

ivo paper on "The use of Words" in the course of which he impressed some useful and practical lessons. The rest of the session was devoted to an able paper on "Domestic Health" by G. T. McKeough M.D., whose remarks were calculated not merely to supply his hearers with a number of significant facts but also to show them the general direction in which their further prosecution of the subject should be. On Friday morning Mr. J. Donovan criticised the high school entrance examination, objecting to history and literature as unsuited to the capacities of rural schools from which the high schools draw their pupils. Mr. Kirkland gave during the day three valuable lectures, one on mensuration to show how much can be accomplished in that branch of mathematics without the assistance of Euclid; one on geometrical deductions; and one on "combustion," illustrated by chemical experiments. Mr. G. R. Cruickshank discussed the topic "Physical Geography" protesting against the present methods of teaching and examining in connection with that science, and dwelling on the necessity of paying more attention to what is of permanent and universal value and less to mere topography. D. S. Paterson B.A. delivered a brief but practical address on "Development of character in the School Room" and the discussion of the points he raised was continued by several of the members. The division allotted to G. W. Ross M. P. was, in his absence, taken up by W. Houston who illustrated in a practical way the use which might be made of the "newspaper" as a means of education both at home and in the school room. After the election of officers for the ensuing half year the Association adjourned to meet again at the call of the executive committee.

**NORTHUMBERLAND.**—A very successful meeting of the Northumberland Teachers' Association was held in Proctors' Hall, Brighton, on Thursday and Friday 4th and 5th of May. During the short forenoon session general topics were discussed and the following gentlemen were appointed a committee on resolutions:—Messrs. Sykes, Black, Dixon, Boyd and Inspector Scarlett. At 2 p.m., the subject of "Geography" was introduced in an able essay by Mr. S. E. Dixon, followed by Mr. E. Hayward. R. K. Orr, B.A., next discussed the "Railways of Ontario." He referred to the significance of recent amalgamation and discussed somewhat minutely the location and projected routes of several new lines of railway, in addition to tracing the older lines. Messrs. R. K. Orr, G. Dowler, E. Scarlett, I.P.S. and D. C. McHenry, M.A., were appointed a committee on text books, and instructed to draft a resolution on the subject. The subject of "Discipline" was next presented in a most instructive address by the President, Mr. Geo. Dowler. He was ably supported by Geo. Kirk, H. M. Model School, Cobourg, who dwelt mainly on the effect of suspensions and expulsions at the Provincial Model Schools as compared with other modes of punishment adopted throughout the province. The Rev. T. Cullen, of Brighton, next offered an excellent address on the "Life and work of Egerton Ryerson D.D., LL. D." He was tendered the thanks of the association and requested to allow his address to be published. The following resolution of condolence, moved by Inspector Scarlett, seconded by Rev. T. Cullen, was passed by the association: "In view of the deep and wide spread gloom cast over this land by the demise of the Veteran Educator—Rev. Doctor Ryerson, who for nearly half a century stood at the helm of educational affairs of this province, be it resolved, that with earnest and affectionate sympathy we tenderly condole with those who were bound by the nearest and dearest ties to the deceased father of our Educational System, and sincerely commend them to the keeping of Him, who looks with a pitying eye upon a household deprived of its earthly head." Resolved: "that in our sorrow for the loss of him of happy and of honored memory, we find consolation in the belief that it is well with him we mourn." Resolved "that as a token of respect and veneration for the Christian character of a great and good man gone to his rest, a copy of this heartfelt testimonial of our sympathy and sorrow be forwarded to the widow and family of our departed chieftain." "Home Work" was presented in an admirable address by D. C. McHenry M.A., who was tendered a vote of thanks and requested to furnish a copy of his address for publication. Mr. E. Cochrane, Deputy-Roeve of Cramahe referred to the multiplicity of authorized text books, encouraged more of sympathy between parents and teachers, and spoke in praise of the present method of teaching as compared with the old method. Mr. W. J. Gage next addressed the teachers and submitted his excellent series of readers for the approval of the association. A public lecture was delivered in Proctor's Hall at 8 p.m., by Rev. R. H. Harris of Brighton: Subject—"Relation of P. S. Teachers to the State." He claimed that the future of this country depends largely on the character of its teachers, and advocated a more general and more thorough education of the people on the broad basis of christianity as the best means of building up and strengthening the state. *Second Day's Proceedings:*—On motion of Mr. E. Hayward seconded by Mr. D. I. Johnston a resolution was passed requesting the Inspector to take such steps as the law will allow and may seem to himself advisable, to compel the attendance of teachers of this county at the association meetings. The committee on text books reported as follows:—"In our opinion, our authorized geographies should be revised in order, not only that much which they do not contain, (our Canadian

