

# The Liberal.

RICHMOND HILL, October 21, 1897.

## North York Teachers.

The Annual meeting of the North York Educational Association was held in the school room of the Methodist Church on Friday and Saturday last. There were about 75 teachers in attendance and the meeting was said to have been one of the most successful in the history of the Association. As some of the teachers in the Northern part of the district were unable to make connection, another meeting will be held for them in Sutton in about three weeks.

The inspector, Mr. A. B. Davidson, occupied the chair at all the sessions. The first session was opened by the reading of Scripture, and prayer by Rev. G. McCulloch, after which Mr. Naughton Esq., chairman of the Board of Education, extended a hearty welcome to the teachers.

Mr. Terry of Bogartown gave his method of teaching Sharing which he considered different from the method in the authorized arithmetic. He resolved the questions into simple equations, and worked several problems. Many opinions were given by the teachers as to which they concluded the best method.

Miss Rogers of Yonge St. gave her views of How to teach Self-Reliance to Pupils, and brought out many important points. It was pointed out that Self-Reliance belongs to the moral division of educational development. Necessary qualifications of a teacher are quality of being self-reliant, realization of the value of self-reliance, and just estimation of the value of little things. By self-reliance a teacher may see above and beyond the petty trials and cares of the school-room, and keep in sympathy with his pupils. Self-reliance helps to elevate one's own moral character.

Mr. Powers of Queensville, read a paper on How to Interest Pupils in the Study of History. He dwelt upon the necessity of extensive reading on the part of the teacher to properly fit himself to teach the subject. First lessons should consist of interesting historical stories, biographies, and manners and customs of people. For the second class the chief events should be taught by conversation, and continued in the third class by a fuller detail. The text book might be begun by fourth-class pupils. An interesting discussion followed in which Messrs. Terry, Davidson, Mulloy, Harvey, Pike and Dunning took part.

Miss Wilson, of the Model School, Newmarket, took the convention, and gave her method of teaching Literature to a 4th class. The piece selected was The Evening Cloud, a beautiful sonnet, out of which Miss Wilson found plenty of material for an excellent lesson. She questioned her class as to the character of the writer, the idea of a sonnet, the thoughts of the writer, &c., as he penned the lines. The thoughts summed up in the poem suggested "After life's fitful fever there is rest."

Miss Starr, of the Model School, then gave a lesson on the teaching of Composition to 4th class. She would collect thoughts from the pupils, select the best of them, combine them under headings and arrange these headings along the lines of the simplest rules for paragraph structure, &c., &c. Exceptionally good compositions should be read to the whole class.

Mr. Mulloy, B. A., of the Aurora High School, gave suggestions as to the correct method of answering at the Entrance Examinations. He thought there should be more unity of interest between the Public and the High Schools. Examinations should show teachers the effect of their teaching, and hence are indispensable. Do not teach for examinations alone, but for the welfare of the pupils.

Mr. A. E. Coombs, M. A., of the Rich'd Hill High School, read a paper on "What my experience as a teacher has taught me." He said, no matter how high a teacher's scholarship may be, nor how excellent his Normal training, he will of necessity be backward until he gets lessons in the school of practical experience. He had learned that his knowledge was not organized when he began teaching. The questions asked by the pupils had shown him that he must know why as well as how. He had also learned that aimless work was worthless work, and now never taught a lesson unless it had some definite object in it. This encouraged the pupil to look for the kernels which each lesson had. He thought a teacher should give all his time to his work. Success was only achieved by having school first, last and all the time. No one should be admitted to the profession who did not intend to stay in it. And no one who was succeeding at all should leave it. There were also some points on discipline. He said he had learned that better discipline was maintained by speaking in a low tone and by never becoming irritated. It was also best to let the first advances towards friendship between teacher and pupil come from the pupil. The teacher should always be somewhat reserved before his class. He said in closing that he would sooner teach than have holidays, because his heart was in his work.

The public meeting which was held in the Masonic Hall Friday evening was well attended. Mr. J. A. E. Switzer, secretary of the Board of Education, presided. In his opening remarks he said that teachers' conventions were worthy of public support and public sympathy, and hoped

that teachers would take advantage of all opportunities for improving their position.

