

east of the first two stars in the handle of the dipper—moved about 5° from N-S. Fog, 12th. Snow 3rd—6th, 13th, 15th, 21st, 25th, 29th. Rain 11th, 13th, 20th, 24th.

SIMCOE.—Snow 4th—6th. Rain 13th, 24th. Month pleasant, bracing, not very cold except 1st and 2nd.

WINDSOR.—On 16th, two parhelia. Lunar halo, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 22nd. Wind storms, 13th, 14th, 21st, 24th, 28th. Fogs, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 12th. Snow 4th, 5th, 14th. Rain 13th, 20th, 24th.

V. Departmental Notices.

EXAMINATIONS OF GERMAN OR FRENCH TEACHERS.

The Council of Public Instruction has adopted the following minute :—

Ordered,—That the County Councils, within whose jurisdiction there are French or German settlements, be authorized to appoint one or more persons (who in their judgment may be competent) to examine candidates in the French or German language, at the semi-annual examinations.

NEW SCHOOL MANUAL.

In answer to various inquiries on the subject of a new School Manual we would say, that it is not thought desirable to publish a School Manual at present. Such a Manual should include in it the official regulations, but as they will not be revised until about the close of the present year (1872), or later, they cannot be embodied in the manual until then.

We would state, however, that the whole of the School Law and the general official regulations will be found in this Journal for May and June, 1871. Copies of these journals, when published, were sent by mail and addressed to each school corporation in Ontario. The supply is, however, now exhausted.

ASSISTANT TEACHERS' CERTIFICATES.

The question is sometimes asked if it be necessary that an assistant teacher should hold a legal certificate. We reply : It is absolutely necessary that he should hold one. The law expressly declares that every person receiving any part of the School Fund as teacher shall hold a legal certificate of qualification. The Superior Courts have also decided that trustees cannot legally levy a rate for the payment of a teacher who does not possess the necessary qualifications as such under the School laws.

ASSISTANTS IN HIGH SCHOOLS A NECESSITY.

Trustees of High Schools will bear in mind that they are required to employ an Assistant Master, in order to give effect to the new programme. The qualifications of these assistants are, that they shall either hold a Public School Teacher's certificate, or at least be certified as an undergraduate in the faculty of Arts, of good standing in some university in Her Majesty's dominions.

The Trustees of each High School, now being established, are required, and consent to employ two masters in their School, whatever may be the number of pupils in attendance. In justice to these new Schools, and in order to carry out the prescribed programme of studies in High Schools, this rule will, at the dose of the current six months, be applied to all the High Schools in Ontario. When the application of the new principle of "payment by results" (authorized by the Act of last year) will come into force, it will necessitate a more thorough and satisfactory system of instruction than at present exists in many of the High Schools.

'ADEQUATE SCHOOL ACCOMMODATIONS.'

In answer to numerous inquiries as to the law relating to school accommodation, we desire to state that the second section of the School Act of 1871 declares that :—

"Each school corporation (in a city, town, village or rural school section) shall provide adequate accommodations for all the children of school age (from five to sixteen years, resident) in their school division or municipality."

The regulations, which define what "adequate school accommodations" are, suggest a medium or minimum amount of

school accommodation to be provided, as compared with the law and regulations on the subject in other countries. Although the law, as quoted above, is imperative, yet inspectors will exercise a judicious discrimination in enforcing it.

SCHOOL PREMISES AND ACCOMMODATION.

We would request the attention of Inspectors to Note to a of Regulation No. 4 of their "Duties," in which they are directed to call the attention of Trustees to the condition of the School premises. In many School sections the School-house has been allowed to remain in the same state for fifteen or twenty years and longer, often on a bare open space, or on the road-side unenclosed, without a tree or shrub near by to shade it, or any provision being made by the Trustees, for the convenience or health of the pupils, or even for their observance of the decencies of life. The Legislature has wisely decided that this state of things shall not continue, but that, as soon as possible, a remedy shall be applied, where necessary. A reasonable time should of course be allowed to Trustees in all cases to set things right ; but in the meantime Inspectors will, we trust, not fail to urge upon Trustees the necessity of complying, as soon as possible, with the provisions of the law on this subject.

TRUSTEES' INCOMPLETE RETURNS.

Some Inspectors complain of the very great incompleteness of many of the school reports received from Trustees of rural sections, and ask what they should do with them ? By reference to the reports themselves, Trustees will see that the Inspectors are directed to return to them all incomplete or incorrect reports. The law declares that a School Section shall forfeit its share of the School Fund, should its Trustees fail to furnish the Inspector with a full and satisfactory report yearly and half yearly. It will, therefore, save the Inspectors a good deal of time and trouble, and the Department some delay, if the Inspectors will promptly return to the Trustees all imperfect reports, so as to have each column correctly filled up. Should an Inspector's Reports to this Department be incomplete, they will have to be returned to him so that the desired information may be obtained.

PRINTED SHEETS FOR SCHOOLS.

1. The New Programme.....	} Large Sheets.	} The ten sheets sent free of postage for 50 cents.
2. The New Limit Table		
3. A Blank Time Table.....		
4. Duties of Pupils.....		
5. The Ten Commandments	} Small Sheets.	
6. Library Regulations		
7. List of authorized Text Books.....		
8. Merit Cards and their uses.....		
9. Hints on constructing Time Tables.....		
10. Departmental Notices.....		

THE ACT OF 1871 AND SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

In reply to a question frequently asked, we desire to say that the new School Act and Regulations do not in any way affect the Separate Schools. It was not intended to affect them when the Act was passed ; and it would be unjust to the supporters of these Schools thus to legislate for them indirectly, and without their knowledge. The Inspectors will, therefore, be particular not to apply the Act, or any of the new Regulations to Separate Schools.

SCHOOL HOUSE ARCHITECTURE.

In the Journal of Education for February, 1870, Trustees will find a variety of illustrations on School House Architecture, with letter-press descriptions. Extra copies of this journal will be sent free by post, on receipt of 12 cents. There has also been published a useful pamphlet on "The School House, its Architecture," etc., with numerous illustrations, which can also be sent free by post on receipt of 65 cents.