

success that has been achieved. Mr. Patterson, continuing his journey, visited the superintendents of education of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia and laid the matter before them and other prominent educationists of the Maritime Provinces.

In October, 1889, he addressed the annual convention of the Quebec Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers in favor of his scheme and a resolution endorsing his proposals for a Dominion history was unanimously passed. A committee, with Mr. Patterson as corresponding secretary, was appointed to further the project.

Mr. Patterson corresponded with the heads of the education departments of all the provinces and other prominent educationists throughout the country, and received many sympathetic letters. In December, 1890, he attended the meeting of the Nova Scotia Teachers' Association and secured the endorsement of that association. The teachers' associations of Ontario and Prince Edward Island also passed favorable resolutions.

In May, 1891, a paper written by Mr. Patterson, entitled "Proposal for a Dominion Text Book of Canadian History" was read before the Royal Society of Canada by Prof. Clarke Murray, L.L.D., of McGill University. In July of the same year Hon. Geo. W. Ross, who had heartily supported the project from the first, invited the heads of the education departments of the various provinces to meet in Toronto to discuss it. Nearly all the provinces were represented at this meeting, but no definite action was then taken. However, before another year had passed the governments of all the provinces and territories had

expressed approval and appointed representatives on a committee called the Dominion History Committee. The first meeting of this committee was held in Montreal in July, 1892, on the occasion of the first convention of the Dominion Educational Association, the various provinces and territories being represented as follows: Ontario, Hon. Geo. W. Ross, chairman; Quebec, Rev. Principal Verreau, L.L.D., Jacques Cartier Normal School, Montreal, and William Patterson, M.A., B.C.L., secretary; New Brunswick, Geo. U. Hay, Ph. B., Principal Victoria High School, St. John, N. B.; Nova Scotia, Dr. A. H. Mackay, Superintendent of Education; Prince Edward Island, D. J. McLeod, M.A., Superintendent of Education; Manitoba, Rev. Dr. Bryce, Principal Presbyterian College, Winnipeg; North West Territories, Chas. Mair, Esq., of Prince Albert, the well-known poet; British Columbia was not represented owing to the death of Hon. John Robson, Premier and Minister of Education.

At this meeting arrangements were made for the Dominion History Competition, which opened in July, 1893, and closed July 1, 1895. Ninety persons applied for permission to write, but as applicants were obliged to show some proof of literary ability in order that the time of the examining committee should not be wasted, only forty-six were allowed to write, and of these only fifteen had completed their task when the competition closed. The competitors were instructed that it was the desire of the committee to have what was purely provincial so subdued as to give greater prominence to facts interesting to the whole Dominion;