The following instrumental and vocal selections were rendered during the evening:

Piano solo, Miss Switzer; Vocal Solo, "Nancy," Mr. A. J. Hume; Vocal Solo, "In Sunny Spain," Miss M. Trench; Instrumental duet, "West Winds," Messrs. Hume and Mason; Vocal Solo, Miss M. Trench; Miss Switzer and Miss T. Trench accompanists.

The chief feature of the evening was an address by Wm. Scott, B. A., of the Toronto Normal School. Subject, "How to train Children." Eternal happiness often depends upon one's early training. In childhood character is formed. Training is possible both morally, physically and spiritually. The question of heredity in education has no foundation. Every voluntary act beats its own track for another. Every right act done makes it easier for the following act, and every wrong act paves the way for another wrong. We can't sow vice and reap virtue. The woman who marries a man to reform him scarcely ever lacks for an occupation. Keep children from temptation. Don't break a boy's will. Guide him and direct him. Make home and school attractive with good reading &c. Teach them to be obedient, truthful and kind.

At the close Rev. G. McCulloch, seconded by Mr. F. W. Garvin, moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer which was carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. A. B. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Turner, also moved a vote of thanks to those who rendered the musical part of our programme.

At the second day's session Mr. Scott read a paper on "Indirect Teaching." He impressed upon the teachers the necessity of being keen observers of nature, and to apply the results in the teaching of many subjects, such as languages, spelling, writing and drawing. He exemplified his method of teaching reading so as to bring out emphasis, time, expression, &c.

Miss Eva Wiley read a paper on "Nature Studies," which had been carefully prepared. She referred to the aim of education, character building, &c. The paper was replete with profitable truths.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—President, Mr. J. T. Powers, Queensville; Vice-President, Miss Wilson, Newmarket M. S.; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Rennie, Newmarket M. S.; Librarian, Miss Ross, Newmarket.

Executive Committee—Mr. Terry, Bogartown; Mr. Thompson, Aurora; Mr. Turner, Sharon; and Miss Butcher, Hartman.

Auditors—Mr. Stevens, Glenville; and Miss Kelly, Newmarket.

The next meeting of the association will be held in Aurora in the second or third week of October, 1898.

The following resolution was passed by the convention relative to the history regulations:—

Whereas in the opinion of this association:

1. The present course in history prescribed by the regulations for Entrance work is so extensive as not to admit of as thorough and satisfactory work as is reasonably expected from fourth class pupils;

2. That the time necessary to be spent in order to cover the present course in history is out of all due proportion to the relative value and importance of the subject;

3. That part of the time now spent upon English History could be more profitably spent in developing a fitter and more thorough knowledge of the facts and men associated with the history of our own country;

Therefore be it resolved that we place ourselves on record as being displeased with the present limit in this subject as laid down by the regulations; and further that we recommend that some particular period—such for example as that beginning with the Stuart period, or the English revolution, and ending with the present time, or a brief outline in British History as follows along with the Canadian History—be the prescribed course for the Entrance Examination.

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Entrance 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Queen East.  
Lady assistant.

Sale Register.

**TUESDAY, Oct. 23**—Mortgage sale of valuable farm property being the westerly 63 acres of lot 15, 2nd con. Vaughan. Sale at the Palmer House at 2 p. m. Lawrence & Ormiston, vendor's solicitors. J. T. Saigeon, auctioneer.

**THURSDAY, Oct. 23**—Credit sale of about 50 head of good cattle, and a number of Cotswold ram lambs, &c., at the Palmer House, the property of H. F. Hopper. Sale at 1 o'clock. Terms 3 months. J. T. Saigeon, auct.

**SATURDAY, Nov. 6**—Mortgage sale of valuable mill property, about 10 acres, being part of the middle part of lot 13, 1st con. Vaughan. Sale at the Palmer House at 2 p. m. Lawrence & Ormiston, vendor's solicitors. J. T. Saigeon, auctioneer.

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J. BROWN,  
Box 424, Richmond Hill.

July 26th, 1897.

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Conditions for making cider, jelly and boiled cider and apple butter:—For making raw cider, 1c. per gal.; for making and boiling it, 2c. per gal.; for making cider and putting in jelly, 3c. per gal.; for making cider and putting it in apple butter, 3c. per gal. for 50 gal. and upwards; under 50 gal., 3c. per gal.

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**WINGER BROS.**  
Edgely, Sept. 15th, 1897.

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