

(b) Class D. *Writing*. 12 pupils. Write with considerable facility; writing legible; letters, as a rule, well formed.

(c) *English History*: limits from William III. to Victoria. 15 pupils. Exhibited a pretty intimate acquaintance with the important historical facts and incidents of the period, the constitutional changes, and the reforms effected in the interval; but the class, though good, is not quite up to that of former years.

(d) *Literature*. A class of 19. This has always been a favourite subject, and the interest in it has not abated. The examination commenced with a review of the history of French literature from a period antecedent to the times of the *Trouveres* and *Troubadours* and extended to the present. Saintsbury's is the book used. A pretty intimate acquaintance was manifested with the authors of the different periods. Of course anything like a critical knowledge is not to be expected from those unacquainted with the French tongue. Of Italian literature also, they had learned something of the achievements of Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Ariosto, Tasso, Bernardo de Vinci, Michel Angelo and Raphael. In English literature they were more thoroughly examined, from Beda to Tennyson. Special attention was paid to Shakespeare, especially to the play of Richard III. Nearly all the striking passages have been memorized, not only in this drama, but in Hamlet, and in the Merchant of Venice. And just herein consists the value of the subject to the blind.

(e) *Ancient History*. A class of 4. The limits from the second Punic War to Augustus in Roman, and the Persian and Peloponnesian wars in Greek history. This class did remarkably well, and had a very complete knowledge of the important events of those times.

(f) Class C. *Arithmetic*. The class is smaller than that of last year, but about equal to it in attainments. The pupils were assigned twelve problems to test their knowledge of the fundamental rules, and the tables of weights and measures. All the questions were of a practical character and required thought. The senior division of the class answered well. The average of the junior division was lowered by the comparative failure of a couple who are not well up. No question was missed by all. The enthusiasm of the class is very noticeable.

(g) Class D. *Grammar*. The subject of grammar is commenced in this class. The pupils were examined very thoroughly as to their knowledge of the elements of grammar, and particularly about the sentence and its parts. Three did not do very well, but these are weak mentally; the others showed an intelligent acquaintance with the subject, and have done a good year's work.

(h) Miss Gillin has a class of 4 in Algebra. One had gone to surds and the others to multiplication. A fair set of questions, covering the work gone over, was given to each. The questions were dictated and the pupils wrote them in point print and then proceeded to solve them. The senior pupil solved all correctly; one of the juniors obtained a little over 50%; the others did not do very well.

(i) The same class in Euclid. One had studied the first three books, one the first book, and the other two had gone over the first twenty propositions of the first book. Two papers were given in same manner as that pursued in Algebra. As a test of their knowledge of the first book of Euclid they were required to demonstrate the 16th proposition and all the propositions on which it depends. To the senior pupil there were given in addition, questions to test his knowledge of the second and third books. The demonstrations and answers were done in point print. At the close of the examination a pupil (not in the class) was asked to read the work of each pupil to the examiner. The senior boy obtained 92 per cent., and a female pupil 78 per cent. of the marks. The other two were much lower.

III. Mr. Alexander's Classes.

(a) Class D. *Arithmetic*. A class of 22, in two sections; doing elementary work. Attainments unequal; most, however, can solve correctly easy problems in the simple rules.