

SUNDAY SCHOOL COLUMN.

St. John's annual convention held a week ago in St. David's church was the best yet in the association's history. The morning session was devoted to business, and the various reports presented were full of interest. The parishes of Simonds, both east and west, the latter in particular, shows growth along advanced methods of work. In these two parishes there are five normal classes, all formed within the year. A good example to the other parishes.

Mr. Macchum's statistics on the growth of the S. S. were startling and full of encouragement, and hope the figures will be published later in this column.

The presence of Miss Lucas added greatly to the interest of the convention, and her work at the afternoon session proved her as holding a high place in the field of primary workers.

It was a bright hour, from 4 to 5, when the children had their turn. In the evening we had the field secretary on the purpose and possibilities of S. S. work and the Rev. F. W. Murray in an admirable address delivered in his own inimitable way on the subject of "Indispensables."

One good suggestion made at the convention was that we hold our annual conventions in the parishes by turns, and so next year we expect to convene at Fenville, in the parish of Lancaster. This plan must stimulate and help the different parishes greatly.

We were glad to note delegates from some of the outlying districts, but hope more will avail themselves of future opportunities.

The principal executive had a meeting last Wednesday evening in Germain street church, planning for work during the summer and especially in the absence of our devoted secretary, who is now on his way to the weekly S. S. convention meeting in London, commencing Monday, July 11th.

In the absence of the field secretary, Miss Lucas will act as substitute, and at the same time special help along her chosen line of work. She will be kept very busy for the next few weeks, having four or five county conventions to attend, amongst which are Restigouche 5-6 July, Northumberland 7-8 July, and Albert 14-15 July, besides a number of parish conventions.

BRITISH PAPERS

Have Only Good Words to Say About St. John.

(Manchester Guardian, June 11.)

George Robertson, who has come to England to explain the advantages of St. John, New Brunswick, as a winter terminus for Canadian steamship lines, visited Manchester yesterday and addressed a public meeting in the Town Hall. In the days of wooden sailing ships St. John was a busy and prosperous seaport, and after a long period of comparative neglect it is now trying hard to recapture its position. Large sums of money have been spent during the past few years in making the harbor suitable for large steamers and in equipping the port with grain elevators and other appliances for dealing with the merchandise.

Indeed, as Robert Barclay remarked yesterday, St. John's position at present is in some respects analogous to that of Manchester. It is well known, although Mr. Robertson did not say so, that St. John suffers somewhat from the proximity of Halifax. Halifax, like St. John, is in direct communication with the Canadian Pacific railway, it is a little nearer than St. John to Great Britain, and it possesses a magnificent harbor and the prestige which attaches to the principal British naval station in North America. The situation of St. John, on the other hand, has somewhat prejudiced it in the eyes of shipowners, for the Bay of Fundy is famous for the height of its tides and by no means innocent of fog. It is, however, fair to say that the wreck statistics for the past eight or nine years do not support the prevalent impression that St. John is an exceptionally dangerous port, and the fact that the steamer lines, and the new Manchester Canadian line, amongst others, have chosen it rather than Halifax for their winter port seems to indicate that the old prejudices are beginning to disappear. Apart from their own rivalry, St. John and Halifax have suffered in common from the competition of Portland and other neighboring ports in the United States, and it will be remembered that last autumn the Allan and Dominion lines chose to relinquish the Canadian mail subsidy rather than give up calling at Portland. Like Manchester, St. John has learned that such difficulties as these cannot be overcome except by resolute and persistent effort, and the success of the recent mission of Sir Rowland Leach and Mr. Southern to Canada on behalf of the Ship Canal should encourage Mr. Robertson in his campaign. Manchester, at least, has every reason to hope that St. John will prosper.

(Liverpool Courier, June 10.)

