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GRADING IN COUNTRY SCHOOLS.

Some time ago the above subject was discussed in these pages, and this month we have been able to secure Dr. William Harris's paper on the same topic as it appeared in *Intelligence*. Whatever issues from the pen of the Commissioner of Education is well worth the attention of the educational world, and his remarks on the district school cannot but excite our elementary teachers to consider what is best for the pupil. The after discussion of Dr. Harris's paper has been also inserted to enable our readers to understand the question more fully. Dr. Harris begins by saying :

In my opinion there is no worse evil in the country schools than the classification of pupils which is attempted in many places, under the supposition that what has proved a good thing in the very large schools of cities would be beneficial if partially adopted in the small schools of the rural districts. Hence, while most cities classify by grades of a year's work in the case of pupils advanced into the third and subsequent years' work, and by half-years in the work of the lowest primary divisions, the supervisor thinks that he has done a great thing if he has introduced classification into his rural districts to such an extent as to have three or four grades where there are ten grades in the city.