

acquire the knowledge they might expect to obtain at the Public School at an additional expense of \$22.08 per head.

The natural conclusion to be drawn from the fact that 125 positions are annually filled by 1,200 teachers is that each teacher remains something less than two months at his vocation. We could not, indeed, wonder if this were the case when we consider the amount of salary paid. But apparently it is considered to be for the public good annually to expend \$30.48 per pupil on 1,000 superfluous teachers, to say nothing of the cost of unnecessary buildings, to subject the pupils of the Public Schools to a perpetual succession of tyros, and to cut down the salaries of the Public School teachers to the lowest notch. For what reason? The only reason that we can suggest is that the High Schools may be fed by young men who are attracted by an immediate prospect of \$400 a year, and that, discouraged by the absence of all worldly prospects, they may leave the teaching profession to make room for another candidate for a two months job, in order, perhaps, to go to the University; more often, alas! to swell directly the numbers of those who seek to make a living in what they call the "nicer" occupations, finally, perhaps, through stress of competition to drift to the United States.

That the tax-payer has not been willing to sacrifice everything to the perfection of the system is shown by the action of the Provincial Government, which, in 1891, passed an Act providing that County Councils may require a portion of the liability of the county to be paid by the county pupils in fees, but such fees must not exceed one dollar per month, and further provisions have been made for resident pupils and pupils from other counties. The popularity of this concession is shown by the fact that in one year from the passing of this Act there were 77 High Schools and Collegiate Institutes in which fees were exacted.