

THE ONTARIO TEACHER:

A MONTHLY EDUCATIONAL JOURNAL.

Vol. 4.

APRIL, 1876.

No. 4.

ELORA TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

A very important Convention of the teachers of Wellington County, was held at Elora a short time ago, at which the Hon. Adam Crooks and Prof. Goldwin Smith were present. The Convention was attended by over 150 teachers, and great interest was manifested in the objects for which it was assembled. A number of resolutions were submitted, and carried almost unanimously. These we purpose noticing somewhat in detail.

The first resolution was as follows :

" 1. Moved and seconded, that in the opinion of this Convention, County and City Boards of Examiners be not allowed to renew third-class certificates, or to grant permits or interim certificates and that third class certificates be made Provincial for three years, also that an elementary knowledge of Book-keeping and human Physiology be required, and that British or Canadian History be substituted for General History."

It will be remembered that we discussed at considerable length the difficulties con-

nected with any interference with the present classification of Public School Teachers. We do not by any means argue in favor of a low standard or an inferior grade of teachers, but we hold that such is the present state of education in the country, that we cannot dispense with a grade that forms such a large percentage of the profession. We do not, however, believe that any advantage would be gained by making third class certificates Provincial. It is felt that to confine third class teachers to one county, with the strong probability staring them in the face, that a renewal of their certificates is impossible, is in itself a stimulus to exertion. True, there are many who enter the profession to gain some particular end, that are utterly indifferent to the requirements of the times and consequently make no advance whatever. There will be always "Third Class Teachers." To give such persons a *Provincial* standing would only aggravate the trouble, by conferring upon them an importance which