

Mr. McGregor of Montreal then addressed the Association on the subject of University Class Examinations, and presented a report of a scheme proposed by a committee of the Corporation of McGill University for the introduction of a similar plan in this country. He remarked that the scheme had been first undertaken under the auspices of the University of Oxford, and that the plan had been followed by many other Universities of Great Britain. The object was to give to those who could not enjoy the full advantages of University education, a share in the honors of the University if they could in any manner earn them. There were offered for the competition of the candidates the degree of Associate of Arts, and two certificates of merit entitled Senior and Junior, which could be obtained by any one on passing Examinations in certain stated subjects. These examinations, first commenced in 1858, have proved highly successful, and have been extended, during the last year, to ladies. At the close of Mr. McGregor's Essay, the thanks of the Association were tendered to him for the same, and the Association adjourned till 9½ a. m. of the next day. The report above mentioned will be found below.

On Friday morning, Dec. 23rd, the Association met at 9½ a. m. The suggestions of the Committee of the Provincial Teachers' Association were then brought before the Association and discussed in order. They were approved in substance, but some suggestions were made in regard to change of form. It was resolved that the Executive Committee be instructed to secure a large attendance from this District if possible at any General Convention of friends of Protestant Education held before or during the next meeting of Parliament.

On motion, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

Resolved.—That this Association cordially approve the scheme of University Class Examinations prepared by a Committee of the Corporation of McGill University in its leading features; and look with confidence for the success of the same, and for great advantage to the cause of education to arise from it. It is, however, the opinion of this Association that more benefit would arise from the working of the scheme, especially in the country, if the maximum age were set at eighteen, instead of seventeen years, and if the matter of Examinations were left entirely in the hands of University Examiners.

On motion the following resolution was passed:—

Resolved.—That this Association offers the following prizes in Penmanship for competition to scholars in the common schools of the District of Bedford, who shall have attended school in the District, three months within the year ending on the 15th of May next, viz. A first and second prize to girls between the ages of 12 and 16, a first and second prize to girls under the age of 12; a first and second prize to lads between the ages of 12 and 16; a first and second prize to lads under 12. Farther, that all the arrangements necessary to carry out this plan be left in the care of the Executive Committee of the Association.

After some remarks on Arithmetic by Mr. Duff, the Association adjourned.

The Association met again at 1½ p. m. Some remarks were made on the Relation of Oral Instruction and text books. Mr. Laing made some remarks on the subject of reading, and was followed by Dr. Parmelee and Mr. Marsh.

A vote of thanks was offered by the Association to the people of Granby for their hospitality and to the Gentlemen of the Press for their liberality, after which the Association adjourned, to meet again between the 15th and 20th of May at some place to be named by the Executive Committee.—Jos. W. Marsh, Sec.—*Eastern Township Gazette*.

Notices of Books and Publications.

DE SOLA.—Valedictory Address to the Graduates in Arts of the McGill University; By the Rev. A. De Sola, LL. D., Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Literature. Longmoore, Publisher, Montreal; 1864.—8vo., 8 pp.

MONRO.—History, Geography and Statistics of British America; By Alex. Monro, Esq. Lovell, Publisher, Montreal; 1864.—12mo., 324 pp.

It is impossible that in the hurried preparation of a work of this kind some inaccuracies should not have crept in, despite the utmost care to exclude them. One or two of these, which have fallen under our notice (pp. 244, 245), we shall endeavor to correct. There are no normal schools attached to the Laval and Lennoxville Universities. Of the three schools of this class in Lower Canada, one only, the McGill Normal School, is under the joint control of the university of the same name and of the Department of Education, the other two—the Jacques-Cartier and Laval Normal Schools—depending entirely on the latter. A transposition, we may add, occurs in the list of the principal collegiate institutions of Eastern Canada,—theological schools being substituted for classical colleges, which makes a considerable difference in the number of

pupils. A more systematic method of compilation with regard to the statistics for the different provinces, would also have ensured greater accuracy in this part of the work. As it is, the figures appear to have been taken indifferently from the census of 1851 or that of 1861. This has doubtless occurred through the circumstance that the labor of compilation was already far advanced when the last census became available; yet, would it not have been better to have made the whole correspond with the latest returns albeit some delay in the publication should have occurred in consequence?

