

### Editorial Notices.

**PROVINCIAL SCHOOL OF ART OR PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE.**—The valuable paper of Mr. HIND on this subject, (to which we referred in our last number) will be found on a previous page; and we hope the subject of it will engage the attention of the Legislature before the close of the present Session. After the establishment of such a Provincial Institution, it would soon be easy to establish an elementary branch of it in each County or District Town of Upper Canada.

**TEACHERS FROM THE NORMAL SCHOOL.**—The Superintendent of Common Schools in the London District writes:—"Those of our Teachers who have attended the Normal School are highly popular, and, in their increased efficiency, furnish very plain evidence of the usefulness of that Institution."—This is in harmony with what is expressed elsewhere in this number by the Superintendents of Common Schools in the Brock and Talbot Districts, and in accordance indeed with what we hear from all parts where Teachers from the Normal School are employed. There may, however, be exceptions; and to prevent an undue responsibility being attached to the Normal School in regard to any such exceptions, we may remark that a mere certificate of attendance which may have been given to any student who has attended the Normal School, was never intended as a certificate of qualifications, UNLESS SO MENTIONED IN SUCH CERTIFICATE, but only an acknowledgment of the good character and conduct of the party concerned while attending the Normal School.

**IRISH NATIONAL SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL-BOOKS.**—A Dublin correspondent of the *New-York Observer* says—"The National Education Board's Model and Training Schools for Teachers are unsurpassed in Britain; from them the Schools, educating half-a-million of pupils, are supplied with Teachers; and their School-books are used in Scotland, and are about to be introduced into the National Schools of England."

The National School-books of the Dublin Board of Education have been recommended by Her Majesty's Privy Council Committee on Education—another good endorsement of the judgment and proceedings of the Board of Education for Upper Canada in regard to these excellent books.

**SCHOOL INSTRUCTION IN THE NIAGARA DISTRICT.**—In a letter from a friend in the Niagara District, dated the 6th March, it is stated—"The Niagara District will continue to do its duty with regard to Education. We have now almost  $\frac{1}{3}$  of our children of school age enjoying instruction in the public and private Schools; and I think this year we will increase the attendance to nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$ . We will have another School Celebration in September, which, I trust, will altogether eclipse the former one."

It is for the people concerned to say whether the District of Niagara shall not be equalled or excelled by every other District in Upper Canada.

**SCHOOL ARCHITECTURE.**—We hope that every Trustee, Teacher, Parent, and Friend of Educational Improvement, will read the paper which is concluded in this number on School Architecture,—the usefulness of which, we have thought, would be impaired by dividing it. Plans of School-houses will follow.

THE EDUCATIONAL REPORTS for Upper and Lower Canada have been laid before the House of Assembly, and have been ordered to be printed—the former on motion of J. C. MORRISON, Esq., the latter on motion of the Hon. Mr. LAFONTAINE.

We are happy to find by the following remarks of the *Montreal Witness* of the 12th inst., that the Editor of that paper is at length yielding to the force of evidence on the subject of *Free Schools*—notwithstanding his intimation of a contrary opinion in allusion to the *Journal of Education* for April, 1848. We are persuaded that the system which we have sought for the last three years to introduce into Upper Canada will soon be as generally entertained here as it now is in Massachusetts and other Eastern States.

**COMMON SCHOOLS OF MASSACHUSETTS.**—The Common Schools of Massachusetts are now brought to a wonderful degree of perfection, and are all free, in the fullest sense of the term. They are without charge, and the children of the highest and the lowest in Society meet upon an equality in them. A friend, who recently witnessed an examination of one of those Free Common Schools in Boston, speaks in the highest terms of the very superior description of education conferred in them. Indeed, so excellent is it, that wealthy persons were taking their children from superior and select schools, and sending them to the Free Common Schools, on account of the superiority of the latter. It is worthy of remark, however, that the Head-Master of the School in question had a salary of \$1500, and deserved it. These Free Schools are now generally considered by Americans, we believe, to be a great means of uniting all classes of the community in one common affection for their country and each other."

**PROVINCIAL NORMAL SCHOOL.**—The next Semi-annual Public Examination of the Provincial Normal School will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 10th, 11th, and 12th of April. The Summer Session of the School will commence on Tuesday, the 15th of May. All candidates must present themselves during the first week of the Session.

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