

schools, poor schools and separate schools, altogether representing ninety-six per cent. of the population, in 1892 was \$273,293 or 56 cents per pupil; while the cost of education per pupil was \$8.40, and the average salary of the public school male teacher was \$421. On the other hand, the grants to high schools and collegiate institutes in the same year was 100,000 or \$4.38 per pupil enrolled, while the cost of education was \$30.48 per pupil and the average salary of teachers was \$904.

A hint of the real reason for this disproportionate expenditure may be gathered from a remark of the Minister on page 28 of his report, where he says: "The High Schools and Institutes train, annually, about 1,200 teachers for Public Schools. This gives an importance to their existence perhaps even greater than is attached to any other of their many useful functions." In this connection we would refer the reader to an excellent paper written by Mr. McMillan, of Toronto, entitled "Defects in our Public School System" read before the annual convention of the Ontario Educational Association last year, in which he says: "What becomes of this large army of recruits? For the fifteen years already mentioned (1867 to 1892) the total increase of teachers in actual service was 1,868 or a yearly output of 125. To supply this increase of 125 we have the annual output of the Model Schools, numbering, on the average, 1,200. May we ask why 1,200 new teachers are annually required to fill 125 positions? The death rate among teachers, we are informed, is not higher than the average."

Let us think for a moment what this means! A parent certainly may reasonably expect that his child should receive the best possible training at the Public School, and have there a thorough training, at any rate, in reading, writing and arithmetic. But no! The elementary course of the Public Schools, where the masses receive their education, is cut short and left incomplete, with the express object, apparently, that the pupils may be led on to the High Schools, to