

PROVINCIAL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION.—We noticed the first meetings of the Convention of this body last week. They continued in session till Thursday.

We omitted to mention the award of the Prize offered last year for the best essay. The committee thought Mr. J. F. L. Parsons reported that three essays had been received. He read the one to which the prize was awarded, entitled "Five Days a week, or the importance of regular attendance at School." It was pronounced a well-written and highly creditable essay. After it had been read the envelope accompanying it was opened, when it was found that Miss H. Maria Morris was the author.

T. H. Rand, Esq., gave an address on Tuesday afternoon in which he stated a number of facts contrasting the schools of to-day with those several years ago.

The following members will show what an astonishing advance has been made since 1864.

Table with 3 columns: PUPILS IN SCHOOLS IN NOVA SCOTIA, In Winter, In Summer, No. entr'd. on books. Rows for 1864 and 1869.

There are now about 1 in 4 of the population in the Province at School. In England there are less than 1 in 7.

Mr. H. Condon, Head Master of the Milton Academy, Yarmouth, introduced the subject of "Music in Schools," and warmly advocated the employment of Prof. C. E. Gates, for the purpose of giving instruction to the Teachers of the Province in the art of teaching Music in Yarmouth County, with so much advantage and satisfaction.

Tuesday Evening, the Rev. Alex. McArthur, delivered a lecture on "The Democracy of Education." He showed the tendencies of education to be towards the enlightenment of all classes of the community. It was an able, eloquent and useful discourse.

On Thursday morning the "Tenure of office in Educational appointments," was made the subject of debate. The following resolutions were the basis of the discussion:

- 1. That the appointment or removal of educational officers on political grounds, or with a view to political service, is wrong in principle, and undermines the very foundation of public system of education, which must command the confidence and cordial support of the people, irrespective of party.
2. That the frequent removal of Teachers, Inspectors and other educational officers, is incompatible with true efficiency, stability and progress.
3. That inspectors should be selected, as far as possible, from the ranks of the teaching profession, or from those who have had practical experience in teaching.
4. That all important educational appointments, as those of Superintendent of Education, Principal of Normal School, Inspectors and Teachers, should be held on the tenure of ad vitam out ad culpam, i. e. during efficiency and competency.
5. That the Constitution of the Council of Public Instruction should be modified, in order to diminish as far as possible the temptation and the danger of sacrificing educational interests to political considerations.
6. That a memorial embodying these views be presented to the Legislature, praying that honourable body to take such action in the premises as may effectually secure the end proposed.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, except the fifth which was carried by 21 to 15.

A motion was made having special reference to the case of the dismissal of Mr. F. W. George, but it was withdrawn on the special request of Mr. George.

Two papers were read; one on High School Departments by Mr. H. A. Bayne, Head Master of Pictou Academy; the other, by a lady on "The Preparatory Department" which was read by Mr. J. F. L. Parsons, these were regarded as very superior papers; and called forth high encomiums from the teachers present.

On Wednesday evening, the Rev. Mr. Robertson, of Wilmet, gave an elaborate and very able lecture on "The Influence of classical studies on the moral and intellectual character."

Various subjects connected with education were discussed with considerable interest. The matter of Teaching never before had so much the character of a profession. The teachers attending the Convention gave indications of advanced thought and superior cultivation.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

- President—J. B. Calkin, Esq., Principal of Normal School.
Vice-Presidents—Hinckle Condon, Esq., Rev. T. A. Higgins, M. A.
Secretary and Treasurer—F. W. George Esq., M. A.

Committee—J. Hollis, J. F. L. Parsons, B. A., J. McKenzie, B. A., D. M. Sterns, and J. Scott Hutton, M. A.

The next Annual Session is expected to be at Pictou.

The Lecturist week before the Y. M. C. A., by Rev. J. B. Richardson on "God's ancient people, Israel" was full of instruction on a subject of great interest. It presents a wide field in the history of the past, the present position of that scattered people, and the probabilities of the future with regard to their restoration and conversion to Christianity. The audience was not so large as usual, conditioned possibly by the very unfavorable weather.

An Accident occurred to the steamer City of New York last week, when she was backing out of the dock the crew became detached from the shaft and fell to the bottom. Mr. Sheridan, the diver was employed to search for the crew and pronounced it sunk deep in the mud. It was raised and replaced with only a short detention.

