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PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS.*

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THE reasons given by the Minister of Education and his advisers for the proposed regulations touching this question, are substantially the following :

1. No untrained Public School teacher can any longer obtain even a third class certificate, and the almost universally-accepted principle involved in this law applies to the work of High School teachers as well as to that of Public School teachers.

2. The character of the teaching in many of our High Schools is such that, in the interests of secondary education, a course of preparatory training should be absolutely required of all High School teachers.

We have herein recognized the general principle which underlies all Normal School training, and certain facts urged in support of a measure intended to give practical effect to this principle.

The reports of the High School

Inspectors for 1880-81, in referring to this subject, perfectly agree, both as to the general principle above stated, and the alleged character of the teaching in our High Schools. The Inspectors, for example, agree in such statements as these :—

“Teachers *naturally* gifted (*i.e.*, who need no training) are found only now and then in a generation. Therefore, as a rule, training is necessary,”

“A university degree is no guarantee of ability to teach.”

“The elements of true manhood are developed only by the personal contact and influence of *the true teacher* upon the scholar.”

“Public School teachers now receive their training and ideas from the teachers in High Schools. The latter should therefore be trained for their work.”

“Young teachers are sure to follow hurtful methods, and become good only after a succession of experiments and failures.”

“The supply of skilled teaching in

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