

indifferent parents will object to the trouble incurred, but this only goes to show that in the end they will exert their authority to assist the teacher rather than suffer the inconvenience of writing notes, signing reports of bad conduct, &c. Those who have not tried this plan little know how much moral power over their pupils they are leaving unused. Corporal punishment will perhaps always be necessary in rare cases, but as practised in some of the best schools in Canada and the United States, the plan of appealing to parental authority has the effect of reducing the application of this extreme measure within very small limits. Let every teacher carefully consider how much of the discipline fairly belongs to him, and how much properly falls to the share of parents. It would be unwise to send a child home for every trivial offence, but there are few school offences of which parents should be kept in ignorance. The certainty that his parents will know of his bad conduct acts as a powerful deterrent to the average boy. In many cases it is best to insist on the parent's coming with his child and undertaking to secure proper conduct.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS.

The vacancy caused in Peterboro' Collegiate Institute, by the lamented illness of Mr. John Dixon, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Wm. O'Connor, late of Owen Sound High School. Mr. O'Connor is a graduate of Queen's, Ireland, but has seen service in Canadian public and high schools, in Seaforth, London, Harriston, and Owen Sound. His energy has won uniform success, and is the best guarantee that Peterboro' will continue to advance under his management. During his residence here he has made many friends, who will be glad to hear of his promotion. We are gratified to see a thoroughly competent man placed in a responsible position.

As successor to Mr. Embree, in Strathroy High School, the board have secured T. O. Page, B.A. Mr. Page, like his predecessor, is a trained teacher, who served his apprenticeship in public school work, graduated from the Normal School in '70 with a first-class certificate, and took his degree at Toronto in '77. He has recently had successful experience at Albert College and Vankleek Hill High School. It is one sign of the times, and a good omen for sound education, to see thoroughly experienced men appointed to our best schools. The masters of our high schools are the teachers of our public school teachers; and it is useless to hope that a few months' study of methods at the normal schools will suffice to eradicate the errors of years. We want the best trained teachers that money can procure for high schools. Let the good work proceed.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

We lately gave quotations showing that the compulsory clause of the English code is by no means a dead letter. It is time that our own compulsory clause should be put into

effect by the establishment of industrial schools in all our large cities. Looked at merely as a commercial undertaking, or in any aspect, no better investment of public money can be suggested, as the following extract plainly shows:

The statistics of every country, where education is compulsory and universal, demonstrate that juvenile crime may be nearly, if not quite, exterminated by a rigorous enforcement of juvenile education. The Grand Duchy of Baden, by a rigorous enforcement of such a law for seven years, according to their carefully-prepared statistics, reduced crime in that Duchy 51 per cent., and pauperism 25 per cent.

Our Board of Education has not pretended to a rigorous enforcement of the compulsory education law, but they have given some enforcement to it, employing twelve agents of truancy to look after the truants in over 150,000 children. Their labors, imperfect as they have been, have had a most remarkable effect in reducing juvenile crime in this city.

For the five years immediately preceding the enactment of the compulsory education law, there were 6,105 arrests of juvenile delinquents in this city, being an average of 1,221 per year.

The total arrests of juvenile delinquents for the last five years, under the enforcement of this law, have been 4,341, or an average of 868 per year, and for the last year only 717. This, considering the larger population of the city now than then, is a decrease in juvenile crime of 36 per cent., and is an annual saving to the city in future criminal expenses of many times the entire cost of enforcing this law.

A single agent has, in the last year, by direct arrest of the Italian truants, and by his moral influence in inducing others of them to go to school without arrest, added 1,100 to the attendance of that class of children alone. The labors of this single agent have relieved the taxpayers of this city of more expense for pauperism and crime, springing from this class of our population, than the entire expense of the whole truancy department.—*Dexter A. Hawkins, in Observer.*

APPOINTMENT OF SUB-EXAMINERS.

We are pleased to learn that in appointing the sub-examiners for the July examinations, the Department has secured the services of as many experienced teachers as possible, and among these a number of county inspectors who have had long practice in reading papers at the county boards. The universities find it extremely difficult to get competent men to conduct their examinations, and the Department must find it still more difficult, since the great majority of those who are best qualified to do the work are directly or indirectly interested in the results, and therefore ineligible. Young and inexperienced men almost invariably prove too severe, and too ready to reject candidates without deliberate and careful judgment. In fact, a good examiner is rather rare even among scholars of distinguished ability, since he requires good judgment, which is a thing quite different from ripe scholarship. However, with the large representation of old and experienced men now secured, we may confidently expect that the papers will be carefully valued. It would be an excellent thing to carry rigidly into effect that part of the Minister's instructions to examiners which directs that every paper shall pass through the hands of at least two of the examiners; thus saving many appeals, by guarding more effectually against oversights and mistakes.