Alderman George Robertson, mayor of the city of St. John, New Brunswick, yesterday, delivered an address at the boardroom of the Liverpool chamber of commerce on the development of British and Canadian trade through the port of St. John. After quoting figures which showed the rapid and growing success which had attended the subsidizing of the Beaver Line Steamship company's service between that port and Liverpool, Mr. Robertson emphasized the need there was for a larger class of steamers. If underwriters would do justice to St. John they would benefit themselves and help to build up the commerce of the empire in a port which had already passed the transition stage as the outlet of a very rich field of Canadian produce. An argument for a fast Atlantic service he pointed out, that the route from Liverpool to Chicago via St. John was ten hours quicker than that via New York.

A good deal of interest attaches to the mercantile mission on which the mayor of St. John, N. B., is now visiting this country, and the facts he submitted to the Liverpool chamber of

commerce yesterday will doubtless be carefully pondered by the shipowners and merchants. Every steamship line that Englishmen send to Canadian ports, says Mr. Robertson, contributes to build up in the broadest sense a great empire; and experience tends to prove that though men of commerce have an eye to the main chance, like most other people, they are fully amenable to patriotic impulses. British merchants realize, too, that in promoting the development of the empire they best contribute to their own welfare. There is no dearth of mercantile interest in the movement for the cultivation of freer trade between Canada and the mother country. When the Laurier government took their recent long stride in this direction they met with a chorus of approval from both sides of the Atlantic, though foreigners looked gloomily at the prospect of trade loss involved in this new departure. But Mr. Robertson's visit to Liverpool is in the special interest of St. John, of which he is the chief magistrate. At St. John, which has a population of about 45,000 is the Atlantic terminus of the Canadian Pacific railway, and these circumstances alone are sufficient to give the port an important place in mercantile consideration. It has wharf and warehouse accommodation to meet the requirements of Atlantic trade, with a grain elevator capacity to the extent of 350,000 bushels. But the facts which Mr. Robertson submitted were quite sufficient to indicate the possibilities of St. John. The port is not only endowed with up-to-date appliances, but behind St. John is a country of vast resources. While big ships can be accommodated, developing cargoes may be confidently expected. Of course it is possible to make too much haste, and to over-supply carrying resources. Still, experience justifies the assumption that with adequate steamship accommodation and reasonable charges, a greatly extended trade may be expected between this country and St. John, N. B., and Liverpool ships would do most of the carrying. There are sufficient reasons for wishing success to the mission of the mayor of St. John.

THE TEACHERS.

Rev. Dr. Pepper Discusses the Personal Element in Teaching.

Prof. Murray's Interesting Address on Germany's Educational System.

Remarks by Other Teachers—Prof. Andrews Advocates Manual Training.

The annual session of the Educational Institute of New Brunswick opened in the exhibition hall in the high school on 28th ult. The executive met in the forenoon and transacted the usual routine business, confirming the programme already prepared.

In the afternoon the regular sessions opened, when Dr. Inch, superintendent of education, presided. There was a very large attendance of teachers, in fact the largest for years. After a short introductory or opening address by the chairman, A. C. M. Lawson moved that the fee for lady members be placed at fifty cents, and that for gentlemen at one dollar. This was seconded and carried by a standing vote, the ladies forming a solid delegation in favor of the motion. Formerly the fee was one dollar to all.

The enrollment and election of secretaries followed. In the absence of the secretary, the Rev. Dr. Pepper received the election of secretaries and the number of enrollment will be made today.

During the afternoon the chief superintendent of education called the attention of the institute to the series of charts shown in the hall below by John March, and stated that Mr. March would be in attendance to explain the working thereof.

Dr. Inch then introduced Rev. W. O. Raymond as the speaker for the afternoon, and said some very complimentary things relative to that gentleman's interest in educational matters in this province, stating that outside the teaching profession itself no one had shown greater interest in the work of the school, or more sincere sympathy with the teachers.

Mr. Raymond announced as his subject "Half-finished Work." Under this head there might naturally fall a great variety of topics concerning which there is room for improvement, and in relation to which it falls within the province of the educators of the young to supply what is lacking and where necessary remove misconceptions and bring about reforms. In educational matters the sound of progress is favorably listened to, and in the right direction. Instances were quoted to prove that within a generation or two past the great body of the people of New Brunswick had made a notable advance in intelligence and education through the work of the common schools of the country.

