

Shonyo, Esq., M. A.; Secretary-Treasurer, Prof. Archibald Duff, Jr., B. A.

The Business Committee reported the Annual Address of the President as the first order of business.

The President accordingly proceeded to address the Association on "A Graded system of Schools for the Province," referring in the course of remark to the need of the establishment of model schools and of the encouragement of Canadian School Books.

The Inspector of Schools for the District, H. Hubbard, Esq., M. A., was then asked to give some account of his work, and the state of Education in the District. The increase during the past year had been as favorable as at any time. Some serious disadvantages were found still to exist in the poorer districts.

The verse beginning, "Be Thou, O God, exalted high," was sung by the Meeting, standing. After announcement that Mr. H. C. Wilson would probably soon be present to enliven the exercises with music; and also that a few remaining copies of the "Galt" Prize Essay, on "Common School Education" were on the table for distribution, Mr. A. Duff, Jr. read a paper on "Teaching Arithmetic." After the reading of the paper, Inspector Hubbard made some remarks thereupon, and on other matters connected with the subject; as—the amount of help the teacher should give to his Scholars, and textbooks other than those mentioned by the essayist.

Rev'd. A. Duff addressed the meeting, expressing desire for common schools in which youth might receive a thorough education for the duties of life, and hoping that we might have among our Teachers more men, men willing to devote their lives to the work. The Association then adjourned, to reassemble at 7 p. m.

EVENING SESSION

The evening session was opened shortly after 7 p. m., by prayer by Rev. C. P. Mallory. A piece of Music was sung by several members of the Association, directed by Mr. H. C. Wilson. The minutes of the afternoon session were read and confirmed.

The Committee on the Secretary-Treasurer's Report brought in their report. On motion of Mr. Doak it was received, and the resolutions therein suggested were adopted with some amendments.

The Report, with the amended resolutions is as follows.

"The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer and report to the Association, would state.—"That the accounts are found correct as reported. The Committee beg leave to suggest the following resolutions:

Resolved.—That the expense incurred by the Committee appointed by the Association at Huntingville, to present to the Governor-General its views in regard to the School-Book order, be shared by the Association, and that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee.

Resolved.—That at each meeting of the Association, the place be selected for the next meeting, and also that as far as practicable, the Executive Committee should consist of persons residing within short distance of each other, and near the place of next meeting.

On recommendation of the Business Committee the subject "Instruction in Arithmetic" was again taken up, and in the discussion of it, Mr. Inspector Hubbard, the President, Mr. Shonyo, Principal of Hatley Academy, and the Secretary took part. Special attention was called in the course of remark, to the nature of the examples given in some books as not sufficiently connected with the principles taught, and the method of using such examples was spoken of. The difficulty of publishing Canadian Text Books, and the need of such as would suit all the Provinces; the use of the blackboard by both Scholars and teachers, for showing the working of examples and for explanations, were touched upon, as were also the care to be exercised in giving to Scholars work in copying; the great need of accurate commitment to memory; and the duty of training the scholar to do his own work and to think for himself; also the importance of doing work in the class so thoroughly that a second study of the same book should hardly be needed.

Mr. H. C. Wilson, with the aid of an instrument, and the voices of several of the members varied the exercises very pleasantly by giving some excellent music in the interval of discussion.

The items of business to be taken up next day, were read. Mr. H. C. Wilson called attention to the importance of the instruction of children in music, and asked fifteen minutes of next session to speak of this.

After some remarks on this subject, the request was made that Teachers would make known any subjects on which they desired discussion, and that some would volunteer model lessons on any subject.

The Association, led by Mr. H. C. Wilson, then sang the Doxology, and the Meeting was adjourned to 9 a. m. of the next day.

SECOND DAY.—MORNING SESSION.

At the opening of this session, The President offered prayer. After

music by the choir, the minutes of the preceding session were read and confirmed.

