

would, by the above plan, be much reduced, since the number of covers and bindings would be less, and less space would be used for useless prefaces and baneful explanations.

C. GORMLEY.

River John, Oct. 16th, 1893.

AN INQUIRY.—Since our provincial examination is now a purely high school examination, why should it not be held in every high school employing a Grade A teacher, with the required number of high school pupils?

C. G.

For the Review.]

Halifax Academy.

Perhaps the best test of the work done in our academies and high schools is that afforded by the provincial examination held annually in July. That the work done in the Halifax Academy is being raised to a much higher standard than formally may be clearly seen by referring to the last number of the *Journal of Education* just issued, and to previous reports. The record achieved by the academy this year not only eclipses its previous best, but leaves far behind the best that has ever been done by any academy or high school in the province.

As a result of the provincial examination held last July, four of its pupils were awarded Grade A certificates, two in the classical section and two in the scientific. Twenty-nine were awarded Grade B certificates. Thirty-five were awarded Grade C certificates. Seventy-four were awarded Grade D certificates. In all one hundred and forty-two pupils of the academy received government certificates of some grade, and less than nine per cent of those who tried failed to get a certificate. If from this list the Grade A's were struck out altogether, this would still leave more than twice the showing made by any other institution in the province.

One pupil has matriculated into the university of Mount Allison. Quite a number has passed the ordinary matriculation at Dalhousie. Six scholarships were awarded there by competitive examination. Only two pupils of the academy entered into this competition—one from the A, the other from the B class, and both were successful in winning scholarships; the A student who in the aggregate of marks made at the provincial examination, stood sixth among the pupils of the academy, coming in second in the examination at Dalhousie. The other four scholarships were divided up among four different institutions. Another pupil of the B class entered the competition in the matriculation examination at Kings College and took third place, entitling him to a scholarship. Five pupils of the academy passed directly into the second year class at Dalhousie

College. Fourteen pupils presented themselves at the "Minimum Professional Qualification" examination, and all were successful in obtaining diplomas of the highest grades; one-third of all the diplomas of the highest rank issued in the province falling to students of the academy.

Besides these successes which have all been gained by students directly from the academy, exhibition bursaries aggregating close on to a thousand dollars have been won this autumn by students who have left either last year or the year before.

To sum up briefly some of the points in the foregoing: 1. Of all the "Minimum Professional Qualification" diplomas of the first rank issued in the province, the Halifax Academy has taken one-third, and twice as many as any other institution. 2. Of Grade A's, the academy has passed two-fifths of all in the province, passing more than any other institution in the province, all the universities included. Of Grade B's, it has passed nearly, if not quite three times as many, as any other institution. 4. Of the entrance scholarships at Dalhousie College, it has taken twice as many as any other. 5. Of students entering the second year at Dalhousie College, it has passed five times as many as any other. 6. In the total result of the provincial examination, it has completely distanced all other institutions.

COM.

A Talk on Current Events.

TEACHER.—We have now a few moments to devote to current events. I would like to hear from those who have read items of importance: we must be lively, for the time is short.

JOHN.—I saw in *Our Times* a picture and a description of the Viking ship. This ship was only 71 feet long; it was so small that it was a wonder that men could be induced to go to sea at all in such a vessel.

T.—They did not build ships as large then as they do now. You remember that the largest vessel Columbus had on his first voyage was considerably less than a hundred feet in length and his ships were clumsy looking affairs compared with some of those we have now. Is it any wonder that the fifteenth century navigators scarcely dared to go outside of land? Who found something else of interest?

WILLIAM.—The Behring sea case has been settled in a way that does not entirely satisfy either country, but the seals will be protected and that is a good point.

T.—How much better it is for nations to settle disputes in that way than to go to war as they did, and as they do now too often. It is to be hoped that the time will soon come when all international questions will be settled by arbitration. Will some one give another item?