

The second day's work consisted of some routine business and the following exercises: A lesson on "Dew," by Miss Travis; on the "Tonic-Sol-Fa" system, by Mr. Byers, of Tatamagouche; and a paper, "Progress, the Teacher's Watchword," by Mr. Ruggles, of Acadia Mines. Mr. Tuttle, of Wallace; Mr. McKenna and Miss Bell also took part in the exercises. The Association was one of the most profitable ever held, and the teachers are quite enthusiastic over the tact and energy exhibited by their new inspector in stimulating educational activity. K.

SCHOOLS OF SCIENCE.

A number of the teachers of St. John, Portland and vicinity, have availed themselves of the course of elementary lectures in natural science—which are being given this winter under the auspices of the New Brunswick Natural History Society. The plan of these lectures is essentially the same as that adopted by the Summer School of Science in July last. Mr. W. F. Best, chemist, has given a course of five elementary lectures in chemistry, the principal object being to show how teachers may conduct experiments cheaply and successfully before their classes. Mr. G. F. Matthew, M. A., has charge of the class at present, and has undertaken a course in mineralogy, with the tests for identifying the common minerals of the Province. A course of five lectures, each in zoology and botany, will carry the work on until the middle of April.

The Halifax Teachers' Association has entered upon a professional course this winter, as they did last winter. Supervisor McKay occupied the chair at the opening meeting, and laid great stress in his address on free-hand drawing, physical training, and singing. The association has formed a class for instruction in drawing by Mr. Harvey of the Victoria School of Art. In addition, a class in natural science will be conducted on the lines of study laid down by the Summer School of Science for 1888. This class meets every Wednesday afternoon for practical work. Chemistry, physics and mineralogy are the first subjects taken up.

The Victoria School of Art and Design, Halifax, has been a grand success. The following letter from the Secretary, Supervisor McKay, was read before the city council December 27th:

I have been asked by the directors of the Victoria School of Art and Design to inform you that they have established an art school, which was opened on the 31st of last October, that they are working under the constitution which recently received your approval, and that they are carrying out the published programme. They, therefore, request the pay-

ment to their treasurer of the amount voted by your honorable body, for the establishment of an art school as a jubilee memorial. In doing so they have much pleasure in being able to report the success which has attended their efforts, as evidenced by the following facts: (1) There are one hundred and eighty-five pupils enrolled, not including a juvenile class now in operation, and a teachers' class to be opened immediately. (2). Of these so enrolled 105 are evening pupils, of whom 50 are free. (3). The class in mechanical drawing numbers 35, in architectural drawing, 25, in free-hand drawing 57, in model drawing 50. (4). The fees already paid in (mostly from the day classes) amount to \$700. It is estimated that the amount for the year will not fall short of \$1,500. (5). The sum of \$5,000 has been invested in good securities. Over another thousand has been subscribed. (6). The teaching staff consists of a head master and three assistants. (7). The school has fairly good rooms over the Union Bank and in Stairs' buildings at a total rental of \$387 per year. No other art school in the Dominion has met with such gratifying success so far.

BUBBLES AFLOAT.

The Duke of Argyle's great "conspiracy of silence."

The Star of Bethlehem in the east on fine December mornings. We hope our religious exchanges will not be found before the shrine of Venus under the impression that they are paying attention to the Star of Bethlehem. Read the REVIEW and there is no fear of it.

A valiant Prince Edward Island doctor skilfully cut into the stomach of a fellow countryman, to capture a reptile which was suspected to have taken possession. Elaborate precautions were taken against its possible retreat into the lower intestines. The plucky doctor was completely foiled, however, in the attempted capture. By an unexpected strategic movement to the rear, on the first admission of light, the lively reptile eluded the nip of the surgical forceps, and after a series of maddening plunges, which were evidently feints, it dashed up the œsophagus and made good its escape through the mouth. We have often heard of medical men seeing snakes; and we extremely regret that on an occasion when the capture of one appeared to be all but certain, the hopes of the scientific world for ages should again be doomed to disappointment.

WE have received from Geo. S. Milligan, Esq., LL. D., the report of the public schools of Newfoundland, under the Methodist Board, for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1886. We shall refer to some of its contents in detail in a future issue.