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Our Toronto Letter.

The last two or three weeks have been
very uneventful ones for Toronto, and
unless something fresh turns up soon, I
don't know what I shall tell your readers
about when I write again.

The investigation into the management
of the city waterworks, which has for
some months past been going on before
Judge McDougall, appears to be drawing
to a close, and the Judge's report may be
looked for at an early date. It is to be
hoped that it will deal fully with the
matter, for there is certainly no branch
of our civic administration that needs
such a thorough overhauling. I have no
doubt that jobs just as corrupt as those,
for the consummation of which New York
aldermen have been sent to Sing Sing,
have been perpetrated in this department.

Already there is some talk of the next
municipal elections. The general opinion
appears to be that Mayer Howland will
again be a candidate. The stand he has
taken in favor of municipal reform, and
his perseverance in the face of the strong-
est opposition from corrupt contractors
and jobbers, have convinced many that
he should be allowed to complete his
work. Were it not for his attitude on
these questions I do not think he would
be returned again, for by acting with
those whose violent speeches incited the
O'Brien riot, and by pandering to Orange
prejudices he has lost the respect of many
of his former supporters. The temper-
ance question will undoubtedly play an
important part in the fight for places in
the council, and the outcome of the con-
test at present appears rather doubtful.

The cutting down of the number of licenses
does not appear to have exercised
any check upon drunkenness, and no
doubt those deprived of the privilege to
sell will attempt their revenge at the
ballot box. Temperance sentiment, how-
ever, is so strong here that I do not ex-
pect the liquor party will be successful.
It would be a good day for the city if a
number of the present aldermen were
relegated to that obscurity from which
they never should have sprung, and from
which merit never caused them to rise.
With plenty of able men to choose from
it is surprising that year after year so
many ignorant nobodies are selected to
manage, or rather mismanage, the city's
affairs. A change for the better was
made last year when some of our leading
business men were returned, but there
should be a much greater infusion of new
blood.

The Toronto Young Men's Liberal
Club held its first meeting of the season
on Oct. 3rd. This organization, which
came into existence three years ago, has
been most successful. The members on
its roll now number over five hundred,
and the actual paid up membership is
greater than at any previous time in its
history. There is probably no similar
organization in Canada where the ques-
tions of the day are discussed with equal
independence, earnestness and ability.

A notable feature in connection with the
club is the entire absence of anything like
class-feeling or exclusiveness. Lawyers
and mechanics, merchants, law students,
medical students, divinity students,
journalists, clerks and others mingle to-
gether in the most fraternal manner, and
share equally the honors of the associa-
tion. Several colored members have held
office in the club, and are placed on the
fullest equality with the rest. It is large-
ly to the existence of this feeling that the
success of the club may be attributed.

And now the pennant of the Internat-
ional Baseball League floats over our fair
city. We have beaten the Yankees at
their own game, even though we had to
hire Americans to do it, for I believe that
but one or two members of the Torontos
call Canada their birth place. Our news-
papers, which, at one time could say
nothing too disparaging about the mem-
bers of the team, have now discovered
that they are excellent players and have
been doing the right thing from the be-
ginning of the season. Another evidence
of the fickleness of the popular mind.

After a period of comparative inaction
real estate is again moving at increased
prices, and it seems probable that a large
quantity will change hands during the
next few months. SENEX.

TOTTENHAM, ONT. May 3rd, 1887.
I have been troubled with nasal catarrh
for the last five years. Seeing Nasal
Balm advertised I procured a bottle, and
although I have only used part of it, I
do not hesitate to pronounce it the best
remedy in the world for that loathsome
disease, catarrh. It is easy and pleasant
to use, soothing and healing in its action,
instant in giving relief, removes and
changes the poisonous secretions to a
healthy state, stops the droppings from
head into the throat and removes all the
symptoms of catarrh and cold in the
head. In fact if the directions are faith-
fully followed nothing but a sure and
permanent cure can be the result.

Yours truly,
JNO. S. GEORGE,
Baker and Confectioner.

Teachers' Institute.

(BY OUR OWN REPORTER.)

The first Teachers' Association for
Vaughan Township was held in the school
house, at Maple, on Friday last, 7th inst.
Though the weather was unfavorable,
the attendance of teachers and visitors
was good and the meeting was very suc-
cessful.

The proceedings opened at 9 a. m.,
the President, Mr. J. E. Clubine, in the
chair. The visiting teachers took the
different classes during the forenoon,
while the pupils interspersed several
songs and recitations between classes, to
the delight of those present.

The afternoon session was unusually
interesting.

After a short address on the work of
the forenoon, Mr. A. B. Davidson, P. S.
I, introduced the subject of Kindergarten
teaching in junior departments. He pro-
duced a set of objects, containing slats,
rings, half rings, squares, etc., and show-
ed on the blackboard how they could be
advantageously used in drawing. He
asked for the opinion of the teachers in
view of introducing them in the schools.
Messrs Clubine, Lent, Harvey, Saigeon
and Miss McLaughlin thought the idea
was a good one, as much difficulty was
sometimes experienced in keeping young
pupils employed, and these objects would
work as a kind of recreation.

Fourth Class Literature was then taken
up by Mr. R. O. Harvey. He maintain-
ed that rapid strides had been made in
teaching literature in the Public Schools
during the past few years. Twenty years
ago it was difficult to get young pupils to
give correct definitions for the simplest
words. In teaching the subject so as to
make it interesting to a class, the teacher
must first prepare the lesson so that he
will understand it thoroughly himself.
Mr. Harvey afterwards answered several
questions asked by the teachers present,
in reference to the subject.

