

HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

DRAWING AND PAINTING.

At a meeting of the Council of the Agriculture and Arts Association, Jas. Mills, Esq., M.A., Principal of the Guelph Agricultural College, introduced the question of giving, at the Provincial Exhibitions, special prizes for drawing in High Schools and Collegiate Institutes. The following prizes to be offered at the next exhibition, will shew to what extent his efforts in our behalf have been successful:

Pencil Drawing, 1st.....	\$4 00
“ “ 2nd.....	2 00
Crayon, plain, 1st.....	4 00
“ “ 2nd.....	2 00
Crayon, coloured, 1st.....	4 00
“ “ 2nd.....	2 00
Oil Painting (any subject), 1st..	5 00
“ “ 2nd..	3 00

These prizes are open only to pupils of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, for work done while in attendance at said schools. The idea is a good one. We hope that this is only a beginning, and that the response from our schools will justify the Council in shewing more liberality. The omission of prizes for water-colours is remarkable. In few, if any, of our schools is painting in oils taught, while in several at least there are good classes in water-colours.

School productions in oils can be only daubs at best, and, if no absolute standard has been set up, the \$8 devoted to this part of the scheme might be applied with more effect elsewhere. When on this subject we may remark that the Ontario Society of Artists, a Provincial body, and one receiving aid from the Provincial Treasury, offers prizes also, but confines the competition to the Toronto schools. That it offers these prizes was one of the grounds on which it

claimed a larger legislative grant. It is only fair that students from all parts of the Province should be allowed to compete for these exhibitions, and it would be to the advantage of the Society itself to adopt this course.

THE NEW REGULATIONS.

I. The revised regulations referring to First Class Certificates, so far as they refer to University equivalents, meet with our full approval. For some such scheme we have contended from the first. As we have shewn, the beneficial results will be felt throughout our School system. The mere existence of such options will induce many a teacher to take a University course who, a few years ago, would have scarcely dreamt of such a venture. It is a matter of common remark, amongst those masters who are in a position to observe the results, that the recruits for University classes even now are more largely from amongst teachers than they used to be; and the University class lists shew that they are generally the most promising of its students. Every possible inducement should be held out to the Public School Master to avail himself of the advantages of our National University. The benefit to the professor will be manifold, while that conferred on the community at large will be of inestimable value. In view, too, of the increasing number of grown-up young men and women who desire to obtain the University *imprimatur* for their attainments, we hope to see a cancellation of two University Regulations which to us seem uncalled for and inexpedient. One of these limits the age of those eligible for Junior Matriculation Scholarships, and the other makes it necessary for the winner of a