

In the last inspector's report, Bowmanville is recommended to provide a new High School building for its already efficient school.

The Haldimand County Board has adopted resolutions to the effect that the County Inspector shall not recommend to the Minister of Education the extension of any third-class certificates unless the holder first undergoes the prescribed examination and obtains the requisite number of marks; and that the third-class subjects ought to be arranged in the following groups:—(1.) Arithmetic; Algebra and Euclid; (2.) Grammar, Dictation and Composition; and (3.) Geography, History and English Literature, with a minimum of 30 per cent. for each subject, 40 per cent. for each group, and 50 per cent. in the aggregate.

The Peel County Board of Examiners has adopted resolutions dispensing with attendance at Model Schools in the case of those who passed the recent third-class examination in addition to having certificates from other counties endorsed by the Inspector; granting assistants' certificates to those candidates who failed to obtain the requisite number of marks on all the test subjects, and yet obtained the necessary aggregate percentage; recommending intending candidates, in view of the increasing difficulty of the examinations, to spend a year or two at some High School; and calling the attention of the Minister of Education to the unnecessary severity of the Algebra examination for third-class.

*Victoria County.* J. H. Knight and H. Reazin, P. S. Inspectors. Continued progress has been made in the erection of substantial school houses, in the construction of which we are pleased to notice that much attention is being paid to the subjects of ventilation, lighting, heating and other matters relating to the health and comfort of the children. There are now in the county, brick school houses, 53; frame school houses, 41; log school houses, 41.

All the school sections in Ops have now good school houses, and this will also be the case in Fenelon by the end of the present year.

As a proof of the improved work done in our public schools, we have only to refer to the largely increasing numbers of well prepared candidates coming up from year to year from those schools to take the various examinations, which are now much more difficult than they were formerly. Some of our public school teachers are even now aiming to prepare students for the Intermediate Examination held in the High Schools—an examination that is equivalent to that for Second Class Provincial certificates—an ambition which we do not feel disposed to encourage, as this is work that can be more efficiently done by our High Schools. And there is a fear that work of this kind in our public schools may lead to the neglect of more legitimate public school work.

We are glad to notice also an increasing demand for teachers of the higher classes, and a willingness on the part of trustees to pay liberally for the services of such teachers. The highest salary paid to any public school teacher in the county is \$700, and is still paid by the village of Bracebridge.

At the close of the year there were in the county six first-class teachers, being an increase of three over the previous year; 29 second-class teachers, an increase of 4; 105 third-class teachers, an increase of 9; and 11 interim teachers, a decrease of 13.

**ROMAN CATHOLIC TEACHERS' CONVENTION.**—A convention of the Roman Catholic Teachers of Ontario was held at Hamilton on the 23rd and 24th of July. There was a goodly attendance of teachers from all parts of the province. Mr. O'Hagan, of Trenton, occupied the chair. It was resolved to establish a journal devoted to the interests of Separate Schools; also to form sub-associations and libraries and reading rooms at various localities. The committee on School Law drew up a number of resolutions which, if passed, will give the Separate Schools a fair opportunity to flourish in this province. The evening session was particularly interesting. It was opened by the Rev. Mr. Brennan, who occupied the chair, delivering a very excellent address on Catholic education. Mr. T. O'Hagan followed with a very fine essay entitled "The Wants of the Separate Schools." Mr. C. Donovan then delivered a very interesting address on the Object and History of the Separate Schools in Ontario. Miss Walsh followed with a beautiful essay on Reading. Mr. G. Gfroerer's address on School Law brought the evening session to a close. The following are the officers of the Association:—President, Thomas O'Hagan, Trenton; First Vice-President, C. Donovan; Second Vice-President, Thomas Swift; Third Vice-President, Miss Walsh, Hamilton; Cor. Secretary, J. F. White, Trenton; Assistant Secretary, Miss S. A. Byrne, Hamilton; Recording Secretary, P. Smith, Dundas; Treasurer, Jas. McEntee, Peterboro; Board of Directors: Messrs. Kearney, Mullen, S. Gfroerer, Maloney, Donovan, and Misses O'Grady, C. Ballantyne, McCowell and Lynch, with the President and Secretary, *ex officio*.

## QUÉBEC.

**THE MCGILL UNIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR THE SESSION OF 1878-79.**—This is a thick 8vo pamphlet of 148 pages, and with the examination papers a bound volume of considerable size, and the matter which it contains is condensed in such a manner as to give the greatest possible amount of information in the least possible space. The advantages which the City of Montreal, and the McGill University in particular, offer to intending students are well worthy of their consideration, and we would commend this calendar to their study. The Faculty of Arts, with its four years' course of Literature and Science, stands much as in previous years, with some minor improvements in text-books and in arrangement of subjects. Nine exhibitions, and scholarships of the value of \$100 to \$125, are offered for competition in the matriculation examinations of September, 1878. The new Faculty of Applied Science, until this year a department in the Faculty of Arts, presents a four years' course of study, leading to the professions of civil engineering, mechanical engineering, mining engineering, and practical chemistry. These courses are fully set forth in detail and seem very complete. The Medical Faculty, now very fully and ably officered, gives more completely than heretofore the details of its course of study, along with the specialties provided for in its summer courses. Great attention is now given in this Faculty to Histology and to Clinical Demonstrations, and courses in Hygiene and Ophthalmology and Otology have been added. In the Faculty of Law the course stands as in former years; but new arrangements have been made to insure more full courses of lectures and a higher standard of examination. The McGill Normal School will commence the 26th session of its useful work next autumn; and as usual offers a thorough training free of expense to all intending teachers. The Calendar may be obtained on application to the secretary of the University.

## REVIEWS.

**GERMAN LETTERS ON ENGLISH EDUCATION.** By Dr. L. Wiese. London: Wm. Collins, Sons, & Co.; \$1.50.

Dr. Wiese was a prominent educator in Prussia for over fifty years. For twenty years he was Privy Councillor in the Ministry of Public Instruction. No one is therefore better acquainted with the system of his own country. In 1876 he visited England and Scotland, and carefully examined the leading High and Public Schools in both countries. This work gives his impressions, criticisms, and comparisons with the Prussian system. The whole of the leading features of the English system are discussed intelligently. Much is approved, some leading features are regarded as defects. Special attention is called to two fundamental defects, one positive the other negative: the system of examinations, and the lack of professional training on the part of teachers. The book is a most valuable one.

**THE YEAR BOOK OF EDUCATION.** By Kiddle and Schem. New York: E. Steiger; \$2.

This is a continuation of "The Cyclopædia of Education," published by Mr. Steiger. It contains classified information on all educational topics; giving the progress made during 1877. The appendices are very valuable. "The Cyclopædia" and the "Year Book," which is to be published annually, form a fine educational library in themselves.

**ELEMENTS OF RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION.** By Professor Hill, *Lewisburg University*. New York: Sheldon & Co., 8 Murray St.; 85 cents. A very full and exhaustive work; designed to teach how to arrange thought, and give expression to it in correct English. The arrangement of the work is good. The author censures the use of some words in almost universal use.

**GRADED LESSONS IN ENGLISH, AND HIGHER LESSONS IN ENGLISH.** By Professors Reid and Kellogg, *Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute*. New York: Clarke & Maynard. Price for introduction, 80 and 50 cents respectively.