

subject, and the practicability of instituting a teacher's convention was then expressed and recommended. We are pleased to observe from last month's *EDUCATIONAL REVIEW*, a valuable monthly periodical for teachers, published in St. John, N. B., that the wisdom of such a convention is also mooted, and it would undoubtedly prove a stimulus to our educational institutions if such suggestions were acted upon by the teachers of all the day schools throughout the colony, and we see no reason whatever why it should not be so. Our school teachers as a rule are poorly paid, and this fact is noted by our contemporary already mentioned. In giving statistics of our schools, gleaned from the last annual reports of the respective superintendents, it says: "It can be readily seen that, so far as salary is concerned, our fellow workers in the ancient colony are not so well off as ourselves;" which point, as the writer says, is forcibly pointed out in the last reports of the superintendents. By the teachers of all persuasions meeting together once a year, at least, it would not only have the effect of creating bonds of sympathy for each other, and in each other's work, but their united action might tend to secure for them eventually a better financial standing than they at present occupy. Unless the salaries are something after the rate, it cannot be expected that a superior class of teachers will be retained in our various educational institutions; for a man who holds a first grade certificate is capable of earning a much larger salary per annum than the great majority of our teachers receive; and, therefore, it cannot be expected that our school system in the outports will ever become what it ought to while the inducements held out for first-class teachers are so discouraging.

TONIC SOL-FA IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Rev. James Anderson, M. A., the contributor of our series on the "Tonic Sol-fa" system of musical instruction, has been appointed by the government of Nova Scotia to visit the schools of the leading sections in the Province to aid the teachers in the introduction of the system. No expenditure on our educational system will return a larger percentage of benefit than the item for this purpose. Mr. Anderson has already visited the schools of Truro, Amherst, Springhill and Pictou; and has found the teachers making very creditable showings. During January and February the schools of Lunenburg, Bridgewater, Shelburne and Liverpool will probably be visited. After a few weeks of practical instruction from Mr. Anderson, nearly all teachers will be qualified to give practical instruction in their schools. Its simplicity and naturalness are the qualities which made the system so successful in Great Britain, United States and Ontario. A great many of the teachers have taken "junior" certificates from the tonic sol-fa college, of which Mr. Anderson is a duly accredited examiner. A few have taken "elementary" or second degree certificates. We shall endeavor to publish a complete list of all these, as they are reported.

FERNDALE SCHOOL.

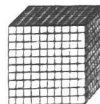
WORLD WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Not chaos-like together crushed and bruised,
But, as the world, harmoniously confused;
Where order in variety we see,
And where, though all things differ, we agree.

POPE.—*Windsor Forest.*

III.

T. To-day we shall have a lesson on weight. Here we have a cube centimeter, which is a very convenient part of our world measure to take for a unit of weight. A cube, you know, is the same in its three dimensions of length, breadth and thickness. Shall we take a piece of gold, or lead, or iron, or stone a centimeter in length, breadth and thickness—just about the size of the top of the little finger. Well, which is the most common substance to be found in every part of the world and can always be had pure when required?



Cubic centimeter with face divided into square millimeters.

S. Water.

T. Correct. Water can be had pure by distillation; and it is heaviest when a little above the freezing point. So, a cubic centimeter of pure cold water is taken as the unit of weight, and it is called a gram. What would the tenth of a gram be called then?

S. A decigram.

T. Correct. And the hundredth of a gram?

S. A centigram.

T. Very good. And the thousandth of a gram?

S. A milligram.

T. Suppose we cut a cubic centimeter out of a potato. Will it weigh more or less than a gram?

S. More; because the potato, is a little heavier than water.

T. Very good. Let us cut our potato centimeter into ten equal slices. How thick will each be?

S. A millimeter.

T. True. Take one of these slices and cut it into cubic millimeters. How many will there be?

S. One hundred in one slice. You can see the one hundred little squares drawn on the front big square of the cubic centimeter on the black board.

T. How many cubic millimeters in a cubic centimeter then?

S. One hundred in each slice — one thousand.

T. Right. How many cubic centimeters would there be in a cubic decimeter then?

S. Just the same — one thousand.

T. Very good. A vessel a decimeter in length, breadth, and depth would then contain how many grams of water?

S. One thousand grams of water.