"THE MESSIAH".—This magnificent Oratorio was performed by the Philharmonic Society, on Thursday last to a very large audience in Temperance Hall. Its rendering was in some respects superior to that of last year. The orchestra being composed mostly of civilians, members of the Society, the finer instrumental passages were more correctly given. The choruses were very effectively performed.

It was repeated on Monday evening before a large audience, and called forth expressions of warm appreciation.

INFANTICIDE.—The body of an infant, about two days old, was picked up near the fishmarket slip on Wednesday morning. It had been placed in a carpet bag, which was found floating in the dock. Detective Hutt is in search for the guilty party.

THE ABSTAINER is to be continued, a number of Temperance men have made themselves responsible for lists of subscribers and an amount of money, which will enable the proprietor to proceed without suspending as it was feared.

The Grand Jury for Halifax County have refused to grant licenses to a number of persons in outlying districts who applied for them, as they did not comply with the provisions of amended license law. The Jury recommended the appointment of a Clerk of Licenses for the Eastern district of the County, and another for the Western district.—Abstainer.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS.—It is proposed to erect a large handsome brick building for this institution. The following is a list of Subscriptions already received for the purpose:

Table listing names and amounts for the Industrial School for Boys, including W. Cunard, Miss Cogswell, W. J. Stairs, etc.

The Zion's Advocate says Rev. W. G. Goucher has become pastor of the church at Wells Depot, Me.

The Acadia Fire Insurance Company has declared a dividend of 12 1/2 per cent for the past year.

Six vessels, with produce, arrived on Monday, last from P. E. Island. It is seldom that the harbors of the Island are open so late in the season.

On Friday last, December 31st, about \$12,000 was paid into the Treasurer's office for City taxes.

LOCK'S ISLAND SHELBURNE CO.—We learn from the Yarmouth Tribune, that there is much dissatisfaction and angry feeling here amongst those who claim shares in the proceeds of the Blackfish, driven on shore last summer. The oil obtained from them amounted to \$1700. The claimants are about 200. The dispute is not likely to be soon settled.

RAILWAYS, from coal mining operations in Cape Breton are the subject of an article in the Cape Breton News. The News says respecting the Victoria Mining Co., that "their railway will be 3 1/2 miles in length. We do not like as a general thing to parade the names of commercial gentlemen in print; but we cannot help availing ourselves of the opportunity to-day of mentioning the name of Henry N. Paint, Esq., who with his partner Mr. Fraser, have exhibited an amount of rare pluck and liberality in developing the Mines selected by Mr. Ross, whose energy and practical skill entitle him to a prominent position in all that relates to that work."

THE INTERNATIONAL COMPANY'S RAILWAY, will be 12 miles in length. The work required for these roads will employ quite a number of men during the winter.

DELAYS.—There has been a good deal of irregularity in the arrival of trains from the westward, on Saturday last the train did not leave Annapolis till 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and was after 11 o'clock at night before its arrival in Halifax.

ACCIDENT AT PEREAUX.—While the ladies of the Baptist Church here were holding a "Christmas Tree," on Wednesday evening, December 22nd, a part of the flooring of the second flat gave way, carrying with it some 60 or 70 persons.

The building occupied was a small new house the back part only of which was finished. In this part the Tea was being served, while immediately over it on the second flat was the "Tree" Fancy table &c. The main or front part of the building was wholly unfinished. Loose flooring was thrown down for the occasion. Across this on the upper flat a table was extended loaded with all the dainty eatables, confectionary, fruit, &c., &c., common on such occasions. Through the lower flat on one side was the entrance way and stairway, the remainder being unoccupied except by a few, mostly men who were standing about in groups busily talking. About 7 o'clock as the upper flat became densely crowded the joists proved too weak for such a ponderous weight, and split off at one end letting the whole mass down with a crash upon the heads of those

below, without a moment's warning, crushing to the floor all who happened to be beneath. To burst out the window and doorway, and throw out the flooring by those who escaped unhurt, notwithstanding the confusion that prevailed, was but the work of a moment; and soon the bruised and groaning sufferers were extricated from beneath the ruins. Those least injured were at once taken home, the others to the house of W. Cochran, Esq. In about an hour and a half, Dr. Denison arrived at the scene and after careful examination decided that none were fatally injured.

