

In some of our Public Schools pupils are prepared for the teachers' examinations. During the past two years several have passed district examinations; three the third class examination, and one the second class examination. The second class candidate was but fourteen years of age and had passed the third class examination the previous year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

W. J. SUMMERBY.

"SCHOOL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

"January 4th, 1888.

SIR,—At the beginning of last year I asked my assistant, Mr. Dufort, to pay special attention to this subject (English) when making his inspectorial visits. The result is that we have reduced the number of purely French departments from twenty-seven to six, and I hope to be able to report, at the end of the present term, that these six have fallen into line. At last summer's examination for teachers for our French schools, all candidates totally ignorant of English were rejected. I do not wish it to be thought that I am satisfied with our present attainments in this respect. As I have said in previous reports, our weak point is a staff of teachers having an imperfect acquaintance with the English tongue. But I think we are going forward as rapidly as can be expected under the circumstances.

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"Yours truly,

"W. J. SUMMERBY.

"RUSSELL, 23rd February, 1889.

"DEAR SIR,—Last year I had to report that we had six schools in which English was not taught. Mr. Dufort has made a verbal report to me that these six fell into line during 1888, so that we can now say that English is taught in every Public School in the counties.

"Yours truly,

"W. J. SUMMERBY.

"CURRAN, 25th February, 1889.

"SIR,—Last year according as I made my first visits I insisted on all the teachers that they had to teach English, and also explained to trustees and parents the necessity of having it taught. The result is that I now have the pleasure of stating that English is taught in all the schools more or less.

"Your obedient servant,

"O. DUFORT,

"Assistant I. P. S.

The statements of the Inspectors were confirmed by the Commissioners, as the following extracts will show:

"I. That some English is taught in every school.

"II. That the Ontario Readers have been introduced into every school.

"III. That the pupils are usually well supplied with English reading books.