

was represented in the persons of Cardinal Manning, the Bishop of London, Canon Gregory, and Dr. Rigg; science by such names as Sir John Lubbock; elementary education by Mr. Heller, Secretary of the National Union of Elementary Teachers, Sir Francis Sandford, a former Secretary of the Education Department, and Mr. Buxton, a former chairman of the London School Board. Besides these the Commission included several prominent public men who are more or less identified with education, such as Sir R. A. Cross, Lord Norton, Hon. L. Stanley, and Sir B. Samuelson. It was appointed on the 15th of January, 1886, and spent one hundred and forty-six days in hearing and discussing evidence with a view to making out the Report now issued. The conclusions of such a body of men cannot be otherwise than important, and as it will interest our readers to know those which most concern ourselves we supply a summary of them.

In regard to school accommodation, "after making due allowance for absence on account of sickness, weather, distance from school, and other reasonable excuses for irregular attendance, school seats should be provided for one-sixth of the population." Ten square feet, and one hundred cubic feet should be the minimum accommodation for each child in average attendance, and school buildings should be provided with a proper amount of light and air—suitable premises—and a reasonable extent of playground. While inspectors should be men of wide and liberal training, the tone and character of the teaching profession in elementary schools would be raised by selecting them from the general body of teachers. In selecting inspectors, special weight should be given to the possession of an adequate knowledge of natural science. In large towns the experi-

ment might be tried of appointing sub-inspectresses to assist in the examination of infant schools and of the lower standards. Inspectors' assistants should be chosen from the pick of the elementary teachers. The Head Master of a school should be free to superintend the whole work of the school, but he should not be dissociated from actual instruction. In fixing the qualifications of teachers it must be borne in mind that there are some with a natural aptitude and love for teaching who have not received a professional training, and who could not be excluded from the profession without a loss to the schools. The salaries of teachers ought to be fixed. A superannuation scheme should be established by means of deferred annuities, supplemented by the Education Department out of moneys provided by parliament. There is no other equally trustworthy source from which an adequate supply of teachers can be got than that of pupil teachers, and the system of apprenticeship with modifications tending to improvement in the education of pupil teachers ought to be upheld. Facilities should be provided for the withdrawal of such pupil teachers as have no liking, or who are proved to be unsuited for the work of teaching. A third year at a training college would be an advantage to some students. While it is best to have residential training colleges, the large need for more generally available opportunities of training leads the Commission to suggest the experiment of training non-residential students in connection with local university colleges. The system of compulsory attendance at school, up to the age of thirteen years at least, is affirmed. Approval is expressed of truant and day industrial schools, as they have been found efficacious in enforcing compulsion. In regard to the studies pursued, there is room for much im-