

After the reading of this able paper which was principally a comparison between the two languages, a vote of thanks was moved and carried and tendered to the reader.

Mr. J. Ringland read a fine paper on "Religious instruction in schools," which was much to the point and elicited some little discussion. Mr. Ringland received a vote of thanks, and the convention adjourned.

THE ADJOURNMENT TO THE MUSIC HALL.

The entertainment.—What took place and who spoke.

In order that the teachers, together with their friends, should spend an agreeable hour or two, listening to speeches, readings and singing, Professor McQuarrie, who by the way has taken a most commendable part in furthering the business of the Convention by seeing to the comforts of its members and visitors, organized a vocal, instrumental and elocutionary entertainment, which came off at the Music Hall, at eight o'clock Thursday evening. The hall was comfortably filled with the members of the Association, who mustered in full force, but besides these there was a very large accession to the strength of the attendance on the part of our own citizens, both Protestant and Catholic, who take a deep and commendable interest in the advancement of education in this country. On the platform, on each side of the Chairmain, Dr. Marsden, were the Lord Bishop of Quebec, Hon. Mr. DeBoucherville, Rev. M. McQuarrie, Principal Andrews, of McGill College, Rev. Dr. Nighswander, Professor and Mr. Hicks, Wm. Hossack, Rev. Houseman and Mr. Butler. Among those in the body of the Hall, we noticed Hon. Messrs. Mailhot and Robertson, Dr. Giard, Rev. Mr. Fothergill, Hon. Jas. Skead, Mr. Poupore, ex-M. P. P., John Hearn, M. P. P., Rev. Mr. Rawson, H. S. Scott, James Dinning, Rev. Chas. Hamilton, and others. The proceedings were opened by the chairman, who said that his remarks would be very brief. So far the Teachers' Convention in Quebec had been quite a success and to-night they were assembled to hear something regarding their labours, as well as to listen to vocal and instrumental music and several elocutionary readings. He then presented Professor Hicks, of the McGill Normal School, to the audience, who stepped forward and said he would be obliged to apologize because he was not prepared to speak on that evening, and merely came to Quebec to associate himself, with his colleagues in discussing educational matters. He was glad to see so large an attendance at the Convention and hoped some good result would follow their deliberations. Many came a long distance to attend the Convention, some of whom he knew to come from districts 40 miles above Montreal. He went on to say that the Legislature might make educational enactments, but it remained to the teachers to carry them out, and the success of the education movement mainly depended upon the latter. He adverted to the great improvements for the better which had taken place in our school progress since his arrival in the country some twenty or thirty years since, observing that they were in reality extraordinary both in town and country, although he was free to admit that a great deal remained yet to be done. What we particularly wanted here was a better mode of selecting teachers. At present we had to depend upon haphazard or what chance sent to the Normal Schools, and he contended it would be a great blessing in Canada if we had some thorough system of training teachers such as they had in England. Another obvious drawback, and one that militated seriously against us was the want of a sufficient retiring allowance for superannuated teachers—something to keep the old teacher comfortable in his old age—and he urged that no individual in society had a greater claim upon the public in this connection than the aged school-master, who had led a long and useful life (Applause). He also advocated small local meetings of members of the Association in different parts of the country to excite more general interest in the cause of education. He said he was glad to see that considerable interest was taken in the matter in Quebec, and expressed the opinion that the Convention was above all interesting to parents, as, upon the understanding and help of the latter, depended very largely indeed the successful and proper direction of the efforts of the teachers. He urged the advantages that would accrue from the establishment of a depository for books and schools apparatus. In some respects concerning the mode of securing teachers and fitting them for schools, he knew he would disagree with the idea of some of the Conventionists, but perhaps this is due to the fact that his advanced years caused him to think lightly of ideas introduced by younger teachers. He concluded by urging upon the Province the adoption of some of his suggestions and took his seat amid warm applause. The Chairmain then introduced Mrs. Caldwell, who sung most charmingly, and with great effect and firmness, the songs some of which is entitled "If he asks me to marry him what shall I say," with accompaniment on the piano by Mr. Bishop, and violin by Mr. George Wyse. She is possessed of a sweet, powerful voice, of no ordinary kind, and sings with so much

