

School; and I am of opinion unless this course be adopted, our expectation to see our schools rise much above their present standing, will be disappointed. The question is often started, in my own mind, why a Normal School was ever established in Nova Scotia, if professional is not requisite—is not a necessity? Teaching is an art to be learned by apprenticeship, like any other art, and a special training for the business of teaching, is as indispensable as for any other pursuit or profession; and the time is not very distant when intelligent parents would think it no less absurd to place their children in charge of a teacher who had not been trained in the principles and methods of instruction, than to employ a surgeon who had never made himself acquainted with the science of human anatomy. Every man's reflection and experience will satisfy him that the teacher's duty is important, complicated and arduous. It is not a mere piece of job work, to which any broken down man can turn his hand, but a profession, or calling, which requires knowledge, judgment and experience. The natural conclusion to which I have come in this matter, is, our system of licensing teachers needs to be very much modified. It has frequently occurred to me, that the examination should be partly oral and partly written, and more time should be given to it than at present; and in no case should a candidate receive license who had not demonstrated, by actual practice, in presence of the professors of the Training School, his ability to teach with good effect. I am of the opinion that the license should express the ability to teach as well as the knowledge of the teachers, and the law should provide that all teachers of the same qualification shall receive the same remuneration for the first year's service; and an annual advance for excellence manifested in teaching and school management. There are in this County two teachers to each school; many of these, having made preparation at little expense, in the schools in their own Sections, will keep school for a very small sum in addition to the Government Allowance. This is effectually driving a large number of our best teachers from the profession. By increasing the requirements of teachers, those who do not intend to make teaching a business, will drop from the ranks; and by increasing their pay, and establishing a scale of salaries by law, the best talent may be retained in the work.

Table V. shows the *highest* and *lowest* salaries paid to the teachers per term, and the average rate for both the Winter and Summer Term of the past year in Kings County:

TABLE V.

MAXIMUM.

Grade.	B.	C.	D.	E.
From Section.....	\$287 50	\$175 00	\$150 00	\$60 00
Govt. Grant.....	60 00	45 00	30 00	22 50
Total.....	347 50	220 00	180 00	82 50