

difficulty of their kind. A fair knowledge of Trigonometry is required to read this book.

Elementary Problems in Statics and Dynamics, by H. Walton. London: Bell & Daldy. \$3 15.—A full collection of examples of methods of solution and of exercises to be solved; these are of all degrees of difficulty. This work might be advantageously consulted by candidates for First Class Certificates, Grade A.

GEORGE PAXTON YOUNG.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT ON ENGLISH ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, 1874-1875.

In the last ten years, the sum of £4,258,099 (to meet Government grant of £5,958,976) has been subscribed towards the maintenance of elementary schools under inspection; and the annual amount derived from this source has risen from £277,760 in 1864 to £616,326 in 1874. The number of subscribers in these two years was respectively 145,856 and 251,185. Voluntary effort in the past year further contributed £172,166 towards the erection of those elementary schools to which building grants were made, and £22,395 towards the maintenance of training colleges under inspection.

The Inspectors found 18,714 certificated teachers at work in the aided schools which they visited, while the 40 training colleges, from which the supply of such teachers is mainly recruited, were attended in 1874 by 2,982 students.

The following table of statistics, abstracted from the reports of the Inspectors on the schools visited by them in 1870, and in each of the last three years, shows clearly the rate of progress in the period which has elapsed since the passing of the Elementary Education Act of 1870:—

ENGLAND AND WALES.

	YEARS ENDING 31ST AUGUST.			
	1870.	1872.	1873.	1874.
I. Estimated Population...	22,090,163	23,067,835	23,356,414	23,618,609
II. Number of Schools (Institutions) inspected.....	8,919	10,683	11,846	13,163
III. Annual Grant Schools:—				
Number of Departments—				
1. Day.....	12,061	14,101	15,929	17,646
2. Night.....	2,504	2,063	1,395	1,432
Accommodation—				
1. Day Schools.....	1,878,584	2,295,894	2,582,549	2,861,319
2. Night Schools (not connected with day schools).....				10,507
Present at examination—				
1. Day scholars.....	1,434,766	1,607,511	1,811,595	2,034,007
2. Night scholars.....	77,918	61,168	35,621	36,720
Average attendance—				
1. Day scholars.....	1,152,389	1,336,158	1,482,480	1,678,759
2. Night scholars.....	73,375	66,388	45,973	48,690
Voluntary contributions.....	£418,839	493,385	539,502	602,836
Rates.....		5,085	61,210	135,991
School pence.....	£502,022	599,283	688,296	814,283
Government Grants.....	£587,490	789,689	919,857	1,050,259
IV. Simple Inspection Schools				
1. Accommodation.....	53,982	83,935	82,917	91,160
2. Present at inspection.....	39,122	54,260	52,496	59,304
3. Average attendance.....	16,599	29,798	30,099	32,192
V. Number of Teachers—				
Certificated.....	12,467	14,771	16,810	18,714
Assistant.....	1,262	1,646	1,970	2,489
Pupil.....	14,304	21,297	24,674	27,031
Studying in Training Colleges.....	2,097	2,618	2,896	2,982

An addition of room in aided schools for 1,105,882 children in five years is satisfactory. * * * The increased accommodation to which we allude has been supplied in several ways. * * *

The school boards have availed themselves freely of the power of borrowing, on the security of the rates, given by the Acts of 1870 and 1873. We have recommended to the Public Works Loan Commissioners to make 986 loans, amounting to £4,179,173 19s. 3d. to 502 school boards, by means of which new accommodation will be furnished for some 370,956 scholars. * * *

The average attendance in aided schools (day and night) has risen from 1,225,764 in 1870 to 1,727,449 in 1874. There were, in 1874, 2,497,602 names of scholars on the registers of inspected schools, of whom 2,070,727 were present on the day of inspection, and this is the number of children (out of some four and a-half millions for whom elementary schools are required) who received more or less of efficient instruction in such schools during the past year. Of these scholars, 916,591 were below and 1,581,011 above seven years of age. * * *

It further appears from the reports of the Inspectors that military drill, which (as distinguished from the ordinary school drill practised in every good school) was introduced by the New Code, is systematically taught, with more or less satisfactory results, to the boys attending 1,137 day schools. * * *

The 12,167 elementary day schools in England and Wales, inspected in 1874, provided accommodation in 17,646 departments, for 2,871,826 scholars. The average daily attendance in these schools amounted to 1,678,759, so that each department, while providing accommodation for 162 scholars, had an average attendance of only 95. It has been calculated that, under the operation of the Education Acts, the average attendance will rise to 120. * * *

The accommodation provided in 1875 by the training colleges under inspection in England and Wales is sufficient for 3,079 students, and 2,975 are in residence. In 1865, the colleges held 2,500 students, and 1,822 were in residence. The colleges can, therefore, at present furnish a yearly supply of some 1,500 teachers who have been trained for two years. * * *

The first object of the Education Act of 1870 was to secure a supply of suitable school accommodation sufficient to meet the requirements of the country. * * *

In the year ending 31st of August, 1874, the number of board schools increased from 520 to 838; while the accommodation in these schools rose from 125,058 to 245,508; and the average attendance from 71,243 to 142,017. * * *

The sum expended by school boards in England during the year under review amounted to £1,825,957, as compared with £1,126,566 in the previous year; and in Wales to £132,168, as compared with £48,029.

About £1,304,004 of the expenditure in England, and about £93,853 in Wales, was incurred in the purchase of sites for schools, and in building, enlarging, and furnishing schools; leaving £521,053 in England, and £38,315 in Wales, as the current expenditure, in contradistinction to the capital expenditure of the year. * * *

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORTS OF HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

GOOD EFFECT OF PICTURES, MAPS, AND PRINTS IN SCHOOLS.

The walls are covered with the most recently published maps, and in some cases with excellent prints as well. At one school (Harbridge, near Ringwood), recently built by Lord Normanton, really beautiful engravings—a very good one of “The Queen,” amongst others—adorn the room, and give to it an air of comfort and refinement. The “prints” in this instance were the gift, as was told, of Mr. Graves, of Pall Mall. Mr. Graves would be doing a good and great educational work, if he would visit and beautify, in a similar manner, all the schools in my district. For too much stress cannot be laid on the importance of having our school-rooms as clean, as light, and as cheerful as it is possible to make them. Not only are the health and spirits of the teachers and children benefited by these things, but their eyes are also educated to appreciate order and beauty, and to detect and dislike untidiness and dirt.—Rev. W. F., Treganthen.

GOOD EFFECTS OF DRILL UPON THE DISCIPLINE OF BOYS' SCHOOLS.

The discipline of boys' schools and of mixed schools under a master, has been greatly improved and strengthened by the introduction of drill. It has tamed down the restlessness and turbulence of many unruly spirits, and has brought about a much greater degree of quiet submission to authority, and a more prompt obedience to orders than any which existed heretofore. Changes of lessons, dismissal, &c., are effected with less noise, and with a smaller waste of time. The task of an examiner is also rendered less troublesome in proportion as the scholars are more steady and obedient in their behaviour. The habits of order, respectful manners towards others, and ready compliance with legitimate commands are invaluable as helping to form the character and promote the welfare of the youth who cultivates them in after life.—Rev. B. J. BINNS.

BOOKS AND APPARATUS.

The supply of books and apparatus is, in many of the schools that fall under my observation, still too limited and imperfect. Local