

VIII. Departmental Notices.

THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATION FOR ONTARIO.

It is proposed that *The Journal* be continued as a publication for the following objects:—

1. Departmental notices and proceedings.
2. Regulations of the Education Department and Orders in Council respecting educational matters.
3. Explanatory papers for the information of Inspectors, Masters and Teachers.
4. Legal decisions on educational points.
5. Proceedings of Teachers' Institutes, Associations and Conventions.
6. Matters connected with local administration.
7. Communications (See Notice).
8. Extracts from periodicals, &c., upon educational subjects.
9. Acknowledgement of books.
10. Advertisements on educational subjects will be inserted in *The Journal*.

ADAM CROOKS,
Minister of Education.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
Toronto, 15th March, 1876.

NOTICE—COMMUNICATIONS TO THE JOURNAL.

While communications on educational subjects of general interest are invited, they must be considered as expressing the views of the writer. Political discussions are to be avoided. The essentials of each communication should be conciseness, and a subject-matter relating to school management, discipline, progress, teaching and other questions of administration.

Inspectors, Trustees and Teachers, as well as all others interested in education, are invited to avail themselves of *The Journal* for this purpose.

Messrs. Campbell & Son have written to the Minister of Education, respecting statements appearing in the circular letter of Dr. Ryerson, published in the February number of the *Journal of Education*, and which they contend may be construed to injuriously affect their standing. The purport of Messrs. Campbell & Son's reply, concisely stated, is as follows: That they expressed their willingness to correct any errors in their trade list, but that they were justified in omitting the star, as denoting authorized books, from the two works referred to, and they quote the Resolutions of the Council of Public Instruction, of the 2nd and 3rd February, 1875, in justification. With respect to their assuming to print, that their *Modern Geography and Atlas* were "authorized by the Council of Public Instruction," Messrs. Campbell & Son stated that they were only fulfilling the invitation of the Council of Public Instruction as expressed by their resolution:—

"Resolved,—That Mr. John Lovell be invited to have his *Geographies* revised, and to submit the same to the Council with a view to their consideration by the Text Book Committee; and that Messrs. Campbell & Son be also invited to revise and submit to the Council their *Geography*, with a view to its recommendation for adoption in the Schools of Ontario, if placed on the same footing as Messrs. Lovell's *Geography*, and reported by the Text Book Committee as approved."

They also claim the right of advertising in their catalogue both authorized and unauthorized books, to meet the wants not only of the High and Public Schools, but of the many other Educational Institutions of the Province.

Education Department, 20th March, 1876.

THIRD-CLASS TEACHERS' LENGTH OF SERVICE.

A practice neither contemplated nor authorized by law has sprung up in certain High Schools, to which the attention of Public School Inspectors is specially called. The regulations provide that "a *Teacher* holding a third-class certificate may be eligible, in less than three years for examination for a second-class certificate on the special recommendation of his County Inspector." The intention of this regulation was that when an Inspector in visiting Schools found that a *Teacher* in actual service, holding a third-class certificate was really an efficient *Teacher*, and competent to govern a School well, such *Teacher*

might be permitted before the three years' probation had expired, to prepare himself for examination for a higher grade. It was also designed to meet the special cases of *Teachers* of some experience coming from other countries, to whom a three years' probation as third-class teachers would be an unnecessary hardship. In these two classes of cases alone were Inspectors authorized to exercise a wise discretion and to permit such *Teachers* to compete for a higher rank in their profession in Ontario, before the expiration of the three years probation fixed by the regulations.

In some cases, however, which have come under the notice of the Department, Inspectors have not acted on this view of the case, but have allowed pupils of High Schools holding third-class certificates to compete for second-class certificates, apparently on account of what additional literary qualifications they may have been able to acquire during a brief attendance at such a High School. Sometimes such pupils have been permitted to act as monitors for a short time, &c.

The rule to be observed in future in all these cases, must be that none but third-class teachers in *actual service*, of the required age, and who evince in their Schools special *aptitude for teaching and government*, shall be eligible for recommendation by Inspectors for second-class certificates, before the expiration of their three years' probation.

AUTHORIZED TEXT-BOOKS.

In reply to enquiries on the subject, we desire to say that no books have been struck off the authorized list of text-books, except the following:

Peck's Ganot's Natural Philosophy.
Davidson's Animal Kingdom.
Collier's English Literature.

The Geographical text-books are undergoing revision, but no change is yet authorized in that subject, or in the French.

The list of new books authorized for Public and High schools will be found in the *Journal of Education* for May and September, 1875, pages 69 and 144. New lists will be furnished by the Department on application.

It is not intended to enforce the change of text-books either in High or Public Schools without the consent of the Trustees and of the Inspectors.

It will thus be seen that, with the exception of the three books named above, the same series of text-books prescribed or authorized for use in the Schools have been continued; and that even in the case of the additional books which have been authorized (not prescribed) none of them can be introduced into any school except with the concurrence of the Trustees and of the Inspector. *Teachers* therefore, will have to act very prudently in introducing even the newly authorized books in any School.

No unauthorized book can, under any circumstances, be introduced by a teacher.

Inspectors are specially required by law (clause ten (a) section one hundred and twelfth):

"To prevent the use of unauthorized and to recommend the use of authorized books in each School."

SCHOOL CENSUS OF 1875 THE BASIS OF APPORTIONMENT IN 1876.

As the School Census of 1875, which the School Trustees are required by law to take, will likely be the basis of the Legislative School apportionment of 1876, it is most important that the Inspectors should see that it is accurately taken in every School Section, incorporated village, town, and city.

REMITTANCES BY INSPECTORS AND TRUSTEES TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

Persons having to make remittances to the Education Department of Ontario, will please send the same, if to the amount of \$50 or over, through an agency of the Bank of Commerce, or the Bank of Montreal, if there be one in the neighbourhood. The amount can be deposited at the agency to the credit of the Minister of Education, and the duplicate bank receipt enclosed with the letter of advice to the Education Department. Small amounts should be sent by P. O. Order. All money letters to the Department should be registered.