

advertise for teachers to fill vacancies. To such an extent was this want felt, especially during the winter terms, that it was seriously considered whether it would not be advisable to return to the short term attendance at the normal school and reduce the time of attendance, not only for third class, but for all classes of teachers. Had this step been resorted to it would have been a serious misfortune for our schools.

For the present term, as far as can be learned, no local licenses have been issued, and the supply, including the third class teachers graduated in December last, does not more than equal the demand. Surely it is better that these teachers should have a half year's training than none at all. Should the time come when third class teachers become too numerous, the number is controllable both by refusing to renew the license, or curtailing them altogether for a term or two. The average third class teacher, too, can be relied upon to improve her status at the first opportunity as aside from professional ambition. She is at a certain disadvantage by holding a short term license. An inspector of considerable experience informs the REVIEW that never before has he observed so many teachers preparing for advance of class, and that many of the third class teachers graduated in December, 1893, refuse to take schools, preferring instead to attend school to fit themselves for an advance of class.

### SHALL AND WILL.

To the Editor of the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW:

Would you kindly publish an article in the March number of the REVIEW on the "uses of *shall* and *will*?" Kindly explain by examples the various uses of *shall* and *will*. When are they auxiliaries and when are they used solely as principal verbs? By doing so you will confer the greatest favor upon an army of teachers. A text-book on English grammar is one of the greatest needs in our schools at the present time. The "unknown" is still in use, and when will it become a thing of the past and a sensible text-book be made to take its place?

Annapolis, N. S.

No definite rules enabling a person easily to determine whether in any given case he should use *shall* or *will* have yet been formulated. There is no more difficult subject in English grammar. Even such rules as might be given would, with examples, require much more space than we have at our command.

The explanations given in our text-book, as far as they go, are the best that we have seen anywhere. The fault is not in the text-book, but in expecting young pupils to understand a subject which should not engage their attention until the fourth year in academy.

Our text-book, unless taught by skilful teachers, is, of course, unsuited to the common schools. But for advanced high school work it ranks with the best grammars published.

Professor Liscomb treats *shall* and *will* much the same as the Latin grammarians deal with the subjunctive mood. We give below an outline of his plan. For some interesting remarks on this subject we refer the reader to Bain's Higher English Grammar.

*Shall* and *will*, besides always denoting future time, have other meanings which are more or less emphatic, according to the persons or the kinds of clauses in connection with which they are used. *Will* conveys the idea of (a) consent or willingness, and (b) of resolution on the part of the agent. *Shall* implies a strong assurance, or an exercise of authority — originally it meant debt, or obligation. Various shades of these radical meanings, more or less pronounced, will be found in these words whenever used:

#### A.—PRINCIPAL CLAUSES.

##### I.—Declarative and Exclamatory Clauses.

1. *Shall* in the first person expresses simple futurity.  
*Shall* in the second and third persons expresses (a) a strong assurance, or (b) a command.
2. *Will* in the first person expresses (a) consent or willingness, (b) resolution.  
*Shall* in the second and third persons expresses simple futurity.  
*Exceptions.*—In addressing military inferiors, *will* implies a polite command.  
In the second and third persons, *will* often implies consent, willingness, or resolution; as "He will do as you wish." "He will have his way."

##### II.—Interrogative Clauses.

1. *Shall* in the first and second persons expresses simple futurity.  
*Shall* in the third person expresses emphasis.
2. *Will* in the first person is scarcely used.  
*Will* in the second person expresses consent, or resolution.  
*Will* in the third person expresses simple futurity.  
NOTE—*Shall* in the first and third persons often indicates authority on the part of the person spoken to, as "Shall we come with you?" "Shall he go with us?"

#### B.—SUBORDINATE CLAUSES.

- I.—Clauses of *cause*, *concession*, *result* and *comparison* follow the rule for declarative clauses.
- II.—In clauses of *time*, *place*, *condition*, *purpose* and *manner*, *shall* expresses futurity in all persons, and *will* expresses consent or resolution.
- III.—*Relative clauses*.  
1. *Ampleative* relative clauses follow the rule for declarative clauses.  
2. *Restrictive* relative clauses follow the same rule when the antecedent is definite, but take *shall* in all persons when the antecedent is indefinite.