The speaker paid a tribute to the faithful work he had himself witnessed on the part of many a young teacher in some backwoods settlement alluded to in the outskirts of civilization. Young teachers of talent often begin their work amidst such surroundings, and if these young ladies escaped the persuasive wiles of the young farmers who as a rule found them particularly attractive (laughter)—they not infrequently found a place in some of our high schools, and were able to show to the period of their life, however charming in itself, was not after all the noblest period of human existence. Existence that is filled with the frolic of young animal life and has no definite purposes, is not creditable to the period in which it is spent, "fall to receive and nothing to give" is not one in which it was intended, we should long linger. If any teacher would renounce the dignity and the usefulness of manhood and spend his life as a child, he would ask them why is it so with you? There are some who perhaps would wish to recall the innocence of those days, but no man or woman worthy of the name should shrink from facing their duties or responsibilities of life.

In closing his address Mr. Raymond appealed to the teachers not to forget the dull ones among their scholars. As the skilled physician takes his keenest delight not in gazing at some specimen of robust manhood, but in restoring to some poor paralyzed being the power of a new life, which, while never so vigorous as the robust manhood of the other, nevertheless, to the sufferer an untold blessing. So the true teacher would find her noblest joy in the education of those who are languishing in the mire of ignorance, and in fitting for the battle of life, nature that had been warped by their environments. Let the boys and girls that have little chance at home have every chance at school. They may never fill the place of legislators or educators, or professional men, but they will have their place among the great body of the people of the land, and society will be the richer for the poorer for the attention they receive as the hands of their instructors.

At 5 o'clock the monthly public educational meeting was held, when the large exhibition hall was filled. Dr. Inch presided. Among those on the platform were: Governor McClellan, Hon. H. R. Emmerson, Mayor Sears, Chairman of Education, Dr. W. B. Rev. Dr. Pepper of Colby University, Maine, Dr. J. V. Ellis, M. P., Dr. W. V. White, Mrs. Skinner and a large number of others.

The room was very prettily decorated, being draped with the flags made by the graduating class for their closing. On the wall at the rear of the platform was draped the Stars and Stripes. The high school orchestra were present and contributed greatly to the pleasure of the evening. This orchestra, as Dr. Inch remarked, is certainly a credit to the school.

After the opening overture by the orchestra and a few brief remarks by Dr. Inch, the latter introduced Mayor Sears, who in a few happy words extended a hearty welcome to the teachers to the city. His worship

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also made an apt reference to matters of higher education.

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The paper was received with great enthusiasm, and on motion of Dr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Mullin of the Normal school, a unanimous standing vote of thanks was extended to Dr. Pepper.

Principal Patterson of Acadia Villa, N. S., was then invited to speak, and supplemented the remarks of Dr. Pepper by explaining what men of high character and principle can do in winning the esteem and admiration of their teachers and in fitting them for the battle of life.

Geo. U. Hay then, on behalf of the Normal History society, invited the teachers to a conversation in the society's rooms in the evening.

