

even greater. That, at least, is my experience ; in fact, I should go so far as to say that girls should always be taught by women and boys by men—I do not refer, of course, to the little boys under ten. The mixed school has more disadvantages than separate schools ; the dual school has the disadvantages of both.

But I may be mistaken ; the Commissioners may only mean to recommend mixed schools on the score of

economy. They have undoubtedly that advantage in small places where a number of pupils sufficient to support a secondary school can only be got by combining the two sexes. If this is all the report means, and mixed schools are not recommended as the best, but as best in such circumstances, this letter may be beside the mark, except in so far as it may, in that case, clear up the meaning of the passage.—*Journal of Education.*

PUBLIC OPINION.

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE.—As a result of an examination given, to a school of over one hundred pupils in Ontario it has been demonstrated that the pupils of that particular school are more familiar with the history and mythology of ancient Greece and Rome than with the history of the Bible. Various reasons have been assigned for this state of affairs, and, as usual in some quarters, the public schools have come in for a share of censure. If ever the time comes when Christian denominations shall so far be able to reconcile their differences as to permit the study of the Bible in the schools as a text-book, and it shall be prescribed as such, a very different showing will no doubt be made. As it is now, it only shows the difference between trained and untrained teaching. Grecian and Roman History are taught by trained teachers. Bible History is taught in the Sunday-schools by untrained teachers chiefly. In the past Sunday-school teachers have been appointed more from the standpoint of their willingness to perform the duties than from their special qualifications for the position. And it speaks volumes for them that without any pecuniary reward, with a devotion to their work that is heroic in

many cases, they are found Sabbath after Sabbath instructing their classes and giving their time at much personal sacrifice. In the olden times, when all books but the Bible were scarce, and religious controversy was more intense, there is no doubt that more voluntary attention was given to the study of the Bible than at present. In this age of books, magazines and newspapers, it is not surprising that some attention has been diverted from Bible study. Some religious bodies have recognized the need of trained Sabbath school teachers and there is now a large number of such teachers engaged in the work. Perhaps the time will come when the Sunday-schools will be as well provided for in that respect as the day schools. It would greatly hasten the time if it were deemed expedient to remunerate the services of the Sunday-school teachers in the same manner as is now done in other branches of church work.—*The Educational Review.*

WHAT ARE THEY READING ?—It was said with much earnestness twenty years ago in these pages that the teachers had more to do than to put the power to read in the possession of a child. It reiterated this