Notwithstanding these slight defects, however, this little volume will be found exceedingly useful and interesting, containing as it does in a convenient and compact form, a great variety of information, scientific, historical and statistical, bearing upon all the British possessions in North America, from Newfoundland to Vancouver's Island. It is neatly illustrated with cuts representing the principal cities of this immense territory.

CANADIAN NATURALIST AND GEOLOGIST.—The October number of this scientific review contains among other excellent articles, one by Principal Dawson on the new fossil found at Grenville, which he has named *Rusophycus Grenvillensis*; also, a translation of the Abbé Brunet's pamphlet on Michaux's botanical voyage to Canada, by T. S. Hunt, Esq. A new map of the territory through which Michaux journeyed accompanies the last article.

LA REVUE CANADIENNE.—In the numbers for September, October and November are concluded Mr. Royal's essay on the political life of Sir L. H. LaFontaine and Mr. Raymond's article on Rome. Among the other contents of these numbers we notice several articles on the civil code projected by the Commission, an essay on the agricultural census of Lower Canada by Mr. Provencher, book notices by Rev. Mr. Poulin, Messrs. Senécal, de Bellefeuille and Royal, and poetry by Messrs. Lemay, Félix Marchand, Senécal and Benjamin Sulte.

GORDON.—Wilderness Journeys in New Brunswick in 1862-63; By the Hon. A. H. Gordon, Lieutenant Governor, &c. McMillan, Publisher, St. Johns, N. B.; 1864.—8vo., 64 pp.

This is a republication of a series of articles written for the *Vacation Tourist*, by the Lt.-Governor of New Brunswick. The style is agreeable and the narrative, although not of a stirring nature, still possesses a peculiar charm. Adventures in canoes, on rafts, over portages or in camp, hunting and fishing excursions, Indian and forest scenes and legends, a little natural history and as much wit as can be tolerated in the woods away from the civilized world, furnish the materials that enter into the composition of this interesting little book.

In another part of this number we have copied some Indian legends; in one, the characters of a well known scriptural parable are strikingly reproduced; another also bears unmistakable traces of Genesis, Noah's ark and the Tower of Babel being undoubtedly the objects referred to. It is possible that these points of resemblance have had their source in the teachings of missionaries, otherwise a strong proof of the common origin of human traditions, and, therefore, of the truth of Scriptural history, would be afforded. These legends form besides, as the author remarks, a connected whole not unlike the allegories that Longfellow has so happily wrought into the Song of Hiawatha.

CONSCIENCE.—*L'Orpheline*; By Henri Conscience. Translated by Léon Wocquier. Quebec. Duquet, Publisher, 18mo., 139 pp. 20 cts.

We have here a translation that has already appeared in the columns of the *Canadien*. It is the first work of a cheap series designed for the people, and to be known as *la Bibliothèque du Canadien*. The two following belong to the same series.

GÉRIN.—*La Gazette de Québec*; By E. Gérin. 65 pp. 25 cts.

LEMOINE.—*La mémoire de Montcalm vengée, ou le massacre au Fort George, documents historiques recueillis par J. M. Lemoine*. 91 pp. 25 cts.

We have already published in this journal a translation of these old historical papers, for which we are indebted to the *Maple Leaves*.

MANUEL de phrases françaises et anglaises, contenant de nombreux vocabulaires, &c. New edition. Beauchemin & Valois, Publishers, Montreal; 1864. 18mo., 187 pp.

CODERRE.—*Examen Médico-légal du procès de Pierre Duval dit Barbinas pour l'empoisonnement de Julie Desilie, son épouse, par J. Emery Coderre, M. D., professeur de Matière Médicale et de thérapeutique de l'Ecole de Médecine et de Chirurgie de*