

"It is a generally conceded fact that female teachers, as a rule, possess greater aptitude for communicating knowledge, and are usually better disciplinarians, especially among young children, than males. Woman's mission is pre-eminently that of an educator. Her softening, refining, and elevating influence contributes largely to success in the school-room. Patient and painstaking, she rules through the affections; her authority being thus based upon love, this trait of character is reciprocated by those with whom she comes in contact. 'It is the general opinion,' says Dr. Ryerson, 'that female teachers are best adapted to teach small children, having as a general rule most heart, most tender feelings, most assiduity, and in the order of Providence the qualities best suited for the care, instruction, and government of infancy and childhood.' Female teachers are largely in the majority in nearly all the States of the neighbouring Republic. They number about four-fifths of the more than 28,000 teachers employed in the State of New York, while in Connecticut they number two-thirds. In the Eastern Provinces and Great Britain the proportion of female to male teachers is rapidly increasing. The existence of a little unfounded prejudice in some of our districts against female teachers, has induced me to go more into detail here than I otherwise should have done. I feel no hesitancy in stating, therefore, that Trustees would advance the best interests of the rising generation by securing the services of efficient female teachers whenever and wherever they can be obtained."

In the Winter term of 1873, there were 377 female teachers holding licenses of grade C. In the Summer term, the number of the same grade was 430. The number of those holding grade D.—female 2nd class—was, for the Winter term, 266, and for the Summer term, 336; whilst of the third, or lowest grade, there were engaged, during the Winter term, 159, and for the Summer term, 278, being a total increase over the corresponding terms of the preceding year of 69 for the Winter and 60 for the Summer Term. I cannot omit, whilst on this point, inviting particular attention to the following paragraph in the excellent Report of the Inspector for Pictou, who, in reference to third-class teachers, expresses the following very decided opinion:—

"I would repeat my conviction that the continuance of the Third Class of Teachers is most detrimental to the interests of the country, at all events to Pictou County. It keeps the instruction (if any) imparted at a very low standard, and induces a very low estimate of education on the part of the people. If the longer continuance of this grade is deemed necessary for other parts of the province, limit them to one year's service. Any young person that lacks either the ability to qualify himself or herself, or the ambition to rise higher, should be excluded from the profession. So long as