

Esq., A. M., retired at the beginning of the year. The Trustees found some difficulty in supplying his place as his withdrawal was unexpected at that time. He has been succeeded by Mr. Robert McLellan who occupied a subordinate situation for some years. Though this young gentleman has not been ambitious of honorary titles and has never sought them, he is earning for himself the reputation of a devoted, successful Classical teacher, and has fully maintained, if not enhanced the efficiency of the institution since he assumed the duties. The attendance though not so large as in some former sessions, was respectable. New Glasgow High School under the charge of Mr. McLean continues to do a good work. This gentleman, like Mr. McLellan, allows his work to speak for him, and has never sought honorary titles, being contented with a grade B. One of his pupils won a scholarship in Dalhousie College last year, and another this year. One, Mr. Howard Murray, obtained a grade A license at the last Teachers' Examination, having made a total average of 79.19. The average on each of his classical papers was higher than this. Four others (3 young ladies and 1 young man) obtained grade B, having made averages varying from 61.02 to 75.94. The River John High School Department has at length obtained the status of a High School under the judicious and efficient management of Messrs. Rogers and Jas. H. Forbes, successively.

The following table will give a clear view of the work performed in the Academy and the High and Preparatory Departments of our Graded Schools:—

	Nat. Phil.	Botany.	Nat.	Algebra.	Geom.	Latin.	Greek.	French.	German.
Pictou Academy.....	20	18	15	61	61	41	7	30	8
“ “ Preparatory Sch'l	...	...	...	61	61	...	...	...	...
Total.....	20	18	15	122	122	41	7	30	8
New Glasgow High School.....	72	...	7	72	72	30	10	50	...
“ “ Preparatory Sch'l.	...	...	...	58	58	4	...	12	...
Total.....	72	...	7	130	134	34	10	62	...
River John.....	...	59	2	16	10	11	4	...	...
Stellarton.....	...	...	4	22	26	14	4	22	...
Westville.....	...	...	...	5	8	2	...	...	...
Albion Mines.....	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...
Total.....	92	77	28	209	300	102	25	114	8

Several of the teachers in rural sections give instruction in Latin, Greek, French and Practical Mathematics, as well as Algebra and Geometry.

These schools do a good work in preparing the young people for the Academy, and should be encouraged. Many however object to the teaching of these branches at all in our public schools, as too much of the teacher's time is taken therewith, and thereby detracted from the general interests of the school.

As mentioned in a former report, I consider the establishment of a few such schools, and the granting them an increased allowance, worthy of serious consideration.

Trustees, Visitation, &c.—I am sorry that Trustees undervalue the importance of visitation, and in many cases ignore the requirements of the law entirely in this respect. There are many instances of persons holding the office for three years and never entering the school during that time. Had Inspectors the power to enforce the penalty prescribed for neglect of duty it might have been exercised with advantage to the schools. Members of a community