

ages enumerated, he pays respectively £1 9s., £2 7s., and £4 1s. 8d.

In return for these annual payments a male teacher, if he retires at the age of 60 years, will receive an annual pension of £22 if of the third-class; £29 if of the second-class; and £53 if of the first-class. The highest pension paid is to those who remain teaching till they are sixty-five years of age, when the amounts for each class are £35, £46, and £88 respectively. On the other hand the lowest pension paid is when a teacher retires at fifty-five years of age; the respective amounts then are £15, £19, and £34.

Female teachers have to pay a higher premium, but they may retire on a pension any time between fifty and sixty years of age—the pensions for the three classes at the former age being £12, £16, and £28 respectively, and at the latter age £25, £34, and £60.

Provision is made for granting gratuities to disabled teachers. If a teacher withdraws from the profession previous to the time when he would be entitled to a pension the amount of his subscriptions is returned to him. A teacher if he choose may be a subscriber to a class lower than his own, but then he will be entitled only to the pension of the class to which he subscribes.

BRITISH WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

By the act passed by the Imperial Parliament which came into operation the first day of this year the perch consists of 22 yards, not $5\frac{1}{2}$ yards as heretofore, and ten perches or 220 yards make a furlong. It will thus be seen that the perch is made identical in length with the Gunter's chain. As the acre still consists of 4,840 yards, ten of the new perches squared make this up; the rood is still one-fourth of the acre or 1,210 square yards.

The following is the new Avoirdupois weight:—

16 drams make 1 ounce,
16 ounces or 7,000 grains make 1 pound,
14 pounds make 1 stone,
8 stone or 112 lbs. make 1 hundred-weight,
20 hundred-weight 1 ton.

All articles sold by weight are to be sold by this weight except—1. Gold, silver, platinum, and precious stones, which may be sold by the ounce Troy which is still to consist of 480 grains, or by any decimal part of such ounce. 2. Drugs, which may be sold in retail by Apothecaries' weight.

The gallon is to be the unit of measure, and shall contain ten pounds of pure distilled water at a temperature of 62° Fahr., and with the barometer at 30 inches. The metric system as heretofore continues legal, but its use is optional.

CONTRIBUTORS' DEPARTMENT.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Teacher.—There will be no "Intermediate" Examination in December.

Yes, there will be an Examination for entrance into the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes in December next.

We have so far been unable to find out what is to be the course of study prescribed for First-Class Teachers to be examined on next July. We hope to give full information on this point in our next issue.

We cannot answer the question, "Why Queen Victoria was made Empress of India?"

It was an act of Beaconsfieldian wizardry. The assumption of the title does not enlarge her authority.

Goderich.—The "clever couplet" on mind and matter you enquire the source of, appeared in *Punch* some ten years ago. Correctly it is as follows:

"What is mind? no matter.
What is matter? never mind."

Truro, N.S.—Deschanel's Natural Philosophy has been translated by Prof. Everett, of Queen's College, Belfast. Blackie & Son are the publishers. The translator has in-