THE ADVANCE.

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W. H. THURSTON,

Editor and Proprietor.

EDITORIAL MELANGE.

Donald Morrison, the Megantic outlaw, received a wholesome dose last Friday, when he was sentenced to eighteen years in the penitentiary for manslaughter.

Remains of victims are still being unearthed in the vicinity of Johnstown, Pa. The world at large has scarcely, even yet, grasped the magnitude of that terrible catastrophe, the terrors of which have never been equalled on this continent.

Thornbury intends to have electric light. Meaford has had it for some time and now looks down upon its sister town from a brilliant height with a kind of dynamore expression which the latter does not enjoy. Therefore Thornbury will electrify itself, too, and try to keep up her end of the procession.

An ingenious Frenchman has invented a process of manufacturing silk from chemicals. He analyzed silk as produced by the ordinary silk worm, and invented a process whereby he can produce even a superior article to the old, and at about one-third the cost of the old systen. The new process was shown at the Paris exhibition during the past summer and attracted much attention.

With every great invention new dangers to humanity arise. When Watt harnessed the monster steam he brought into existence an agency which has cost thousands upon thousands of human lives, and yet who is there that will say it was not worth the sacrifice? When Benjamin Franklin drew down from space the electric fluid that act disclosed a volatile power more potent than the sword of Damocles, and one which is not as yet fully developed. Deaths and fires from electric causes are becoming alarmingly frequent. Dr. Talmage's tabernacle in Brooklyn was destroyed by fire on Saturday night, supposedly by lightning attracted to the edifice by a new electric plant which was being placed therein. Thus in all good there is some evil. Even Edison himself is not an *unadulterated* benefactor of mankind.

American justice is at present having a hard row to hoe in Chicago. For some weeks now the court has been endeavoring to empanel a jury to try the Cronin suspects and have failed as yet. They are still at the starting point. Several had been accepted, but before the requisite number was secured the enemies of justice had been working energetically to bribe the men who were chosen. This scheme was exposed by one who was approached, and it has caused a sensation in Chicago nearly equal to that of the Haymarket murders of two years ago. Prominent officials are implicated, including two bailiffs. Chicago must awaken from her dozing, or her heterogenous mass of humanity will some day bathe her in blood. She has had the baptism of fire—possibly when she receives the baptism of blood her "phoenix-like" proclivities will again assert themselves as they did after that 9th of October, 1871, when the Queen City of the West was laid low in ashes; but we fear it will not be until then if her corruptness be not speedily and thoroughly expurged.

OUR TABLE.

For fruit growers and florists we know of no publication which can equal the Canadian Horticulturist. Its suggestions and the experimental results which it publishes are extremely valuable. Published at Grimsby. One dollar per anumn.

The Farmers' Advocate is something which no farmer should be without. It is a grand paper, and the only genuine farm paper published in Canada. Mr. Weld has just begun the publication of a second edition for Manitoba and the Northwest. We are pleased to see this evidence of prosperity in the old Farmer's Advocate. One dollar per annumn. Address Wm. Weld, London, Ont.

THE CANADIAN QUEEN.—This new and elegant magazine is sure to please every Canadian woman. It is devoted to fashion, art, fancy work, flowers, toilet, home decoration and household matters. It is handsomely illustrated, and is equal to any of the high-priced English and American publications. It should be in every cultivated home. To introduce it the publishers offer to send it three months on trial for only 25c. Address The Canadian Queen, Toronto. Ont.

The modern magazine may be taken as embodying the best literature of the world, as the magazine editor pays the highest prices to novelists, scientists, statesmen, soldiers, and even kings and princes, for the best they can furnish in the literary line. The well-edited magazine becomes an educating influence in the family circle, whose importance cannot be over-estimated. The children, as they grow up, are attracted by its illustrations, and so come in time to have a taste for reading. There is always something that is new, something that is strange, something that is interesting; and we consider that we are doing our readers a positive benefit if we are instrumental in placing such a publication within their reach. The special arrangement which we have made with the Cosmopolitan presents very unusual inducements. That magazine, although only in the tenth mounth under its new arrangement, is already recognized as one of the most interesting publications of the day. It is seeking subscribers everywhere and obtaining them. The proprietors believe that the Cosmopolitan has only to be examined to secure a permanent subscriber. That is why we are enabled to make, if the offer is accepted before January next, such a very low rate, by which our readers can obtain the Cosmopolitan for little more than the cost of this journal alone. Just think of what the combinations means! You obtain your home journal at about the regular price, and have thrown in a magazine which gives you, in a year, nearly fourteen hundred pages of reading matter by the ablest writers in the world, including six hundred pages of illustrations that are unsurpassed in point of interest and execution. Will it not pay you to send a subscription to this office for the Advance and the Cosmopolitan, immediately! Remember, only $2 40 for the two—the price of the magazine alone.

South Grey Teachers' Institute.

By our own Reporter.

The twenty-fourth convention of the inspectoral division of South Grey was held in the Model School, Durham, on the 3rd and 4th inst. Owing to the unfavorable condition of the weather, however, only a small number was present at the time appointed for opening so that the work was not begun until 2 p.m., when ex-president Ramage was called to the chair in the absence of Mr. Glendining. The meeting being opened in the usual way, the minutes of the May meeting were read and adopted.

Mr. Campbell was called upon to report the action of the county council in regard to promotion examination papers. He expressed great pleasure in the generous manner in which the council acted in the matter of assuming the expense of printing, etc. Discussion followed as to the best time for holding these promotion examinations, many contending for June and December while others thought better to hold them about the latter part of March and October. A vote was taken which showed the Association to be equally divided, and it was unanimously agreed to leave the matter with the Inspector to arrange with the other inspectoral divisions.

