

taken from one to the other, and the discipline of both schools most seriously affected. It would be far better were the Council of Public Instruction authorized to arrange programmes for the schools of the Province, whereby the primary object of the Public School would be to give an English education, and the primary object of the High School to teach the classics. Parents would not then, as now, have a divided opinion as to the best place to educate their children, and the evil spoken of by the High School Inspectors, viz., that "too many subjects and too many classes are carried on concurrently," would then be removed from the High Schools.

#### 2ND.—UNION BOARDS.

The law prescribes that no more unions between High and Public School boards shall take place. At the same time it does not interfere with existing unions. Then the sixty-six union boards in the Province have the facilities within themselves of transferring their fifth and sixth classes from the Public Schools and filling their High Schools readily; while those places which were not fortunate enough to secure a union of boards before the law prohibited it, but have separate boards elected to keep the standard of their respective schools as high as possible—the forty-two places that are thus situated must either elect trustees for their Public Schools, who will hand over the pupils of their highest divisions to High School control, in order that they may have the best material to assist them in securing as much of the already celebrated \$10,000 grant as possible—in order that they may have the opportunity of securing the \$60 per pupil for those who pass the "intermediate examination," or sacrifice largely their pecuniary interests. I say \$60 per pupil. It may be asked how I obtain this. In the High School Inspectors' suggestions I find \$14,600 to be distributed on the results of an intermediate examination. They also assume as the maximum number of pupils in the "upper school" 240. This gives over \$60 apiece. A large grant truly to be distributed by three men to the schools; but certainly an improvement on the old order of things, when every inducement was offered for transferring fifth and sixth classes over to the care of monitors and pupil teachers, and no inducement offered to High School teachers to bring their pupils above a certain standard after getting them. As for the \$10,000, report has it that the High School Inspectors "suggested" that they have a much larger sum. In my humble opinion they have \$10,000 too much. Objection was taken yesterday to the third-class teachers' incubus that is weighing down the Public School system. Need we wonder at this when we consider that, by prescribing the English course in the High Schools, those are made into Normal Schools for the special preparation of third-class teachers? Again, in 1873, Toronto had 1,241 pupils in the fifth class and 270 in the sixth; Ottawa, 128 in fifth and 57 in sixth; Hamilton, 17 and 0; London, 169 and 0; and Kingston, 153 and 157 in fifth and sixth classes, respectively. Of these Hamilton and London had union boards, and had 186 pupils in their fifth and sixth classes, while they had 580 pupils in attendance at their High Schools; and this number has been since augmented, so that Hamilton alone had within the last year an attendance of over 400 under so-called High School training. The other three—Ottawa, Toronto and