

Mr. Gossline; "Mistakes in pronunciation" by Mr. W. Campbell, and "Text books in school" by Mr. McMaster. Mr. Williams H. M. of Collingwood collegiate institute was present during the afternoon session and readily gave the benefit of his knowledge and experience to the members of the association. The inspector read well prepared answers to a series of questions sent to question drawer. After preliminaries on Friday the first business was receiving reports of committees appointed the preceding day. The committee on nominating office bearers for next year gave in their report through Mr. Gossline which was after some discussion unanimously sustained. The following are the office bearers for the ensuing year:—President, M. N. Armstrong; vice-president, M. P. McMaster; managing com., W. J. Patterson, W. L. Dixon, S. Neely and W. Sharpe; delegate, M. P. McMaster; auditors, Donald McDonald and Chas. Ramage; sec.-treasurer, John C. Bain. Report from librarian was handed in by inspector. Auditors' report read and accepted. Mr. Williams, B. A. of Collingwood then gave a most admirable address on "English literature" which was highly appreciated by the members of the association. Mr. D. Boyle of the Canada Publishing Co. gave an address on "What Canadian reading-books ought to be," strongly urging the claims of the series proposed to be published at an early date by the above Company in Toronto. It was deemed advisable to adjourn the discussion on readers till the afternoon. Mr. N. W. Campbell then introduced his subject, "The infinitive and participles" and as might be expected and as Mr. C. intended the paper gave rise to an animated discussion which had to be adjourned. The afternoon was mainly occupied by the discussion on readers, one or two whose names were on the programme giving place to the gentlemen from Toronto. Mr. W. J. Gage advocated the claims of the new series of readers published by his house some time since and which are being extensively used in other provinces of the Dominion, and Mr. Boyle again urged the merits of the series that are being prepared by Campbell of Toronto. As comparatively few of the members of the association had a proper opportunity of fully examining the Messrs Gage & Co's series of readers it was not deemed wise on the part of the association formally to endorse them but those teachers who had proper opportunities of examining the readers expressed the pleasure and the profit they would have in using them instead of the series at present in use. The secretary was authorized to forward a copy of the following minute to all the members who had not an opportunity of hearing the matter discussed and carried at the meeting. Resolved:—"That the fee for membership for ensuing year shall be 50 cents, and that all members paying the same shall be entitled to receive a copy of either the *Canada School Journal* or *School Examiner* for one year commencing June, 1882, and that the payment of the additional sum of 50 cents shall entitle a member to receive both journals." On the evening of Thursday a very successful entertainment was given in the Town Hall. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. McLeod, Mr. Williams, Dr. Christie and Rev. Mr. Phillips. Reading by Mr. M. N. Armstrong. The music was supplied by several young ladies of Flesherton and by Mr. Anderson whose rendering of several Scotch songs was, as usual, much admired. JOHN C. BAIN, Sec.

PRESCOTT.—The regular semi-annual meeting of the Prescott teachers' Association, was held in the high school, Hawkesbury, on the 9th of June, 1882. About fifty teachers were present. The president, Mr. W. J. Summerby, I. P. S., opened the proceedings with a very interesting address on "Education in the United Counties," comparing the educational standing of the united counties with the other counties of Ontario. The following were elected officers for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. W. J. Summerby, I. P. S.; vice-president, Messrs. J. A. Houston, B. A., and T. O. Page, B. A.; secy.-treas., F. Bissett, L'Orignal; committee of management; Messrs. D. Marshall, O. Duford, J. W. McCutcheon, Miss Hyde and Miss de Tilley. The subject of "Hints on arithmetic" was then taken up by Mr. C. R. Gray, giving many useful hints and explaining fully a few methods of writing problems on the blackboard for junior classes, so as to save the time and labor of the teacher. An excellent essay on "Letter writing" was read by Mr. J. W. McCutcheon, explaining afterwards by examples on the blackboard, his method of teaching the subject. A short discussion followed. In the afternoon Mr. F. Bissett read an essay on "Incentives to study," which was well received,—dealing especially with the following points,—approbation, disapprobation, emulation, and giving of prizes. "A method of writing" was then taken up by Mr. C. R. Gray, in which he pointed out the defects of the system, at present used in our schools, and the difficulties teachers have in teaching it. He advocated the adoption of the "half engrossing hand" and illustrated his method by numerous examples. Considerable discussion followed. Mr. E. B. Robinson followed with an able essay on "How not to teach" pointing out many errors of method into which teachers are apt to fall. During a short intermission the committee of management met and it was decided that the next meeting of the association should be held at Vankleek Hill, on the 6th and 7th of October next. On the meeting being again called to order Mr. J. A. Houston, B. A., read a highly suggestive essay on "Modern history" clearly pointing out the important part newspapers should play in school work, especially in teaching history and geography, and in cultivating a taste for good reading. Mr. D. Marshall followed with a very instructive essay, on "The teacher out of school," touching on the following points in a very practical manner.—The teacher's habits,—employment of leisure time—out-door exercise—finances and social standing. Several other subjects were to have been taken up, but the gentlemen having charge of them not being present, it was considered advisable not to continue the meeting on Satur-

