

HECTOR McRAE, Esq., CHARLOTTENBURGH.—There were five schools in which prizes were distributed the past year, and both teachers and Trustees spoke very favorably of the influence derived from them.

ANGUS McDONELL, Esq., KENYON.—Prizes have been distributed in School Section No. 10, at two public examinations, during 1866, and I can safely say that the system introduced a spirit of emulation among the pupils of the school, from the lowest class to the more advanced; and I am certain that the system would produce similar results in other School Sections, should Trustees give it a fair trial.

REV. DUNCAN CAMERON, LOCHILL.—Prizes were distributed in a number of our schools to the most deserving scholars. On the 15th November last, there was a competitive examination, to which all the scholars of the township were invited. A large number of scholars and teachers, with a fair representation of the leading men and friends of education in the township, met and heard the scholars examined in the different branches taught in the schools. Prizes were given to the successful competitors. The examiners and friends of education were well satisfied with the manner in which the scholars acquitted themselves. The examination gave a powerful stimulus to the cause of education among us: it will have a more salutary influence upon the teachers and pupils, and it will be the means of arousing and bringing into vigorous play the talents and powers of mind of teachers. A teacher who has even an ordinary degree of the spirit of educational rivalry, self honour and respect, cannot observe the scholars of his fellow teachers to be always the successful competitors, without being stirred to make, if possible, his own pupils equal, if not superior, to all other competitors. Such examinations will be a powerful incentive to bring to light and cultivate the emerging and growing talents of the youthful mind to grasp at and fully master every branch of education in which it is exercised. Such examinations will be the means of raising the standard of education: of reaching the hearts and bringing forth the liberality of Trustees and School Sections. When Trustees of School Sections see a large number of scholars in another Section carrying off the prizes, and their own the last, or none at all, the principal of emulation and educational proficiency is struck as with an electric spark. Considering their own sons and daughters as clever, and possessing the same aptitude to learn as those who have been successful in obtaining the first prizes, they will at once resolve to be more liberal, and get as good teachers as they possibly can. I am glad we have the prospect of having another such examination. **D. A. McDonald, Esq.,** Member for the county of Glengarry, has given \$80, \$20 for each township in the county to purchase books for prizes.

JAMES McCaul, Esq., CLARENCE.—Prizes were distributed with good effect in some of the schools. The libraries in School Sections Nos. 1 and 2, have good effect. The books are well taken care of, and are covered and labelled; but an addition to the number of books is much needed.

REV. JOHN MAY, M. A., MARCH AND TORBOLTON.—We have but one Common School Library in March. The books are all numbered and have been extensively read, no doubt with good results. Prizes were given in the same section last summer.

DAVID F. BOGART, Esq., KITLEY.—In those sections where the Trustees take the greatest interest in the welfare of their schools, a system of giving prizes has been instituted with the happiest effects. Of course, as in all competitive examinations, some of the children are dissatisfied, and the teacher often wrongly blamed; but still one cannot fail to observe the good results which flow from the system, in an increased attention to study, a more earnest striving to excel, and a more systematic and orderly mode of working, both on the part of teacher and pupils.

REV. JOHN McMORINE, D. D., RAMSAY.—Prizes have been given in very few of our schools in the township of Ramsay; but they have a good effect in stimulating the children.

EDWARD BYRNE, Esq., BURGESS NORTH.—In School Section No. 2 prizes were given, and with flattering results—I might say great success; and I here speak, first, from personal knowledge, and secondly, from the unanimous testimony of several parents with whom I consulted, their answer invariably being, that their children made more progress during the six weeks they were contending for the prizes than they did for as many months before.

GEORGE BROWN, Esq., ADMASTON.—The books of the libraries are labelled and numbered, and the circulation of them, I am assured, has a most beneficial effect on the adult population. In our schools, where the merit ticket system and the distribution of prizes have been adopted, the very best results have followed. It is most astonishing to see the energy they infuse into the children; pro-

ducing early and regular attendance at school, and increased diligence while in it. I have pointed out to the Trustees and teachers the good results that would follow, if this system were adopted in all our schools, which I hope will ultimately become general.