Mr. Cowan made a very able and eloquent address on the teaching of temperance in schools. He did not believe that it was within the power of the teacher to inculcate temperance principles and that such work could never be accomplished by following the plan outlined in the authorised temperance text book. While a strong advocate of temperance he could not see the practicability of carrying out the work successfully, moreover, he did not see the justice of developing this one phase of our moral natures to the neglect of all others. The ministers were the proper persons to take up this subject, and a more vigorous effort might be made by them instead of urging the Education Department to place an additional burden on the teacher whose program was already overcrowded. Every teacher should have and has a right to fight against the imposition of additional work. While all admired the outspoken character of Mr. Cowan's address, many took exception to his views believing that the truly moral temperate teacher could do a great deal towards the developement of the moral nature of a child. Amongst those who took part in the discussion was Mr. Binnie, a trustee, whose brief address was full of forcible and fearless denunciation of all forms of intemperance, whether in eating, drinking or excess of any other sort. He believed that the future national prosperity of our country depended largely upon the indefatigable efforts of the teachers to subdue all kinds of vice. The plastic nature of the child's mind is such that, during school age, impressions for good or evil are easily made. How important is it then that children should live in an atmosphere of purity, surrounded by the very best influences that tend toward the developement of those moral qualities that go to make up the perfect man.

Mr. W. Houston, M. A., Parliamentary Librarian, Toronto, was the acting director of the Association, and occupied during the two days upwards of five hours in the developement of his methods in the practical, scientific and esthetic treatment of English, commencing with a child on his first entrance to the school. Mr. Houston traced the developement of the language faculty to that period when the cultured English scholar can see and appreciate the beauties of the masterpieces of our English literature and enter into sympathy with our great English authors. He denounced the ordinary rigid adherence to text books and inveighed against all forms of teaching, the object of which is to "stuff" pupils for the examinations, nor would he measure the ability of the teacher by the number of candidates he gets through an examination. He did not come to instruct teachers in the way to prepare pupils to pass the "entrance," but to give an exhibition of whathe considered good model teaching and advised all to endeavor to do good work for at least eight months in the year and if obliged to do any "stuffing" to do it all the last month In his esthetic treatment of English he condemned the use of anotated editions of English authors, or using his own words, "If you would appreciate the force of human genius read Shakespeare; if you would appreciate the insignificance of human learning, read the commentators." It would take too much time and space to give even an outline of the subject as taken up by Mr. Houston, whom, to appreciate must be heard. Ordinarily this gentleman would not be regarded as an orator, but it must be admitted by all that he is brim full of his subject, has a masterly command of language, a pleasing and impressive way of expressing himself and a wonderful faculty of keeping the attention of his audience. He never gets excited and his mode of address is purely conversational.

In the evening a public meeting, presided over by Dr. Gun, was given in the Town Hall. Short but excellent addresses of welcome were given to the teachers by the chairman, Rev. Mr. McNair and the other resident clergymen. Excellent music was furnished by the band and several vocal selections were rendered in a very highly appreciated manner by the local talent of Durham. In addition to this we must not forget to mention the very creditable exhibition of club swinging by Master and Miss Sutherland. While the good people of Durham are wide-awake to the intellectual developement of their children it must be admitted that they are also giving great attention to their physical and esthetic culture as well. The lecturer of the evening, however, was Mr. W. Houston on the topic "Reading for Recreation." As to the character of the reading recommended, that was left to the choice of the individual. Some, but he believed the number to be very small, read religious works for recreation, others, a comparatively small number also, preferred investigation of a scientific subject of some sort. History and biography might also be pursued with pleasure and profit. No objection could reasonably be offered to such a course of reading, providing the religious were orthodox, the scientific accurate, and the historical and the biographical works reliable. The majority, however, preferred novel reading. He had no objection to this either if the novel had a good moral, but a great many of the lower class novels of the present day unfit a person for any other kind of reading and cannot be recommended. Mr. Houston prefers to read the old novels and does not feel disposed to spend his time in investigating the merits of every new production. It is necessary to the proper understanding of history to read certain novels. For example, if you wish to get an insight into the manners and customs and social life of the people of England in the time of King John, you will not get it in the histories, but you can get it in "Ivanhoe." Other instances were cited but this will suffice.

Mr. Hagarty, the headmaster of Mt. Forest high school, was called upon and congratulated the teachers of South Grey on the success of their convention as well as the people of Durham for the interest they are taking in attending the teachers' meetings.

Friday forenoon Mr. Blakeston gave a lengthy address on school games with reasons why such games should be more generally introduced. Of the various games mentioned, Mr. B. thought foot ball to be the best adapted to the public school inasmuch as all could engage in the sport without much loss of time in choosing sides, etc.

Mr. Ramage read a very carefully prepared paper on the proceedings of the last meeting of the Ontario Teachers' Association held in August last at Niagara-on-the-lake. This gentlemen being so well known to the teachers of the inspectorate it would be unnecessary to say that the paper was interesting—paper as a rule appear dry but Mr. R's productions are an exception to the rule.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Mr. Allen, president, Miss Sutherland first vice-president, Mr. W. K. Reid second vice-president, W. Irwin secretary treasurer. Committee of management, Misses Adams and Bull, and Messrs. Brown and Sharp.

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——OF——

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The undersigned has received instructions from the trustees of the Methodist church of the Eugenia mission, to sell by public auction, on Saturday, the 26th October, 1889, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, at the Methodist church, known as the Hodgson church, situated on the south eastern corner of lot No. 7, Con. 3rd, township of Euphrasia, about 2 miles from Kimberley.

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