

read by Mr. Bissett and others during the first day, and on the second day the business consisted chiefly in the handling of a young class by Mr. Harrington, Head Master of the Cornwall Separate School, for the purpose of showing how to teach composition and analysis of sentences. Mr. Smith, M.A., Head Master of the High School, gave a graphic "Hour with Byron," and the remainder of the time, from half-past one till half-past six p.m., was occupied in discussing the merits of the three new series of Readers. Messrs. Talbot, Bissett and Harrington spoke in favour of the Royal Canadian Readers, and Mr. Kelyea for Gage's. Nelson's Royal Readers were represented by Mr. Small, Gage's Meiklejohn Readers by Messrs. Kennedy and Davidson, and the Royal Canadian by Mr. Boyle. After a lively debate, it was resolved to adjourn without having arrived at any decision.

At the North Hastings meeting, held in Madoc, Mr. Morton in the chair, a resolution was passed in favour of adopting the Royal Canadian Readers, should they be authorized in time for use in the schools in 1884.

ESSEX.—The meeting of United North and South Ridings Essex Associations was held at Essex Centre, on the 18th and 19th Oct., Mr. Girardot, I.P.S., chairman, and Mr. Wright, secretary. After routine business, Mr. Chas. Fuller explained his "Method of Teaching Moods and Participles." He made large use of his notes for class work, dwelling on the necessity of making the subject familiar by examples before the pupil came in contact with the theory. In the afternoon the question of "A Minister of Education *versus* a Chief Superintendent" was introduced by Mr. Dorset, who urged that the present system is preferable. He wished it to be understood that the present Minister (Mr. Crooks) was as successful as any other man is likely to be. Messrs. Ross, Ashdowne, Duncan, McNeill, and other teachers, with Messrs. Plant, Camer, Golden, trustees, took part in the discussion. It was unanimously decided that a Minister of Education is preferable to a Superintendent and Council of Public Instruction. A resolution in favour of adopting Gage's Readers was carried. Medals—the gift of the St. Jean Baptiste Society and Mr. Donald Cameron—won by Miss Leonie Letonturier and Miss Nellie Aikman, pupils of the Windsor High School, were presented. In the evening, after an excellent musical programme was rendered by local talent, Dr. McLellan delivered a lecture on "The Coming Schoolmaster." He prefaced his lecture with a few remarks suggested by the discussion on "A Minister of Education *vs.* a Superintendent." He said that teachers were some-

times called a profession of grumblers. He referred to the fact that in the minutes of the late meeting of the Provincial Association not a single expression of approbation of our school system or management could be found from one end to the other. He advocated a few words of praise when it was deserved. In speaking of the coming teacher, he referred to great improvement in the training of teachers and in the system of inspection, points in which we were far ahead of such highly cultivated States as Massachusetts and New York. Much, however, still remained to be done in this respect even among us, and he looked forward to the day when every teacher, from the highest to the lowest, would receive professional training and have his work thoroughly inspected. He spoke of the broader culture and higher attainments which we might expect, and concluded with the hope that the coming teacher would be better paid and receive more credit for his work than he does at present.

EAST BRUCE.—The half-yearly meeting of this Association was held in Paisley. Owing to the unfavourable state of the weather the attendance was not so large as usual. A variety of subjects were discussed in a most animated and instructive manner. The proceedings were commenced by Miss Jelley, who read a thoughtful paper on "The Use and Abuse of Text-books." Messrs. McCool, Beaton, Munroe and Miss MacNaughton continued the discussion. Mr. Morgan tendered his resignation of the secretaryship, and Mr. Elliott was appointed in his stead. Mr. Long, of Walkerton, read a paper in which he narrated the history of writing in a very interesting way. Miss Lewis, of Toronto, sustained her reputation as an elocutionist of a very high order in her lecture before the Association and also by the readings given at the entertainment at night. She is possessed of extensive knowledge in regard to the principles of elocution, and has the faculties of ably and clearly presenting them to others. We have no doubts that seeds of thought were sown on the important subject of reading which will produce abundant fruit in our schools in the near future. Miss Strong's singing was rendered in her best style and was highly appreciated. The teachers desire to thank the Paisley public for their handsome and liberal patronage, and Mr. Bain for having so efficiently presided. On Saturday a joint meeting of trustees and teachers was held to consider the live subject of School Readers. Opinion was much divided as to the relative merits of the two rival series. The majority of those present favoured the introduction of the Royal Readers by James Campbell & Son. Mr. Robb took up the subject of Entrance