THE ADVANCE.

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W. H. THURSTON,

Editor and Proprietor.

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THURSDAY, NOV. 1, 1888.

"THE FAKIR."

The Dundalk Herald writhes under the short article which we devoted to it and the fakir two weeks ago, and expresses astonishment that we would uphold a man who dealt honorably with us, after having heard from the Herald that he was a fraud. While sorry that friend Spurr feels sore over our remarks, we cannot help but think that he is raising somewhat of a "tempest in a teapot," as the remarks we made were really not so severe or sarcastic as the Herald man appears to have taken them to be.

The press is a "fraternity," but not sufficiently so. That is irrelevant in this case, however. Mr. Phillips is a member of that fraternity, too, Mr. Spurr; he is entitled to gentlemanly consideration from his fellow members, and when he is "down" he is entitled to a helping hand to assist him to rise. That was the identical case in this instance. He was "down" in pocket and spirit when he struck Dundalk, and the citizens and paper gave him a kick by way of assistance. This is a kind of charity with which we have no sympathy. Mr. Philips came to us and laid the exact facts of his treatment before us even as the Herald has given them, with the one exception of his having left his overcoat behind as security for board. Even this latter was no disgrace, friend Spurr—far from it! We helped him out, and had no great cause to regret it. You will please excuse us, Mr. Herald, if we cannot appreciate your kindness and astuteness in dropping onto a "fraud" before he has defrauded you. We never "lauded Mr. Phillips to the skies as a man of impeachable character," nor yet unimpeachable character. We know enough of human nature to understand that a man will do things under certain pressure of circumstances that he would not otherwise do; yet in this instance we cannot see that he had done anything criminal or anything that would justly entitle him to the title of fakir, according to our interpretation of the term.

In conclusion we would thank the Herald for its butterfly smile. According to it we are progressing favorably, and although it may not be with the miraculous speed which has characterized the Herald editor's growth during the past short year, still it is a perceptible growth. But mark you, brother quill! We would prefer the chrysalis stage of development, with the knowledge that we had wronged no man, to the butterfly stage, with an uneasy feeling of having done an injustice to a fellow being.

It now transpires that Hannah Boyd had nothing to do with the poisoning case, and she has been discharged from custody. Another case of detective smart aleecism, although the officials claim to have gained some information from her that *may* lead to the arrest of other parties—a flimsy tale to let themselves down easy.

The R. R. V. crossing at Winnipeg has not been made. The injunction still holds until adjudicated upon by the higher court.

S. G. Teachers' Convention.

A Large Attendance and a Pleasant Time.

On Thursday and Friday of last week the representatives of learning in South Grey assembled in Flesherton to commune among themselves and debate school matters. There were big and little

teachers, lady and gentlemen teachers, good looking and homely teachers, young teachers and old. Our artist has selected two of the best looking for purpose of illustration, but offers as apology for the amateurish work the information that the cuts were dug out with a shoemaker's awl, which is not just the instrument for fine art engraving. If you recognize the pictures please don't give it away. The ladies were all dressed neatly, and most of the gentlemen.

The gentleman subject of our illustration may not have worn a hat of the latest fashion, but there was a big head under it, filled with the latest and most fashionable learning of the day. The outward appearance cannot, in all cases, be strictly maintained upon the pitiful salaries doled out to the majority of our teachers. Therefore, reader, do not be too hypercritical.

The first day's proceedings were devoted to reading minutes, appointment of committees. Mr. Reid read a paper on "how to interest parents in school work," which was discussed by Messrs. Gillespie, Glendenning and others. In the afternoon President Ramage read an address entitled "An Inquiry into the incentives used in schools." The principle incentives mentioned were praise, emulation, rewards, punishment, percentages and examinations. The secretary conducted a review lesson on the railways of Ontario. Messrs. Clark, Glendenning and others took part in the discussion. Mr. Sproule, having prepared a class in music, gave an exhibition showing proficiency made in the theory of music during the past few months. The class showed themselves familiar with the staff and ready in reading the hand signs used in the Holt and Tonic sol fa systems. A vote of thanks was presented to Mr. Sproule and class. Dr. McLellan introduced the subject of Educational Psychology. He defined Psychology to be "The science of the facts or phenomena of self." The Dr. was listened to with great interest. The nominating committee presented their report.

The evening meeting, held in the Town Hall, was well attended, the hall being uncomfortably full, and many were turned away. Flesherton band was in attendance and rendered selections in a manner that should cause Flesherton people to be prouder than ever of their musicians. The Glee Club was in good form and was loudly encored. A pleasing feature of the evening was the song by a large class of school children. Much credit is reflected upon their instructor, Mr. Russell. M. Richardson, Esq., presided in his usual happy manner.

DR. MCLELLAN'S LECTURE

upon "English literature and its value in Education" was an interesting and eloquent appeal for the introduction of literature into our public schools. He claimed that our school system was the best on earth to-day, and he had examined many foreign systems; yet it was not without its defects; the most serious of which, in his opinion, appeared to be the camparative neglect of literature. Classical literature was not taught to the extent it was at one time. In his estimation this was nothing but right, as English literature is the grandest which the world ever produced, and the most applicable to our purpose; it was the noblest vehicle of human thought, and stronger far than hosts which go forth with battle flag unfurled. Youth was the time to develop a taste for the right kind of literature. He admitted that we could teach a good deal better than we are doing, and thought more time should be devoted to the teaching of mental arithmetic and less to geography. The young scholar's head was crammed too full of strange foreign names which were of no material benefit. When he was a boy he was crammed full of long names, which he had forgotten—and he was glad of it. He was in favor of music in schools, along with literature. He did not wish to become acquainted with the man who did not want music taught in the schools.

