

and that of a Bunsen's burner. General phenomena of radiant heat. Reflection and refraction. Different powers possessed by different substances to radiate heat. Explanation of how it is that under certain circumstances

the cooling of a vessel may be hastened by surrounding it with flannel. Reciprocity of radiation and absorption. Meaning of the term *diathermancy*. Manifestation of this property by different bodies.

## HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

### LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENTS TO HIGH SCHOOLS.

WE have to record another phase in the history of Payment by Results—another instance of the short-sightedness of Mr. Crooks' official advisers—another proof of the correctness of the views held by those who opposed the system as it has been administered.

The distribution of the High School grant for 1880, will, according to the Departmental notice, be as follows :—

1. 105 High Schools at \$450 each....	\$47,250 00
2. Average attendance.....	13,500 00
3. Results of the Intermediate ...	10,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$70,750 00

The total allowance to each High School will be the sum of the amounts distributed to each under the foregoing heads. The balance of the Legislative Grant is expended in the payment of the special grant of \$750 each, to thirteen Collegiate Institutes.

As compared with the scheme which has hitherto been carried out, the new one presents the following points of difference :—

1. The apportionment per unit of average attendance has been increased.
2. The fixed grant to each school is now \$50 more than formerly.
3. The amount hitherto distributed on the Inspectors' special reports struck out.

All that is now left of the 1875 scheme is the annual Intermediate. The most imaginative of the Departmental officials can no longer persist in misnaming the system.

The increase of the fixed grant will, no doubt, give general satisfaction. Like all

favours, it is acceptable so far as it goes; but unfortunately it doesn't go very far. Considering the increased expenditure now incurred in connection with nearly every High School, it will be but a drop in the bucket—a help probably to the lowest grade of schools, but almost inappreciable in the case of those—and they are now many—whose annual expenditure is from \$4,000 to \$8,000.

There is one feature, however, in this amended scheme, which will recommend itself to High School Masters; the Inspectors will no longer manipulate any of the money. This is only what we anticipated would happen, as soon as the matter had been brought fairly before the Minister of Education. When we look back on the past few years of the history of our High Schools, it seems incredible that this part of the original plan, burdened as it was, could have been tolerated so long. It has done few schools any good, while it has injured very materially the prospects and state of others. Even had all the men entrusted with the appraisal of the ability of the Masters, the character of the work done, and the other *et ceteras* on which the elaborate scheme was professedly based, been distinguished for broad as well as high scholarship, and for unblemished reputations, fault would have been found with their decisions. Is it any wonder, under the circumstances, that there have been murmurs, not loud but deep? We do not say that there has been good foundation for the charges, but the public prints have not been silent on the question. This portion of the scheme, which by independent masters has all along been