day. The association then adjourned to meet again at Vankleek Hill, on the 6th and 7th of October next. Dr. McLellan not being able to attend, the lecture which was to have been delivered by him on Friday evening was postponed.

## Readings and Recitations.

### FOUND AT LAST.

"Mister, no doubt you have all the learnin' that's required in a school teacher, but it wants more than learnin' to make a man able to teach school in Cranberry Gulch. You'll soon find them out if you try. We've had three who tried it on. One lays there in the graveyard; another lost his eye and left; the last opened school and left before noontide for the benefit of his health. Now you're a slender build, and all your learnin' will only make it worse, for all our young folks are roughs and don't stand any nonsense!"

This was what one of the trustees of the district said to my friend Harry Flotee, when he made application for the vacant position of teacher.

"Let me try. I know I am slender, but I am rough and have a strong will," said Henry.

"Jest as you like. There's the school-house, and I'll have notice given if you want it done," said the trustee.

The notice was given and there was a good deal of excitement in the gulch and along the Yuba flats. More than fifty young people of both sexes made an excuse to drop into the tavern to get a sight at the fellow who thought he could keep school in that district, and many contemptuous glances fell on the slender form and youthful face of the would-be teacher. Eight o'clock on Monday morning came, and Harry Flotee went down to the school-house with a key in one hand and a valise in the other.

"Ready to slope if he finds we'er too much for him," said a cross-eyed, broad-shouldered fellow of eighteen.

The school-house was unlocked and the new teacher went to the desk. Some of the young folks went to see what he was going to do, though school was not called. Harry opened his valise and took out a large belt. Then, after buckling it around his waist, he put three Colt's revolvers there, each six barrels, and a bowie knife eight-teen inches in the blade.

"He means business!"—muttered the cross-eyed chap.

The new teacher now took out a square card about four inches each way, walked to the other end of the school-house and tacked it up against the wall. Returning to his desk, he drew a revolver from his belt, and quick as thought sent ball after ball into the card, till there was six balls in a spot not much larger than the silver dollar. By this time the school-house was half full of large boys and girls. The little ones were afraid to come in. Then the teacher walked half way down the room with the bowie knife in his hand, and threw it with so true a hand that it struck quivering in the very centre of the card. He left it there and put two more knives of the same kind in his belt and quietly reloaded his yet smoking pistol.

"Ring the bell; I am about to open school," said he.

He spoke to the cross-eyed boy, the bully of the crowd, and the boy rang the bell without a word.

"The scholars will take their seats; I open school with prayer," he said sternly five minutes later.

The scholars sat down silent, almost breathless. After prayer the teacher cocked a revolver and walked down the floor.

"We will arrange the classes," he said. "All who can read and write will rise. Of them we will form the first class."

Only six got up. He escorted them to upper seats, and then began to examine the rest. A whisper was heard behind him. In a second he wheeled, revolver in hand.

"No whispering allowed here!" he thundered, and for an instant his revolver lay on a level with the cross-eyed boy's head.

"I'll not do so any more," gasped the boy.

"See you do not. I never give second warnings," said the teacher, and the revolver fell.

It took two hours to organize the classes. When done, they were well organized. Then came recess. The teacher went out, too, for the room was crowded and hot. A hawk was sitting overhead high in the air. The teacher drew a revolver and the next second the hawk came tumbling down among the wondering scholars. From that day on Harry kept school for two years in Cranberry Gulch, his salary doubled after the first quarter, and his pupils learned to love him as well as to respect him, and the revolvers went out of sight within a month. They had found a man at last who could keep school.—*San Francisco Chronicle*.