The Business Committee reported for discussion the question.—"Should the higher branches of mathematics be taught in Common Schools?" Short addresses were made by Inspector Hubbard, the Pres. Rev. A. Duff, Mr. Shonyo, Mr. A. Duff, Jr., and Mr. Doak. It was considered that these branches ought not in general to be so introduced, but that this rule need not be invariable.

Mr. Doak introduced by an address the question.—"Should we endeavor to elevate our class of Teachers to a professional rank on a level with the clergy, physicians, and lawyers?" The President and Rev. A. Duff followed, supporting Mr. Doak in the affirmative.

Mr. Wilson brought forward the question.—"Should the science of Music be studied in Common Schools?" He added much interest to his treatment of the question by giving a model lesson in music, such as he thought might be given in our schools. The President, Mr. Hubbard, and Mr. Doak, followed with short remarks.

The subject, "A Textbook on Geography," was brought forward and some remarks made thereon, by Mr. Wells, a Common School Teacher. Mr. Hubbard gave some valuable information respecting the textbooks in use in the District. Colton's & Fitch's Geography is much used, and Cornell's primary work is found to be excellent. Mr. Shonyo spoke on the subject, referring to some of the good qualities of Lovell's Geography, and also said that a work intermediate to Lovell's primary and his larger book was needed. The President made some remarks, saying that the maps of our own country ought to be on a larger scale than those of others, and that much credit was due to Mr. Lovell for his endeavors under very great difficulties to supply the want of a Canadian Geography. He advised that the best advantage should be taken of the multiplicity of textbooks among us by the use of a question book for which answers might be found in almost any Atlas or Text-book. A resolution was passed expressing a desire for an intermediate text-book such as had been referred to.

On motion from the Business Committee, the President left the chair, and it was taken by Mr. Shonyo. Mr. Doak moved that the thanks of the association be tendered to the President for his excellent addresses, to the Secretary for his paper on "Instruction in Arithmetic," and to Inspector Hubbard for the information given by him concerning the state of Education in the District. This was seconded and carried. It was then moved, seconded and carried that the thanks of the association be given to the Office Bearers of the past year for their earnestness in carrying on the business of the Association.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Local Committee of arrangements, and to the friends, inhabitants of the village of Compton, for the hospitable entertainment of the members present. Mr. Doak replied in the name of the Committee.

Mr. Doak addressed the Association briefly, on the necessity of making our school-rooms more comfortable and attractive. He said that in some places the grounds surrounding the schoolroom were finely laid out, the interior of the building beautified with first-class maps, engravings, &c., and abundant provision made for the pleasure of the scholars.

Rev. A. Duff called attention to the great importance of training children to habits of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, and recommended that they be brought up to abstain entirely also from the use of tobacco.—Mr. Wilson made a brief remark on the subject. A resolution was passed urging Teachers to encourage those under their charge to abstain entirely from the use of intoxicating drinks and tobacco. The President said that difference of opinion could hardly exist on this question. Rev. Mr. Kemp fully concurred in what had been said. Rev. Mr. Wells followed expressing the same feeling.

It was then moved by the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Wells, and carried, "that the thanks of the Association are hereby tendered to the Editors of the various papers in the District for their liberal aid in advertising and noticing our meetings."

After some discussion, East Hatley was fixed as the place of next semi-annual meeting, to be held in the coming summer. The Committee on nominations reported for election as Executive Committee, Dr. Gilbert, Mr. Lebaron and Dr. Burland, all of East Hatley, and Rev. Mr. Lee, of Stanstead as Vice President in place of Dr. Miles, should the latter resign. These gentlemen were duly elected.

Several names were added to the roll of membership. A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. H. C. Wilson, for his assistance in rendering the meetings pleasant.

The Doxology was sung, and Rev. Mr. Kemp pronounced the Benediction, after which the Association, adjourned to meet in East Hatley.

ARCHIBALD DUFF, JR., B. A.
Sec.-Treas., S. F. D. T. A.