GEORGE BRETHERTON, Esq., ANGLENEA AND KALADAR. The influence resulting from the distribution of prizes has been good, so far as respects exciting a spirit of emulation, and increasing industry in the prosecution of studies. The prize-books, of which \$48 worth were distributed, were awarded to successful competitors in the elementary branches, at a very well-attended public assemblage of five out of the six schools in these townships. The other school, Section No. 3, being very remote, I held a separate examination there, at which I distributed the apportionment of prizes due to this section. Although the school-house is situated, and the inhabitants of the Section reside, in the wildest and most sterile part of a somewhat barren region, yet, I must say, that the children stood the test of a careful examination, in a way that did credit to themselves, and teacher.

AUGUSTUS EDGAR, Esq., FREDERICKSBURG NORTH.—The library books are all properly covered and numbered, and a great deal of good has already been realized from this branch, and I hope to see a great advance made in this direction in the course of a few years. There have been prizes distributed in a few of the schools, which show already their good effect in the energy which stimulates the scholars, and a promise of further good results.

JOHN O. SEXSMITH, Esq., RICHMOND.—I am happy to be able to inform you that the schools are mostly in a prosperous condition, evincing a good deal of life and vitality. As you are aware, while in Toronto last September, I purchased \$80 worth of prize-books and \$20 worth of merit cards. Toward this amount the Hon. B. Flint contributed \$20, the Township Council \$20, and myself \$10. The merit cards I divided among the School Sections, to form a basis upon which I proposed distributing the prizes, having first called a meeting of the teachers, and submitted my plans. The time for awarding them being fixed for the 21st of December, the children went to work with a will, no weather preventing their attendance at school. I was informed by many of the teachers, they had not half the trouble in keeping order they previously had. I divided the books according to the average attendance, and then gave the first prize to the pupil of each school holding the greatest number of cards, as reported by the teachers. As the above is the principle upon which I acted, it appeared to give general satisfaction. It was an interesting sight to see the children coming from the various sections to the Town Hall to receive the reward of their toil and anxious solicitude. When the pupils were all arranged in proper order, the teachers at the head of their schools, and the books placed in packages before them on the table, corresponding with the number of the section for which they were intended, appropriate and interesting addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Chisholm and Kennedy, and E. Star, Esq. The prizes were then handed to the teachers, who gave them to those who were entitled to them, when was sung "God Save the Queen," and all were soon on the way home, as the day was very cold. It is in contemplation to take the same course this year also. **R. J. Cartwright, Esq., M. P.,** has placed in my hands ten dollars for this object, and I propose adding ten more out of my salary. I have reason to hope the Township Municipal Council will grant twenty, which will make eighty, when the 100 per cent. by the Department is added; this will bring us a nice lot of books for prizes. I would just remark it is my firm conviction, if our public men would appropriate a portion of their money in this way, it would be much better for the morals of the community, than to spend it in the manner many of them do, in gaining seats of honour which are not lasting.

FREDERICK H. ROUS, Esq., SOUTH RIDING HASTINGS.—Prizes are occasionally distributed in a few of our schools, and where this is done systematically, as proposed by the Department, in connection with their different series of Reward Cards, &c., I believe an advantageous result is generally obtained; such, at least, is the testimony of the teachers who have adopted this plan, and it is confirmed by my own observation of the state of discipline in their schools.

REV. GEORGE BLAIR, M. A., SUPERINTENDENT COUNTY OF DURHAM.—I propose now to direct my attention to two objects of primary importance:—(1st) To encourage the distribution of merit cards and prizes in every school, so as to create a healthful emulation, and (2nd) to procure, if possible, the establishment of public school libraries in every section.

REV. FREDERICK BURT, LUTTERWORTH, &c.—Through the noble incentive of the Honourable B. Flint, M. L. C., who gives \$10 whenever a Board of Trustees or Township Council gives that amount for the purchase of reward books, nearly all my schools had