

possible to induce candidates to attend normal school. It would seem that so long as there is any possibility of securing the local license that the well-to-do French will not go to the expense of undergoing training for teaching.

Much valuable and interesting information is embraced in the statistical tables and appendices, which include: The Report of the Chancellor of the University, Report of the Normal School, The Inspectors' Reports, Reports of Boards of School Trustees, Reports of Institutions for Blind, Deaf and Dumb, and some of the papers read at the County Institutes.

#### Gleanings from the N. B. School Report.

The average amount received from the County fund per pupil, was 57 cents for ordinary districts, and 76 cents for poor districts. It is a decided advantage to be on the poor list.

Of about 1,700 teachers employed, not more than 25 received salaries of over \$700, and only 10 a salary of \$1,000 and upwards.

Trustees continue to manifest disinclination to visit the schools. The inspector is the most frequent visitor in many schools.

There was a marked increase in the number of schools open during fall time. This is in many cases due, no doubt, to the lengthened summer vacation.

There were 50 superior schools in operation during the year.

Only four grammar schools, viz.: those of Carleton, Charlotte, St. John, and York, had an enrolment each of more than 20 pupils above Grade VIII.

At the normal school entrance examinations held in July 1893, 398 candidates presented themselves, and at a later and supplementary examination, 77 were examined. Of this number, 188 failed.

At the examinations for license held in June, 1893, 330 candidates were admitted. Of this number, 11 failed to obtain any license—and still teachers are not too numerous.

At the examination held in December, 1893, for third class only, ninety presented themselves; of this number fifteen failed to pass.

Nearly one-half the schools in Madawaska are still taught by untrained teachers.

St. John furnished twenty-six of the forty-five candidates presenting themselves for university matriculation examination.

School libraries were added to by 1160 volumes during the year. It is gratifying to learn that a catalogue is in course of preparation.

Charlotte and Northumberland received the largest grants in aid of new school houses.

York and Gloucester Counties contain the largest number of poor districts.

St. John and Charlotte had the largest attendance at the County Institutes—St. John 162 and Charlotte 103—high water mark for both counties.

Arbor Day was observed in 1893 by 463 districts.

#### PROGRAMME FOR ARBOR DAY.

[It is not expected that the following descriptive programme for Arbor Day at a country school will be followed throughout by any teacher. It is merely intended to be suggestive, and is thrown into the form of description for convenience only—J. BRITAIN, Normal School, Fredericton, N. B.]

All the scholars who are old and strong enough for the work gather at the school-house promptly at nine o'clock (or better at eight), prepared for a trip to the woods. The boys are provided with hoes and axes; the girls with pails or baskets and small hand shovels.

On their way to the woods, they gather some early spring flowers, and learn their names. As the spring migration has now well set in they see and hear many birds on their way. Some are hopping about the meadows and roadsides in search of food, others perched on fence, shrub or tree give forth their joyous songs. One of the first noticed is the Eastern snowbird, commonly called in New Brunswick the blue-bird. It is better, however, that we should call it by its scientific name, *Junco*, since it does not stay with us in the winter, and is not blue. *Junco* will be known at sight by the blackish-ash color of his upper parts which meets the white of his under parts in a definite line on the breast, and by the two white tail-feathers he shows when he flies. His song, which he prefers to deliver from the top of a low tree, is not strong or musical. The children, however, should imitate it as closely as possible. This will aid them in distinguishing it from the note of its relative the chipping sparrow, who will certainly be heard on the way. The latter is the smallest of our "grey-birds." He may be readily known from other birds with a greyish plumage by the brown cap on the top of his head. He is not shy, and will hop along the roadside near enough to show his cap which cannot be seen when he is chirping up in a tree. A larger "grey-bird" with an indefinite dark spot on the breast, will be heard singing a clear, silvery song—one of the sweetest of bird-songs. He is well named the song-sparrow. No other "grey-bird" can approach him as a singer except the vesper-sparrow. These two birds resemble each other so much that