Prof. W. C. Murray read a paper entitled "How Others Do," which was a representation of education in the German schools. It was not merely a pleasure, he said, to appear before teachers in New Brunswick, but a privilege also. He would not attempt, he said, an exhaustive treatise on his subject. In Germany there is a conscientious experiment of methods above all other countries. In Prussia there are fourteen provinces, divided into governmental departments. These are divided into counties, and these again into districts. In the government there is a minister of education, with a council of eight, composed of members of the evangelical and Catholic beliefs. Beneath these are minor councils, smaller committees and inspectors. There is the power at the top controls everything. In this country it is the power at the bottom. Ours is democratic, while Germany's is not. The finances are from contributions from the state, and what is more rare with us, private contributions. The state contributes 51 per cent of all expenses. There are many kinds of schools, but the distinct types are the higher and the elementary periods. The latter covers about three years and takes the child from the age of six until he is nine. The higher type takes the pupil then, and turns him out when nineteen, or twenty. In addition to these there are middle or intermediate schools. The sexes are treated differently. For the first three years the same education is accorded the boys and girls. After that they are educated separately. The girls are not provided with education to fit them for the university. An agitation to effect that end is now being made. In Prussia there is a system of compulsory attendance which works very satisfactorily. The carrying out of that system is in the hands of the police. From 5 to 14 every boy must be in school. Excuses are only received in certain cases. If poverty is pleaded and the plea is found to be just, after the 12th year the boy is permitted to leave school for the half-day. There are 38 teaching hours in the week, against 25 in ours. Prof. Murray dwelt on the curriculum in the schools and the examinations which are held. A boy is able to leave school if he makes good marks in German, Latin and mathematics. Considering that the school system is governed in Germany by such high authority, one would expect that teachers would not be given much latitude, but the opposite is the case. There are very few text books, and the teacher must really be the text book. His education must be very complete. He must have a three years' course at the university and undergo searching and trying scholastic courses before being admitted. Teaching in Germany has, therefore, become a profession. Furthermore, their social position is high. One thing that makes the profession desirable is the system of pensioning, and in addition to this there is an allowance to the widow and orphans of teachers. Only 14 per cent of the teachers are women. This Prof. Murray says is a loss to the profession. The one great feature of the German system, however, is that teaching is a profession.

Dr. Mitchell of Keswick Ridge then followed with a paper on the school system of Medford. The principal characteristic of these appears to be in a system of meetings held between the teachers and normal school superintendents and inspectors. The writer suggested that an arrangement by

which pupils at the Provincial Normal school could teach in the Fredericton schools under the supervision of expert teachers would be advantageous to the training system. Taking up the curriculum of the Medford schools, he showed how advanced it was as compared with ours.

The following were elected officers: Secretary, John Brittain of the Normal school; assistant secretary, Miss Hattie Gregg, St. John.

The afternoon session opened with a paper entitled "Teachers' Ideals" by Prof. W. W. Andrews of Mount Allison university. This paper proved one of the most interesting of the many excellent papers read. Mr. Andrews spoke strongly in favor of training children not only in such subjects as impart literary skill, but insisted upon the equal importance of manual training.

The chairman spoke in appreciation of Prof. Murray's address, after which Inspector Bridges made some remarks on the address of Prof. Murray.

Dr. Bridges was then elected as the representative of the institute to the university senate.

These matters being disposed of, the executive committee also took place. The announcement as to who were elected will be made at this morning's session.

HISTORICAL CHARTS AT THE TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

As announced to the teachers by the chief superintendent on the opening day, John March, so long and well known in connection with the public school system, is spending much time and skill in commendation from all the fine series of historical charts published by the Comparative Synoptical Chart company of Toronto. These charts are so admirably arranged, so scientifically constructed, and so beautifully colored, as to win immediate commendation from all who inspect them. By a simple yet comprehensive series of lines, dates and facts in a country's history, all the leading events are brought before the eye, and by comparison of distance and duration are impressed upon the memory through the eye as no other systems of teaching history have yet succeeded in accomplishing. The use of a fine scale and the arrangement of facts in parallelisms enables the student quickly to realize and then to remember things as they really occurred, so simple and complete is the system that any ordinarily capable teacher can in a few minutes draft upon the school blackboard a form of blank spaces to represent given periods and within them to build up the history of a country before the eyes of his or her pupils in such a way as to awaken and maintain a permanent and growing interest in this most interesting and important branch of education.

THE QUEEN AND MRS. GLADSTONE.

No public announcement has yet been made that the Queen has offered to confer the title of countess on Mrs. Gladstone, though it is probable that her majesty has done so, and that the offer has been refused. In that case, the dignity of an earldom would be conferred upon the grandson of Mr. Gladstone, who is heir to the Hawarden estates. The Queen on some occasions offered to elevate the late Mr. Gladstone to an earldom, but it has been said that he would not accept any but the extinct earldom of Liverpool, and that the family which is associated with this title opposed his wishes in this respect.—Truth.

