

## NORMAL CLASSES.

One of the resolutions moved by the Rev. John McEwen, and unanimously adopted by the Provincial Convention in Guelph was, that "in view of the necessity for a general preparation of Sabbath School teachers, &c., a statement of the work done during the past year be embodied in the General Report, and commending the work to the special consideration of this Association."

In compliance with this decision of the Convention, we gladly present to our readers some of the evidences of a growing desire on the part of our Sabbath School teachers for an intelligent preparation and equipment for their important work, and the success that is attending the institution of normal classes in Ontario.

In this statement we do not profess to detail all "the work done" by normal classes in this Province. It may be sufficient to mention the following facts as exemplary and encouraging to others:

*Ingersoll.*—In the fall of 1876 a normal class for Sabbath School teachers was organized in this town by the Rev. John McEwen. A programme of study was agreed upon by the Ministerial Association. Simple subjects were elicited on the Art of Teaching, and an outline of Bible truth in its historical aspects. In the month of February the class resumed, and for ten weeks was occupied with another programme of Sabbath School subjects. The average attendance of this class was seventy; the interest was very encouraging; and the stormy nights that thinned out every other meeting did not materially affect this class. A third class is now in progress, and the meetings are larger than last year. The greater ease with which this class grapples with more difficult subjects is very noticeable. Superintendents report deeper interest in the teachers' meetings, and the improved style of class work is quite marked. This class is composed of teachers from all denominations, and meets in the Young Men's Christian Association rooms.

The Oxford County Sabbath School Convention appointed that classes should be held in different parts of the county, among which are the following:

*Drumbo.*—Six sessions were held here in the course of two days, beginning at 10 a.m. The class commenced with an attendance of forty, and increased in numbers to the close, the evening sessions being very large, and the interest manifested.

*Brownsville.*—Although the time appointed was a busy season, yet the attendance was good. Four sessions were held here. The average attendance was forty-five—principally teachers and parents, who manifested a deep interest in the work, as enabling them to teach their children.

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