

SCHOOL CONTRACTS.

Much misconception exists among teachers and trustees regarding that clause in the teachers' contract relating to the time of notification and much trouble often arises in consequence. The dispute usually arises over the clause, "and it is mutually agreed that this contract shall continue from school year to school year (Dec. 31 ends) unless notice in writing of an intention to terminate the same shall be given by either of the parties hereto one month before the date specified in the foregoing clause. Second, or failing such notice, then one month before the time to which the same is continued by this clause."

Suppose a teacher hires for six months on July 1st and is not notified at the end of the term. She continues to teach until the end of the follow June. Can she be legally notified to leave at that time? Certainly not. Her contract is valid until Dec. 31st following, and she can only be legally notified one month before that time, so long as the same agreement exists.

Much carelessness is displayed in not having the agreements sealed. Unless this is done the contract will not stand law.

We would warn teachers again who hire after the beginning of the term not to hire by the month. If they make the calculation they will find that four months salary, from Sept. 1st say, would be only two-thirds of the term's pay, while counting by days it would be about four-fifths of a term's salary; e. g., suppose there are 100 days in the term and twenty teaching days in each month, reckoning this way the teacher should get four-fifths of a term's pay. This is the way trustees are paid by government and is the way they should pay their teachers.

TONIC SOL-FA IN NOVA SCOTIA.

No act of the Council of Public Instruction has apparently laid the foundation of such great results from a small outlay as the flying mission of Mr. Anderson through the counties of Nova Scotia, to introduce the new musical notation to the attention of the leading teachers in the Province. We find fault with only one feature in the arrangement. Instead of half a year, Mr. Anderson should have been kept at work for a whole year at the very least. In Pictou County, for instance, there was no time to go to New Glasgow—a larger community than most of our county towns, as are also the neighboring towns, Stellarton and Westville. These, with River John and other populous centres, would take as much time and give as great results as the county towns in

two or three other counties. And what applies to Pictou County applies to several other centres of population in the Province. Mr. Anderson should be employed for another year, and local institutes called for a portion of a week in every important quarter of each county to give every teacher an opportunity of receiving practical instruction in this simple notation; and the following year the law should require instruction to be given in music in every school and a definite amount should be prescribed for each grade. At the end of the common school course easy music should be sung off at sight—as a newspaper can be read at sight. Music, when properly taught, does not add burdens to the schoolroom labor. On the contrary, it tends to relieve the ordinary tension and gives an invaluable form of physical exercise.

We have much pleasure in giving here a list of Tonic Sol-fa Elementary and Intermediate certificates since November, 1890 in Nova Scotia.

LIST OF TONIC SOL-FA ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATES.

Miss E. W. Poole,	Truro,	El.
Prin. H. S. Freeman,	Amherst,	"
Miss Ada Travis,	"	Int.
Prin. A. McArthur,	Pictou,	"
Prin. P. Fraser,	"	"
Miss Sarah Logan,	"	"
Miss Lena Zuline Pugh,	Springhill,	"
Miss Maggie Dimock,	Lunenburg,	"
Miss Nellie Mattson,	"	"
Miss Mary G. Vans,	Bridgewater,	Int.
Miss Annie Crouse,	"	Int.
Miss Ada Jean,	"	"
Miss Aggie M. Hamilton,	"	"
Miss Mary Bowers,	"	"
Mr. J. D. Sprague,	Liverpool,	"
Miss E. P. Phelan,	"	"
Miss Jennie E. Mullins,	"	"
Miss Teresa Daniels,	"	"
Miss Mille King,	"	"
Miss Annie Hemeon,	"	"
Miss Blanche Harrington,	"	"
Miss Fanny Dunlap,	"	"
Prin. Fred. S. L. Ford,	Milton, Queens,	"
Miss M. J. Freeman,	"	Int.
Miss Maggie Smith,	"	"
Miss Ethel V. McAlpine,	Lockport,	"
Miss Maude Churchill,	"	"
Prin. C. S. Brace,	Shelburne,	"
Miss Emma McAlpine,	"	"
Miss Abis Ellis,	"	"
Miss Belle Martin,	"	"
Miss Gertie Brown,	"	"
Miss Jessie Purney,	"	"
Miss Maggie Burns,	"	"
Miss Amy B. Hilton,	Yarmouth,	Int.
Mr. S. A. Starrat,	"	"
Miss A. Forbes,	"	"
Miss Maggie Archibald,	"	"