Those who suffered most severely were Miss Julia Hicks, Benjamin Borden, jun., Philip Brown, jun., Jehial Pineo, and William Bennet. All were more or less injured on the head and neck. Mr. Brown had an arm fractured and ankle sprained, besides other bruises, Mr. Borden had also an ankle badly sprained.

Many others received severe bruises, and cuts from the broken dishes and glass-ware. All seem now to be in a fair way of recovery.

How such a catastrophe could occur with ut loss of life, or even limb, seems almost a miracle. A lasting lesson may thereby be learn both temporally and spiritually.

D. H. NEWCOMB. Pereaux, Cornwallis, Dec. 26th 1869.

AN INCIDENT—ALMOST AN ACCIDENT.—One day last week a circumstance occurred at Kentville, which for several reasons deserves to be reported in our columns.

One of the Railway Conductors or "Guards," as the gentlemen filling that office are styled on the Windsor and Annapolis Railway, had just given directions for the train to start. His voice is not so clear and sonorous as Murray's of the Western N. S. line. And does not call so out the warning "Keep clear there!" A lady who was rather late in stepping from the platform to the cars, in attempting to do this fell down between the platform and the train. With some effort she kept herself clear from the wheels, was hastily picked up by the people near, and was hurried on to get into the car. Having dropped her purse when she fell, she mentioned it, and had it forthwith picked up and given to her. Still she was concerned that she had dropped something else, and called out for her Christian Messenger. Oh never mind that said those near, you will be left behind if you wait for it, and tried to hurry her on board; but to no purpose. "I have not read it" said the lady, "and must have it." And so as the Guard had not the good manners to wait for her after so narrow an escape, she was left behind in consequence of her determination not to lose her Messenger.

When we heard this we felt that it was a rare piece of devotion which, of course, deeply affected us, and we resolved to give the guard a severe reproof. We would recommend that he take a few lessons from conductor Murray, and so avoid a worse thing than that of allowing a passenger to fall from the platform, and then go on without her. If we knew the lady who had so suffered by her regard for the Messenger, we should surely take off our hat when meeting her. Having had occasion recently to travel on this line, we must say, that we found the Guards very polite, respectable gentleman.

THE MARBLE MOUNTAIN IN CAPE BRETON.—We are informed by a correspondent in Cape Breton, that sample blocks of the marble from their mountain have been sent to Halifax, and are now in the hands of Mr. George A. Sandford. Practical men who have seen and worked them pronounce them of a very superior description.

We have called on Mr. Sandford and find that he has commenced working upon this home product, and has already polished some pieces. Some of it is nearly white, other pieces have tints and veins of a slight smoky color, and are semi-transparent in some parts. This article will doubtless soon be in great demand for the more ornamental parts of buildings as well as for mantle-pieces and other purposes.

POSTAGE STAMPS.—Great complaints are made at the want of accommodation in the post-office. Sometimes they have been unable to afford a supply of stamps. This should be avoided as it might occasion great inconvenience to parties applying.

MORE RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—A brakeman named Guyon was thrown off the step of a car on Wednesday last. The cars being "braked up," in order to deposit the mail bag at Fletcher's Station, some one standing near Guyon remarked that the brakes did not seem to take effect. Guyon therefore stood upon the lowest step, and taking hold of the hand rails, leaned out as far as he could to see whether the brake held to the wheel. As he rose a sign board struck him on the side of the head and knocked him into the canal. He was seen to rise some fifteen feet from where he fell in and immediately disappeared. The medical evidence went to prove that death resulted from drowning.

The deceased, who had been in the employ of the Railway Department about ten years, was 45 years of age, and leaves a wife and eight children.

