

of the younger boys took latin, deferring the other studies until a later period in the course.

UNION WITH COMMON SCHOOLS.

In the tables in reference to Grammar Schools we have some exceedingly valuable information, some of which possesses peculiar interest at this moment for the citizens of Hamilton. Out of the 104 Grammar Schools in Upper Canada 57 are united with Common Schools. During the year 1865, 64 pupils from the Grammar Schools matriculated at some University, and 27 obtained honors or scholarships at such matriculation. Of these 64 pupils 40 were from schools not united with common schools, and of the 27 who obtained honors or scholarships 15 were from independent grammar schools. The highest number of matriculants was from the Kingston Grammar school, which sent up six, four of whom obtained honors. The next highest was from Galt, which sent up five matriculants all of whom obtained honors, the next from Whitby, which sent up four, three of them carrying off honors, the next Iroquois which sent up four. All of these are independent grammar schools. Hamilton, we are sorry to notice, sent up but one scholar for matriculation, but he carried off honors. We hope to note improvements in this respect in the future. Indeed, in more respects than this, improvement is to be hoped for in our City Grammar School, as will be seen from the following humiliating passage from the report of Professor Young, the Grammar School Inspector. Speaking of the excellence of some separate schools which he had taken occasion to visit, he says:—"For instance, a short time ago, after having inspected the Grammar School in Hamilton, where I found a large number of the junior pupils sadly defective in the rudiments of English Grammar. I visited the Roman Catholic Separate School on Peel street, and minutely examined the more advanced girls on the very same sentences which had puzzled so many of the pupils in the Grammar School. The girls examined, for the most part, appeared to be between 12 and 13 years of age, and they parsed the sentences which I gave them in a perfectly accurate and most intelligent manner. Their knowledge of English Grammar was better than that possessed by three-fourths of the Hamilton Grammar School pupils." And yet in the face of such a state of things, we have had people attempting to raise popular prejudices against those who would remedy it, and who on that account are charged with a desire to provoke a separation of classes! Referring to the report of Professor Young, Dr. Ryerson says:—"The union of Common and Grammar Schools is, as a general rule, an evil to both. The provisions of the law permitting the union of Grammar Schools, arose from the absence of any other means to provide for the support of Grammar Schools. That reason no longer exists, at least to the extent that it has done in past years, as the Grammar School Amendment Act requires that a sum, equal at least to half the Grammar School apportionment shall be provided from local sources (beside proper school-house accommodations) for the salaries of teachers. Sufficient time has not yet elapsed to develop the results of these provisions of the law. But it is easy to see, from the Inspector's report, that the efficiency of both the Grammar and Common Schools is greatly impaired by the union of the two. I hope the facts and remarks of this document will impress local Boards of Trustees and Municipal Councils, with the great advantage of having the Grammar and Common Schools under different masteries and otherwise separate—whether under the management of the same Board or not—each exclusively pursuing its respective and appropriate work." The Trustees for the city of Hamilton may well congratulate themselves upon the action they have taken, when they find it thus sustained by the highest authority on questions of education in the Province.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The subject of the meteorological observations forms a prominent feature in this report. These observations have in the past, notwithstanding the provisions of the consolidated Grammar School Act relating to the subject, been neither accurately taken nor carefully returned. Sometimes through the negligence of the Grammar School master; sometimes through the meanness of County Councils in refusing the instruments, but mainly, we think, from the fact that no provision was made for the establishment of specific stations, and the payment of the Observers, the rule requiring these observations to be taken has been one more honored in the breach than the observance. Under the Act of 1865, more ample provisions were made for this important subject. Each of the stations at which observations are taken are entitled to an additional appropriation from the Grammar School fund, at a rate not exceeding fifteen dollars per month for each consecutive month during which the duty is performed, and satisfactory monthly abstracts thereof furnished to the Chief Superintendent. Ten stations have been specially named under the Act, viz: Windsor, Goderich, Stratford, Simcoe, Hamilton, Barrie, Peterborough, Belleville, Cornwall and

Pembroke, and all of these, except Goderich, have applied for the instruments, and are in working order. Extracts from correspondence between Mr. Hodgins, the Deputy Superintendent of Education, and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, at Washington, are published, from which it appears that that Institution, "which collects and publishes a vast quantity of valuable meteorological records, has, with great generosity, forwarded to this department a copy of its last annual report, and of the large volumes of meteorological results, as a gift to each of the Grammar School stations in Upper Canada. These books (which are being sent to the stations as opportunity offers) will, no doubt, be examined by each Observer with great pleasure and attention, and it is hoped that a new encouragement will be felt in performing a work which is shown to be so important, and which is now being energetically carried on by great numbers of scientific men in all parts of the world."

NORMAL AND MODEL SCHOOLS.

The Normal School has proved of substantial advantage to the Common School system of Upper Canada, supplying it with teachers who have been specially trained in the art, under competent masters, and who have had the advantages of practice in the Model Schools established for that purpose. Dr. Ryerson points out that the object of the Normal school was not to educate young men and women, but to train teachers, both theoretically and practically for the general work of conducting the schools for the country. Unlike many of the Normal schools in Europe and America, the student is presumed on entering it, to have acquired, in some of the private or public schools of the Province, such an education as would entitle him to hold a second class County certificate, and on the entrance of the pupil, he is required to undergo an examination similar to that required for such a certificate, and, in addition, to sign a declaration that he intends to devote himself to the profession of teaching.

The tables, in connection with the Normal School, carry us back to its establishment, in 1847. During that period there have applied for admission to it no less than 5145 persons—2809 males, and 2336 females. The number actually admitted was 4594—2517 males, and 2077 females; that is according to the registrar on the books. But, as several students attended more than one term, some of them two or three, these figures hardly furnish a statement of the number of separate persons who have been admitted to the institution. Of those admitted, the large number of 2359 had been teachers, teaching on County certificates before their entrance. The number who have received Provincial certificates was 2194—1169 males and 1025 females; and the number of such certificates actually valid on the 31st December, 1865, was 1417. Of the leading religious denominations in the Province, the Methodists have sent the largest number to the Normal School, 1612 being of that denomination. The Presbyterians next, 1259; the Church of England next, 776; the Baptists next, 363; the Roman Catholics next, 199; and the Congregationalists next, 196. All the other denominations combined sent 184. The entire amount of aid granted to teachers in training during their attendance at the Normal School, was \$34,369 50, money which has been, on the whole, well spent, as it has enabled painstaking, studious men and women to qualify themselves the better for training up the youth of the country. The Model Schools are appendages to the Normal School, and afford admirable places of instruction for those who are fortunate enough to get their children into them. There is one for boys and one for girls, limited to 150 pupils each, the pupils paying a dollar a month, while the ordinary city schools are free. We believe it is a fact that the applications for admission into these schools are always in advance of the accommodation. "The teachers in training in the Normal School divided into classes, spend some time each week in the model schools, where they first observe how a model school, teaching common school subjects, is organized and managed, how the several subjects are taught, and they at length teach themselves, as assistants, under the observation and instruction of the regularly trained teachers of the school, who also report from day to day, the attention and aptitude of each teacher in training, for teaching, governing pupils, commanding their attention, &c."

OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

The report embodies such facts as are available on the subject of the other educational institutions of the country, both public and private. Of course as the information in reference to these latter is given voluntarily, there being no compulsion on the teachers of private schools to make returns, it is necessarily defective. But its defect is in this: that it does not represent fully or adequately the great educational work that is being performed by means of these private institutions of learning. The following figures are given in connection with these institutions:—The whole number of Colleges in Upper Canada is 16, the number of students attending them