed communications of moderate length on school management, discipline, progress, teaching, or other subjects of general interest are always acceptable, and may be made highly useful in promoting the great objects for which this *Journal* was established.

### PAYMENT OF TEACHERS' CHEQUES.

The Education Department requests that Inspectors will add the following words to the cheques which they may issue to Public Schools, or write them across the face of the cheque:—

"This cheque must be presented to the Treasurer for payment within two weeks of its date."

Inspectors generally complain of the great remissness of Trustees not sending in their orders until too often the amount payable to teachers has been apportioned and is available for them—even after the Trustees have been notified on the subject by the Inspector. One Inspector suggests as a remedy, "These Trustees blank orders attached to the inside of the blank half-yearly returns, with directions to have them signed and forwarded with the returns."

### SCHOOL PREMISES AND ACCOMMODATION.

We would request the attention of Inspectors to Note *a* of Regulation No. 4 of their "Duties," in which they are directed to call the attention of Trustees to the condition of the School premises. In many School sections the School-house has been allowed to remain in the same state for fifteen or twenty years and longer, often on a bare open space, or on the road-side unenclosed, without a tree or shrub near by to shade it, or any provision being made by the Trustees for the convenience or health of the pupils, or even for their observance of the decencies of life. The Legislature has wisely decided that this state of things shall not continue, but that, as soon as possible, a remedy shall be applied where necessary. A reasonable time should, of course, be allowed to Trustees in all cases to set things right; but in the meantime Inspectors will, we trust, not fail to urge upon Trustees the necessity of complying, as soon as possible, with the provisions of the law on this subject.

### THE ACT OF 1871 AND SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

In reply to a question frequently asked, we desire to say that the new School Act and Regulations do *not* in any way affect the Separate Schools. It was not intended to affect them when the Act was passed; and it would be unjust to the supporters of these Schools thus to legislate for them indirectly, and without their knowledge. The Inspectors will, therefore, be particular not to apply the Act, or any of the new Regulations, to Separate Schools.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOL GENERAL REGISTER.

The General Register for use in the Public Schools of Ontario, as required by the Official Regulations, is now ready, and can be supplied to schools on the following terms, viz.:

No. 1.	Copy of 20 pages, paper covers, free by post	35	cts.
2.	do 40 do stiff cover, cloth backs....	45	"
3.	do 60 do do do do ...	65	"

NOTE.—As Numbers 2 and 3 above, 40 and 60 pages each, have a stiff cover, they cannot be sent by post, but may be ordered by Express from the Department or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Copp, Clark & Co., Wholesale Booksellers, Toronto.