On Saturday evening about 7 o'clock, Matthew Whelan a spare conductor was engaged at Richmond Depot coupling some cars, he slipped and fell on the rail, when the wheels of the tender passed over his left arm crushing it in a fearful manner. It was found necessary to amputate the arm which was done by Drs. Jennings and Black. The man has been in the Railway Department about eight years. He is a sober steady man about 25 years of age, is married and has three children.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 30.—About 7 o'clock on the evening of Wednesday, the 22nd inst., during

the intense darkness and storm that prevailed, the schooner "Annie," of Pictou, Capt. Wood- en, from Halifax for this port with a cargo of coal, while entering the harbor mistook a light in a dwelling house for Fort Point light, and ran ashore at Freelick's Cove, eastern head. In an incredibly short space of time the force of the heavy sea running knocked the vessel to pieces. A passenger, Mr. Doran C. Mullins, and one of the crew, a Frenchman named Lawrence Burkey, were washed from the wreck and drowned. The captain's son was also washed overboard and narrowly escaped drowning. The captain and the remainder of the crew were rescued about half-past eleven o'clock by brave hands, headed by William Crooks.

There is, probably, no way in which we can benefit our readers more, than by recommending to them for general use Johnson's Anodyne Liniment. It is adapted to almost all the purposes of a Family Medicine; and as a specific for coughs, colds whooping cough, soreness of the chest, lame stomach, rheumatism, spitting of blood, and all lung difficulties, it has no equal that ever we saw or heard of.

The propriety of giving condition medicine to horses, cattle, and sheep, was discussed and admitted by many of the Agricultural Societies throughout the State last fall, and we believe that in every case but one, they decided in favor of Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders. Good Judgement.

M. A. Buckley, 85 Granville Street, Halifax, has received by late Steamers and Sailing Vessels, 74 Cases, Bales, and Packages of Books, Stationery, Room Paper, &c., which he offers Wholesale and Retail at lowest possible prices, Catalogues of Books free. May 5.

Horton Collegiate Academy. The next Term in Horton Academy, will commence on Thursday the 6th day of January. T. A. HIGGINS Principal. Dec. 29.

British American Book AND TRACT DESPOSITORY, HALIFAX. 66 GRANVILLE STREET.

The following are a few of the Magazines, and Papers, for sale at the Depository, with prices, per annum, and postage when mailed for the country:—

MAGAZINES. Sunday Magazine \$1 75; Leisure Hour, Sunday at Home, Family Treasury, Good Words, \$1 50 each per annum; 25c additional when mailed for the country.

PAPERS. Christian at Work, 66c; British Messenger, British Workman and Workwoman, Cottager, Artisan, Child's Companion, Children's Prize, Children's Friend, 25c each, postage 3c per annum; Gospel Trumpet, Child's Paper, Children's paper, S. S. Messenger, etc., etc., 12c each, postage 1c additional per annum. Single Papers 10c additional. Please send for circular with list and prices in full.

A. McBEAN, Secretary. Dec. 15.

DECEMBER 8th, 1869. WHOLESALE. Anderson, Billing & Co., Have received per brig "Boston," 3 Cases American Paper Collars, "Rival," "Mutual" and "Boston" ALSO 50 DOZEN TRACED APRONS. Warehouse—95 & 97 Granville street. Dec. 15.

JUDSON'S SIMPLE DYES FOR THE PEOPLE (REGISTERED.) Are undoubtedly the most useful article ever offered to the public. ANYONE CAN USE THEM.

Anything can be dyed with them in a few minutes without soiling the hands. In England "Judson's Dyes" are as "Household Words." Articles of clothing that have been put aside as faded and useless, may be made nearly equal to new, by merely following the simple directions appended to each bottle of Dye.

Names of Colours. Magenta, Mauve, Violet, Scarlet, Green, Blue, Purple, Pink, Crimson, Brown, Canary, Orange, Black, Fucc, Lavender, Slate.

PRICE SIXPENCE PER BOTTLE.

May be had of druggists and storekeepers throughout the world; or wholesale of DANIEL JUDSON & SON, Southwark St., London, N. B.—A small bottle of colour will dye 12 yards of Bonnet Ribbon.

See that you get "Judson's" Simple Dyes, the wonderful popularity of which has caused numerous inferior imitations, which are calculated to injure both buyers and sellers. Ask for our Catalogue of Instructions how to use the Dyes for twenty different purposes.

"JUDSON'S" SIMPLE DYES. AGENTS, JERRY BROWN & Co., Halifax, N. S. Oct. 27.

FOUND. ON Tuesday the 14th Inst., a WATCH; any one having lost it and giving a proper description thereof, can hear of the person who has it in possession, by applying to the "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER" Office, and paying expenses. Dec. 22.

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