Railways, for example,) may be inserted; but also in order to afford an opportunity for the correction of numerous errors to be found in the map and letter-press. We are also of opinion that our present readers should be superseded by a new-series at as early a date as possible. Having carefully examined those published by Messrs. Gage & Co., we would heartily recommend their authorization, and their general introduction into the schools of our county—believing that this excellent series fully meets our requirements. This report was adopted. "Practical Arithmetic" was introduced in an excellent paper by Mr. D. I. Johnston. The "Question Drawer" was opened by W. S. Ellis, B.A., B. Sc. He discouraged the practice of handing in questions of little general interest, involving lengthy mathematical solutions. Mr. Geo. Kirk disposed of the questions on grammar. Dr. McLellan was requested to continue the subject of Arithmetic. He spoke for a short time on the importance of arithmetic as a means of intellectual development. Mr. J. W. Black gave notice of a motion to deny the privilege of membership in this association to any person convicted of supplanting another teacher or aiding, abetting, or in any way countenancing the same. At this stage in the proceedings a delegation from the Brighton Board of Education was received who presented the association with an "Address of Welcome." This act of courtesy on the part of the Brighton Board, on behalf of the Brighton people, was highly appreciated and duly recognized by the association. Dr. McLellan again took up arithmetic and advocated greater thoroughness in the elementary teaching of the subject. Teachers were laboring at a great disadvantage in the lack of school apparatus. The speaker deplored the miserable penuriousness of the people of this country in the matter of providing suitable objects etc., for the benefit of the children. He also illustrated a system of teaching elementary arithmetic which has recently been adopted in many parts of the United States. This system cannot fail to meet the approval of the practical teacher. He strongly advocated the unitary method. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered the Doctor for his elegant address. "Business Papers" was presented by Mr. J. W. Johnson, President of Ontario Commercial College Belleville. Mr. Johnson displayed a genuine teacher's tact in presenting his subject. This free discussion of Business Papers was one of the interesting features of the association. The speaker was tendered a cordial vote of thanks for his excellent address. Dr. McLellan next addressed a mixed audience of teachers and citizens on National Education. It was a characteristic address of thrilling power and eloquence demanding, as the greatest boon to the country, the higher education of the people. He was tendered a hearty vote of thanks. The next meeting of the association will take place in October next.

**PRINCE EDWARD.**—The semi-annual convention of the Prince Edward Teacher's Association was held, on Friday and Saturday, 12th and 13th May. The chair was occupied by the President, S. B. Nethery, who opened the proceedings with prayer. Under the head of routine business, the names of G. D. Platt and R. Dobson were added to the executive committee. R. B. Mastin was elected secretary of the association in the place of T. F. Spafford, who was absent. The subject of Promotion Examinations was next considered and a number of suggestions made for their improvement. The attention of the convention was also called to the small number of school libraries in the county, and a resolution was adopted urging teachers to use their influence with trustees to have new ones established. J. Kinney next explained his system of marking the attendance, recitations and conduct of pupils, and was succeeded by Mrs. R. W. Murray, who read an interesting description of the Institute for the Blind, at Brantford, and the system of instruction adopted therein. Specimens of some of the appliances used in teaching, were also exhibited. A cordial vote of thanks was given Mrs. Murray by the convention. R. Dobson, B.A., then discussed Moods in Grammar, at considerable length, after which Miss Fanny Gillespie read in a fine style a poem by Will Carleton, and the convention adjourned. In the evening G. W. Ross, M.P., delivered his lecture on Intellectual Forces, to a fair audience notwithstanding the very unfavorable weather. The lecture was one of great value to teachers and was highly appreciated by those who were privileged to hear it. A hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer was moved by R. Dobson, B.A., seconded by Rev. J. F. German, M. A., and unanimously adopted. On Saturday, How to teach History was first explained by W. R. Brown after which Mr. Ross discussed at considerable length, and in a telling and popular manner the subject of School Management. The election of a delegate to the Provincial Convention was next proceeded with, when the president, Mr. S. B. Nethery, was unanimously elected. Reading was next discussed by G. W. Ross, M.P., at some length, when some useful and practical hints were thrown out which should be profitable to the teachers present. The following resolutions were then read and unanimously adopted by the convention:—moved by W. R. Brown seconded by J. H. Forshca, and:—Resolved that in the opinion of this convention Gage's series of school readers are very much superior to our present series, and that the teachers of this county would approve of the introduction of them in their various schools. On motion the convention then adjourned.—President, S. B. NETHERY Secretary, R. B. MASTIN.