Our schools have not the appliances for teaching literature which they ought to have. It was a mistake to have excluded the library. Art is defined as a harmony—a unity—and literature was an art, characterized by a unity, and it harmonized. Art in its highest form is poetry. The perfect poem was the perfect expression of the perfect human mind. In this definition he was supported by Schiller. The characteristics were these: "In the image of God created he him." Man was given the power to know the truth, to love the beautiful, and almost to create. Poet from the Greek means creator. Worship meant a feeling of reverence or worship of the lord of the manor. These were characteristics of the perfect human mind. The lecturer gave a poetical example of the adaptation of the power of thought, proving that in that way the grandeur of expression and melody were fully brought out, quoting as a humorous example the young man who falls in love; his first act was to create an ideal and address it in a poetical form.

Our schools should teach literature, but they should teach the right kind and in the right direction. It would have a powerful influence. By it we could reach the heart of humanity. There was a time when physical force predominated. This was the intellectual age, and the lecturer believed there was a better age coming. The heart power should be developed. Man was not all brain—the heart should be cultivated as well as the intellect. We want such heart power developed that we would be willing to sacrifice ourselves for the good of others. This science did not teach. He (the lecturer) did not despise science, but the tendency was to neglect heart culture. Music was an important element in this. Martin Luther said that the devil hates music. The Dr. believed that when he heard a man denouncing music in schools the devil or one of his minions was not far away. He entered a strong plea for music in schools.

As to what books we should select for for the study of literature, the Dr. said there were a hundred great spirits placed in the temple of the immortals. Select from these. The tendency of to-day is to read trashy books. There were very few homes, whose libraries, if searched, would reveal the works of the masters. He would advise parents to educate from the earliest period, and inculcate a taste for that which is good. He did not find fault with good fiction, for fiction is akin to poetry. Among the trashy class he specified such writers as Mary Jane Holmes, Ouida, Rider Haggard, etc. Scott and Dickens were standard fiction writers. He likened the reader of bad fiction to the poor old man in Pilgrims Progress a muck raker. He would make the mother master of the moral development of the child. That was the mother's mission, and the mother could redeem humanity. There was no grander mission than that of the mother's influence upon her child. He was sorry to say that it was not exerted to the extent which it should be, and the consequence was that the beginning had to be made in many cases in school. There was also a tendency to neglect a healthy development of the memory. Memory was a most important factor, and should be assisted with appeals to the child's imagination by the use of appropriate selections that would appeal to the heart, examples of which the lecturer gave; and patriotic and moral songs.

As to how he would teach literature, the Dr. said that the love of it was a germ in every human heart. There was one general rule, and that was that the teacher would have to love it himself. Whatever you love that you can teach well, and the pupils will learn to love what you love and hate what you hate. He warned the teachers against the danger of being too mechanical, and wound up a most instructive lecture with a translation of the beautiful thoughts contained in that little poem in our school book, "Where did you come from, baby dear?" The whole lecture was replete with sparkling gems of truth, presented in a manner that secured for the lecturer the sympathy and attentive hearing of his audience, from the smallest child to oldest listener.

Dr. Christoe and Rev. Mr. Watson moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was responded to with much enthusiasm.

Friday morning's meeting opened with a reading by President Ramage, after which Rev. Mr. Watson led in prayer. Dr. McLellan concluded his subject of Psychology. Secretary Irwin then gave his report of the Provincial Teachers' Association. Mr. McArthur supplemented the remarks. Mr. Allan illustrated his methods of teaching reduction. In the afternoon, after adoption of delegates' report, Dr. McLellan spoke for over an hour upon phonic reading, illustrating the analytic and synthetic methods. The synthetic is the method practiced in the schools in Toronto. The committee on Reading Circles reported as follows: "Your committee appointed to consider the subject of reading circles would earnestly recommend the object for which they are instituted, and recommend that two districts be formed, with Durham and Flesherton as centres, to organize and decide what work or author they will first read and discuss, and also arrange for future meetings, election of officers, etc. The provisional president at Durham to be Mr. N. W. Campbell; at Flesherton, Mr. W. Irwin."

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year: President, W. Glendinning; first vice-president, Miss Elsie Inkster, second vice-president, C. J. Sproule; Secretary treasurer, W. Irwin; management, Messrs. McDonald and McArthur, and Misses Anderson, Drummond and Porter.

Mr Hagarty, of Mount Forest, read a paper on Memory and Judgement in the teaching of English. The meeting then closed, to assemble at call.

The Pickering News man writes a very readable article on "How editor's are made." We are not acquainted with Mr. Clark, but would like to be—would like to silently wring his hand and mingle our tears with his over mutual experiences, for we were brought up that way ourselves.

General News.

Mr. Isaac Cockburn's saw mill at Gravenhurst was burned Friday; loss about $20,000.

The Blood and Stoney Indians are indulging in hostilities in the vicinity of Morley, N. W. T.

The exploring expedition to the site of Babylon, sent out by the University of Pennsylvania, was wrecked near the Island of Patmos.

Parkdale voted in favor of annexation to Toronto Saturday by a majority of 126.

Hannah Boyd, the girl arrested in connection with the Galt poisoning case, has been remanded for a week. To a reporter, Dective Mat. Howie declared his belief that Miss Boyd knew nothing of the matter, and that a man and two women, whose names he would not mention, were the guilty parties.

Since the above was in type the girl has been liberated.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Miscellaneous.

Came Astray.

Came to the premises of W. T. McKee, Lot 28 Con. 4, Artemesia, two steers, one black and the other red, 2 years old. The black one was found dead on the road near my premises. The red one is now at my place, and the owner may have same by proving property and paying expenses.

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