The Inspector next read an interesting
paper on Geography to advanced classes.
He encouraged map drawing, and sug-
gested the advisability of a system by
which the oceans of the world, rivers,
mountains, etc., would be taught as a
class, instead of teaching several of the
physical features of a country in the same
lesson. He stated that, as a rule, the
authorized geographies contained too
many obscure places.

Miss J. Walkington showed a nice
method of teaching numbers to a primary
class. The method was highly approved of
by a number of the teachers.

Mr. T. H. Redditt introduced English
Grammar as taught to pupils in the Public
School. He contended that the great
benefit to be derived from the subject of
Grammar was its mental training. When
pupils were taught grammatical terms
they should endeavor to get the true
meaning of definitions, so that they would
understand them thoroughly. The sub-
ject was well handled.

The last subject on the programme,
viz., The Recent Public School Text
Books, was discussed by Mr. D. H. Lent.
He objected to the authorized history
gotten up by Messrs. Adam and Robert-
son, and contended that it was merely a
skeleton, and only fit for cramming be-
fore examinations. The arithmetics were
generally of a practical nature, and a de-
cided improvement on those used some
years ago. In reference to the Public
School Grammar he liked the arrange-
ment of Part I, but on the whole the
book was not an improvement on Swin-
ton's Language Lessons. But much as
he disliked some of the books authoriz-
ed, he objected more to the manner in which
they were forced into the schools before
the teachers had an opportunity of pro-
nouncing upon their merits. He there-
fore moved, seconded by Mr. Harvey,

"That whereas a number of new text
books authorized and ordered to be used
in our Public and High Schools before
the teachers or their representatives have
had an opportunity to examine them and
pronounce an opinion on their merits, as
this is their undoubted right and privi-
lege, therefore be it resolved that in the
opinion of the teachers of the Township
of Vaughan and Village of Richmond
Hill, the present system of authorization
of text books is a very objectionable one,
and we request its abolition, and the sub-
stitution thereof of a system in which a
representative body of teachers shall
have the controlling voice."

The motion was carried.
In the discussion on Text Books, Mr.
John Harvey, of King, who was present
as a visitor, wished to be heard as a far-
mer, and for some time waxed eloquently
in condemnation of the Book of Scripture
Readings. In the midst of his tirade he
was called to order by the President for
not confining himself to the question.
Mr. John Harvey, after a faint protest,
subsided.

A resolution, moved by Mr. R. O.
Harvey, seconded by Mr. A. B. David-
son, was carried, tendering the thanks of
the Association to the people of Maple
for the hospitality extended to the teach-
ers and their friends.

Moved by Mr. Lent, seconded by Mr.
Falkner, that the teachers approve of
another meeting some time next year.

The motion was carried, and the meet-
ing adjourned.
Throughout the whole day the teachers
worked in perfect harmony with each
other, and the President, Mr. Clubine,
and the Secretary, Miss Wells, may well
feel proud of the first Convention held in
their school.

Directors' Meeting

Minutes of a special meeting of the
Directors of the Richmond Hill Mechan-
ics' Institute, held in the lecture room of
the Masonic Hall on Monday evening,
Oct. 10th.

President Crosby in the chair.
Directors present: D. Boyle, T. F.
McMahon, P. G. Savage, W. H. Pugsley,
W. A. Sanderson and Secretary, and Messrs
T. H. Redditt, E. F. Langstaff, A. Mc-
Kenzie and J. King.

Minutes of last meeting read and on
motion adopted.

The committee appointed to see about a
suitable place for a Reading Room and
make arrangements with the ladies of the
W. C. T. U., reported through Chairman
McMahon and President Crosby, that
they had called upon the ladies of the
W. C. T. U., but had obtained no satisfac-
tory information, and as regards room for
Reading Room it was found that the
trustees of the Temperance Hall could
not let their hall under any considera-
tion.

Speeches were made by Messrs. W. H.
Pugsley, P. G. Savage, D. Boyle, and T.
H. Redditt as to the advisability of es-
tablishing a Reading Room, and it was
thought sufficient interest would not be
taken in it to justify the outlay.

A suggestion was thrown out by W. A.
Sanderson to have one night a week for
debating, etc., and on the same night
have library open for changing of books,
thus giving two nights a week for chang-
ing books.

Messrs. Langstaff and McKenzie also
gave their views in regard to the matter
on hand. Other suggestions were offered
one being to have a Mock Parliament as
one of the features of the debating society.

It was finally moved by W. A. Sand-
erson, seconded by T. F. McMahon, and
resolved, that we have a Literary Society
in connection with this Institute, one of
the principal features being a Mock Par-
liament, and that all present pledge
themselves to use their best endeavors
to secure a successful meeting on Friday
evening, 14th inst.—Carried.

Moved by T. F. McMahon, seconded
by W. H. Pugsley, that the Secretary be
instructed to notify the Librarian of the
Public Library of Toronto that this In-
stitute will subscribe for the magazines
on the list given, except those that are
already subscribed for by the Institute.
—Carried.

Moved by W. A. Sanderson, seconded
by D. Boyle, that 125 membership tickets
be procured by the Secretary for the year
1887-88, and that price of membership be
fifty cents.—Carried.

The meeting then adjourned.
H. A. NICHOLLS, Sec'y.

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weight alum or phosphate powders. Sold only
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DOG LOST!

A Young Black and Tan Hound has been lost
since Thursday, Sept 15th, 1887. Was last seen
near Elgin Mills, on Yonge St.
Any information which will lead to its recov-
ery will be thankfully received.
CHAS. THOMPSON,
Oak Ridge P. O.