

Since the appointment of Mr. J. A. P. Clark to the principalship of Stayner public school much satisfaction has been expressed at the progress made. He is well assisted by the Misses Robertson, Logan, and Craig.

Dundas is badly in want of increased school accommodation. During the winter months it has been found necessary to adopt the half-time system with some divisions. This reduced the attendance from 766 to 620, whereas there are only seats for 504 in all the schools together. It is to be hoped that the trustees will see their way clear to supply this serious deficiency soon. As far as work is concerned the schools are in a thoroughly sound condition. J. D. Bissonnette, B.A., is a most energetic principal. He is assisted in the high school by L. A. Kennedy, B.A. The public school has a very efficient staff, consisting of Messrs. J. W. McLeane and Chas. Roberts, and Misses Young, Somerville, Knowles, Scott, Laidlaw, McFarlane, and Clark. Miss Young is leaving after sixteen years of work in these schools, and Miss McGorman has been appointed to enter on duties as teacher after the summer vacation. There is an excellent Literary Society in connection with the schools which has a capital museum containing many fine geological, ornithological, and other specimens, besides many curiosities. With more room and better means of displaying its specimens this collection would soon become a most useful and attractive institution. The teachers have been most energetic in forming and arranging the museum, and deserve all the support that the people of Dundas can give them to make it a thorough success.

The Berlin Central School passed fifteen pupils into the Berlin High School at the recent Entrance Examination. Elmira passed 10, three of them being at the head of the honor list; Waterloo 6, Winterborn 4, Doon 4, Conestogo and 14th Wellesley each 2, Heidelberg, Hawksville, Erbsville, St Jacobs, Yatton, and Redhill each 1. The people of Berlin have reason for gratification that their school makes such an improved record on some preceding years. — *Berlin Daily News*.

The Executive Committee of the Durham Teachers' Association met at Bowmanville, on Saturday Sept. 8th. Present, Messrs. Tilley, Giffillan, Goggin, Reynolds, Barber, Keith, and Stirling. The convention will be held Oct. 19 and 20. G. W. Ross, Esq., M.P., will be present both days, and lecture on "Cultivation of the National Sentiment" on Friday evening. Particulars in circulars.

At the July examinations Orillia passed 21 candidates—Second Class, three A's and one B, seven Third Class, and ten intermediates.

We regret that we have been unable to collect the results of the late examinations in many schools. If our friends will forward them at once they will appear next month.

One of the series of Township Institutes, organized by D. P. Clapp, B. A., Inspector of Schools for North Wellington, was held at Glenalban, Peel Township, on Friday 22nd June. The Inspector was called upon to preside, and the affair was a complete success. There was a fair attendance of teachers and the resident clergymen, Rev. B. Sherlock of the Methodist, and Rev. Mr. Morris of the Presbyterian Church were present, together with some of those from the village and vicinity who were interested in educational matters. The teaching by members with the criticism thereby evoked, and the discussion of essays, occupied the whole of the day, which was very pleasantly and profitably spent.

The Kingston Collegiate Institute has been recently reorganized, and enters upon the present term with an able staff of teachers, all specialists in their respective departments, and all new with the exception of the efficient Principal, A. P. Knight, Esq., M.A. From the personnel and high educational standing of the entire staff, we predict for the institute a most successful career, surpassing even its palmiest days. We notice that a very important subject has been added to the curriculum,—namely, "Short-Hand," which is fast becoming a necessary part of the education of both boys and girls.

A vigorous article appears in the last issue of one of the leading educational journals attacking the management of the Collegiate Institute of this city. We do not know that there is ground for the charges made, but the fact that they have been made in a journal of educational standing is a reason for some attention being paid to them by those most interested. The Collegiate Institute is the most important public school in the city, and in the interest of education such an article should not be passed by in silence. The charges are in brief that "old-fogeyism" is the order of the day both on the part of the board of trustees and of the teaching staff.

—*Telegram*.

## MANITOBA.

A convention for the election of three members to represent the graduates of the University of Manitoba was held on the 22nd of August.

On the same day the University Council met at the call of the Chancellor, who is appointed one of the trustees of the estate of the late A. K. Isbister, to take into consideration the conditions of the bequest and to express a due sense of the munificence of the donor in making liberal provision in his will for the advancement of education in the Province.

The public schools opened on Tuesday, 21st August.

Two new school-houses will be opened by the Protestant Board of School Trustees of this city at the beginning of the new term, and three additional teachers are called for to meet the demands of the increasing attendance, one of them to take the assistant's position in the collegiate department.

An election of school trustees for the city was held on August 3rd, in accordance with the late Act amending the school law. The old members were nearly all re-elected, and at the first meeting of the new board Stewart Mulvey, Esq., was duly elected chairman.

The examination of teachers for certificates was held August 7th at Winnipeg, with an attendance of ninety candidates; at Brandon, with twenty-seven; Pilot Mound, twenty-two; Birtle and Minnedosa, about twenty each. The examiners have not yet concluded their labors.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

The fourth annual meeting of the Provincial Educational Association was held in Halifax on the 11th and 12th of July. Mr. Alex. McKay, professor of mathematics in the Halifax high school, and Mr. A. J. McEachern, of the county academy, Antigonish, were unanimously elected to the posts of secretary and assistant secretary. Prior to the formal opening of the session a large number of members had enrolled themselves.

The first business transacted was the presentation of reports from the Executive Committee and the committee appointed the year before to further consider and revise the proposed course of study for high schools. The report of the former committee epitomized the necessary business of the year of an *ad interim* character, and embraced the programme of exercises about to be submitted; that of the latter was presented in the shape of a printed curriculum. By eleven o'clock the spacious hall in the Freemasons' building—the place of meeting—was crowded to the doors. Principal Calkor, of the provincial normal school, having taken the chair, the Superintendent of Education proceeded to deliver the opening address, in which the chief topics discussed were the relation of general to technical education, and the proper equipage of competing studies in an advanced scheme of public instruction. He contended that as practical educationists they were in duty bound to see if there was any good ground for the complaints so generally urged that education among us has concerned itself too exclusively with groups of subjects, which though susceptible of much ingenious analysis and classification, are still adapted to contemplative rather than practical business purposes; with the critical study of absolute political ideas, and the evanescent opinion developed centuries ago by passing circumstances; with the niceties of language, and the curiosities of literature; with the names and dates and genealogies of infinitesimal beings, whom accident once thrust into prominent positions, but whose lives touch not at a single point the needs and the duties of the present hour, rather than with studies which would open up new capabilities for promoting human comfort.

Those urging this claim could certainly find in the history of education a reason why it should not be thrust aside simply because it proposed something new. The history of education was the record of great waves of change successively rolling in on the established order of things. Old systems and appliances are found unsuitable and useless in periods of intellectual revolution. A new order of ideas calls for new methods of propagation. The "Clouds of Aristophanes" was referred to as a case in point. The immortal productions of that poet, with their sparkling humor, all their thrilling lyric music, were after all but the impotent protests of a man of genius, out of sympathy with his times and unable to comprehend the irresistible progress of events. That "new education" against which this gifted conservator of old forms and ideas polished his wit and tuned his lyre came in despite him, and however much subsequent events have modified it, the world feels its influence still, and will continue to do so till the names of Socrates and Plato are forgotten.