SUSSEX GRAMMAR SCHOOL ADDRESS.

ST. JOHN, June 27th, 1898.

To the Editor of the Sun:

Sir—The address presented to Mr. King, the principal of the Grammar school at Sussex, on the 25th ult., appeared in your issue of this morning, was evidently written by one who appreciates the style of Byron, and is a little better written than Venice in 1838 to his friend John Hobhouse in England, the following, which is by no means uninteresting, and which will at once notice the striking similarity: "It is not for made like ours to give or receive history; yet the praise of honesty have ever been permitted to the voice of friendship," etc., etc.

COOK'S COTTON ROOT COMPOUND

Is successfully used monthly by over 10,000 Ladies. Safe, effective. Ladies who have tried it will testify to its merits. Do not take other pills as all mixtures, pills and lotions are dangerous. Price, No. 1, 25 cents; No. 2, 50 cents. Sold by all druggists. For a full description and testimonials, see the enclosed circular. Cook's Cotton Root Compound, Windsor, Ont., Canada, and is sold and recommended by all responsible druggists in Canada.

Carter's Little Liver Pills

SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Bile, Headache, Dizziness, Nausea, Vomiting, Stomach Pain, Flatulence, Dropsy, Constipation, and all the Bad Effects of the Bowels. Beany Vegetables.

Small Pills. Small Dose. Small Price.

Substitution

the fraud of the day.

See you get Carter's,

Insist and demand

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THE CIRCUIT COURT.

At the circuit court, 28th ult., Judge Harrington laid the case of Frank Morris charged with larceny before the grand jury. A true bill was found, and the prisoner, on arraignment, pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

The case against Felix O'Neil, charged with larceny upon Julia Moses, was tried, J. E. Cowan appearing for the crown and John L. Carleton for the prisoner.

After the jury had been out for some time they came back to the court for instructions. Some of them appeared to blink with larceny, before the grand jury, while only common assault was charged. His honor explained the law to be that under the evidence they might find the prisoner guilty of common assault. Mr. Carleton took exception to his honor's charge, and considerable discussion ensued, until the judge requested the counsel to be seated.

Eventually the jury found the prisoner guilty of assault, and he was sentenced to nine months in jail. The court then adjourned sine die.

A NEW GOLD FIELD.

From Eastern Manchuria comes news that an agreement, rich gold field has been discovered. Just a year ago, travellers having bowls full of gold became tolerably frequent visitors at the small inns in the district. They proved to be farmers and laborers who had discovered gold in a valley in the neighborhood, and who were carrying their "plies" to the nearest city. Of course a rush was on the western slope of a hill traversed by a small stream, which disclosed, along its banks, a substratum of richly auriferous soil. Very soon 2,000 diggers were working. A great rush to the place was expected when the frost broke up this spring. It is an interesting question whether the region in the neighborhood of the river, and even the hills and mountains, may not prove to be rich in gold—Japan Mail.

A SUBTLE WARLIKE INFLUENCE.

If a continental combination threatens either England or the States, it may be the union of the whole Anglo-Saxon race will be an accomplished fact, and that union will carry with it the power and the will to meet the four corners of the world in arms. Every educated and civilized man must hope for and pray for peace, but during the last fifty years a growing but subtle influence, which does not make for peace, has been felt in England and Asiatic politics. The great historian of the Crimean war has described that influence in one moving sentence: "Powering high in the misty north men saw the ambition of the Cæsar."—The Englishman, Calcutta.

A certain eminent medical man lately handed to a publisher a treatise on the hand, which he warmly bestowed with a shake of the head, saying: "My dear sir, I have too many treatises on our hands already."

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

It is as gentle as sugar, and it is as strong as steel.

A MA

I am a middle aged man, with a full head of white hair, and a very strong nose. I have a wife and three children. I am a very good natured man, and I am very kind to my wife and children. I am a very good father, and I am very kind to my wife and children. I am a very good husband, and I am very kind to my wife and children.

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