

matics, and, in not a few sections, instruction in the classics are given with good success: a result of employing as teachers College students. During the long summer vacation students naturally seek employment as teachers, and when so engaged prefer teaching advanced branches; in this way, sections that otherwise could not think of engaging a classical instructor, get superior teachers for their children, who from associating with better cultivated minds, receive an intellectual impetus and an ambition for higher education resulting in a College course, and a life stimulated by healthful example and early mental activity. I may here remark that the advocates of a thorough education cannot possibly overrate the advantage of placing children under the tuition of well trained instructors.

During the winter term, as stated above, 1740 teachers were employed; for the summer term the number was 1881. An examination of Table II. will satisfy any inquiry that may be made as to the educational standing of these, almost 1900 instructors, among whom the several classes of licenses are somewhat unequally distributed. We invite particular attention to this point, that some more decided and renewed efforts may be made to have a preponderance of teachers holding the higher grade of licenses. No doubt, as remarked by some of the County Inspectors in their excellent reports, that not unfrequently teachers holding first-class licenses fall as instructors, while some of inferior classes enjoy a well-merited reputation. The statement is certainly true, but in face of the remark, and the prejudice it excites, we must bear in mind that we have in our schools nearly two thousand teachers and licensed assistants, and no reasonable man could, for a moment, imagine that in this entire number there would be no failures. We are happy in saying what we know to be a fact that the statement made as to the failure of first-class teachers is the exception, and not the rule; for, taken as a class, our first-class male and female teachers stand a most favorable comparison with like classes in any country where free public schools are established.

During the winter term 21 teachers, holding an Academic Grade, were employed. Also, 23 during the summer term, but we have to regret that our table shews a diminution of first-class male teachers, especially for the summer term. Persons acquainted with a general practice in country places will readily understand this. Large boys and girls remain at home during the summer to aid in farm work, while the younger children go to school; for these younger pupils teachers of a lower grade are employed. In many instances first-class teachers who take schools for the winter, seek for the summer term some more profitable employment, as clerks, travelling agents, or book keepers, which usually brings more money than the teaching of small children; in this way a number of first-class teachers are at their calling in winter only. This state of things is certainly most undesirable, and should not be encouraged, inasmuch as teachers who constantly change are rarely, if ever, adequate to do the work expected from first-class men.

We must again call attention to an evil in our section, one often indeed lamented, but nevertheless perpetuated by our over-cautious trustees and parsimonious parents; it is, that so many Trustees insist