ease and correctness, as to hope that we shall hear her again this winter. Mr. Bishop played a "solo," in a masterly style. The great feature of the evening was the elocution of Prof. Andrews, of McGill College. As an elocutionist of a high order, Prof. Andrews had already an established reputation, but it was left to last evening for him to charm and astonish a Quebec audience not only with his correctness of taste, but his masterly rendition of his pieces and extraordinary versatility. He read at different intervals during the entertainment. Rev. Mr. Nighswander also introduced and delivered a brief, but able address. He favored theoretically a Dominion, instead of a Provincial system of education, with a central bureau of examiners at Ottawa to qualify teachers, and compulsory attendance of children at school. Practically, he considered that the Quebec system sadly needed simplification. Miss Amy Henry, of about twelve years of age, daughter of J. W. Henry, Esq., played on the piano with a great deal of taste several most difficult pieces of music, and elicited as she well deserved from the audience for her brilliant accomplishments, a great deal of applause, in fact so much so that she had to be brought out a second time. The entertainment was brought to a close with the National Anthem at 10.30 p. m.

THIRD DAY.—FRIDAY.

The morning session opened at 10.15, Dr. Marsden in the chair.

Revd. M. M. Fothergill opened the meeting with prayer.

The chairmain enlarged on the importance of the work yet before the convention, the election of officers. It was finally agreed that this should be attended to at noon. The minute of yesterday's sessions were read by the Secretary M. Hicks and confirmed. Last night's meeting was reported on and declared to have been most satisfactory. Mr. Duval moved, and it was carried that a motion of thanks be tendered to the ladies and gentlemen who assisted at the entertainment last evening.

Rev. Mr. Watson moved seconded by Mr. Hicks, and it was carried with great enthusiasm "That the members of this convention hereby gladly express their most cordial thanks for the kind hospitality that has been extended to those who came from a distance to attend the convention, also for the kind attentions and satisfactory arrangements of the Local Committee. The members of this convention will also cherish a lively and grateful remembrance of their visit to the ancient, interesting and hospitable city of Quebec."

Professor McGregor, of Montreal, being unavoidably absent, his paper "On Vacation Schools," was read by Mr. Hicks, Secretary, warmly applauded, and accorded a motion of thanks. This paper urged the establishment of schools in vacation, which children might attend, who were in the way at home. The writer suggested that high fees be charged for those who attended these vacation schools, that the studies be made simple and pleasant, and voluntary teachers paid liberally for their time, conduct them.

Dr. Miles gave lucid explanation of Baron Zaba's method of teaching history. The basis of this method is a diagram in the shape of a square, containing 100 squares in ten rows of ten each, each square representing one year and the whole square consequently a century. Different colored squares laid on different subdivisions of the diagram squares, indicated the dates of great events.

Dr. Loverin followed introducing as a modification of the Zabian System, the Centograph, which is an upright frame resembling the Zabian diagram, but possessing pigeon-holes for the reception of a cubes, instead of flat squares.

Mr. Emberson thought these squares might easily get lost in large schools and therefore proposed that scholars should be taught to rule their own diagrams. Mr. Emberson illustrated his remarks.

Dr. Marsden expressed his opinion that it was a sort of Memoria Technica.

Dr. Loverin could not allow that idea to go abroad as it was not such; but simply an appeal to the memory through the eye, and much more easily remembered than the difficult unmeaning words in Gray's Memoria Technica. It being past twelve the Chairmain stopped the discussion till the officers for the next year were elected and the place of meeting decided on.

Montreal and Sherbrooke were proposed and Montreal finally decided upon.

The following names were suggested for the office of President:

Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Duy, Principal Hicks, and Dr. Howe.

The two latter gentlemen having requested the withdrawal of their names, Dr. Jenkins was unanimously chosen President.

Mr. Francis Hicks was re-elected secretary and Professor MacGregor treasurer.

The election finished, Professor Hicks excused himself for not giving the Zabian Method a trial in the McGill Normal School which was not from any want of interest in the matter, but from want of time. He would not object to any of those under him giving it a far trial. He contended however that it taught Chronology and not what he would call history.