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* Editorial Notes. *

ACCORDING to the report of the Minister of Education, just submitted to the Legislature, the school population of the Province of Ontario in 1890 was: boys, 259,519; girls, 237,046; total, 496,565. The figures for 1889 were 263,047, 237,768 and 500,815 respectively.

THE number of High Schools in the Province has risen to 120, and that of Collegiate Institutes to thirty-one. The largest of the latter is the Hamilton, with 677 names on the register. Next in order are Jarvis Street, Toronto; Jamieson Avenue, Toronto; London, and Owen Sound, with 634, 454, 441 and 423 respectively.

FEMALE still continue to gain on male teachers, being now sixty-seven per cent. of the whole number. While salaries in cities and towns have gone up considerably, in the rural districts there is not much improvement. Waterloo pays the highest average salary to male teachers, \$447; Essex leads for females with \$334; Frontenac, the lowest, \$290 for male; and Haliburton \$204 for female teachers.

THE average attendance of pupils in the rural districts was forty-seven per cent. of the registered attendance, in towns it was fifty-nine per cent., and in cities sixty-two per cent. These figures indicate a falling off as compared with those for 1889, in which the percentages were forty-seven,

sixty and sixty-four respectively. As we have not the Report before us, but are quoting from newspaper abstracts, we cannot vouch for the accuracy of the figures, nor can we say what reason, if any, is assigned for the falling off.

MANY teachers have been puzzled by the announcement that Drawing Books Nos. Five and Six have been prescribed for the next Entrance Examination. We learn, on inquiry at the Department, that No. VI. is an addition to the series, which is now in preparation. Some delay has occurred in its publication, but the examiners will be instructed to make due allowance for any disadvantage which pupils may suffer in consequence.

THE publishers of this journal (Grip Printing and Publishing Co.), request us to call the attention of our readers to the fact that they are prepared to make liberal arrangements with teachers and others for the publication of manuscript works on educational subjects. They will carefully examine all manuscripts sent them with a view to acceptance for publication by the firm. As they are making a specialty of educational publications they invite communications on the subject.

FROM the admirable and comprehensive report of the U.S. Commissioner of Education it appears that in twenty years the amount expended on the public schools in the United States has more than doubled. It is now \$140,000,000 per annum. Education now costs \$2.24 per head of population, as against \$1.56 in 1880, its cost far outrunning the gain in population. In elementary and secondary schools there are enrolled 12,688,973 pupils, forming 20.7 per cent. of the population. The Commissioner notes a relative falling off of attendance in the northern, but an immense counterbalancing gain in the southern States. It seems that the proportion of women teachers has grown from 57.2 in 1880 to 65.5 per cent. in 1890—a change nearly parallel to that which has taken place in Ontario.

THE Faculty of the Ontario College of Oratory have arranged for a special course

of lectures to be given in their College Assembly Room, No. 30 Arcade, corner Yonge and Gerrard streets. The following prominent educators are among the lecturers secured:—J.A. McLellan, M.A., LL.D., Jas. L. Hughes, Esq., T. M. Macintyre, M.A., Ph.D. and Dr. G. S. Ryerson. The first of this series of lectures was given by Dr. Ryerson, on Thursday, Feb. 25th, at 2.30 p.m. Subject—"Physiology of the Voice." Second lecture by Dr. Macintyre on Thursday, March 3rd, at 2.39 p.m. Subject—"Ethics of the English Drama." Third lecture by Jas. L. Hughes on Thursday, March 10th, at 2.30 p.m. Subject—"Self-Control in Oratory." Fourth lecture by Dr. McLellan, on Thursday, March 17th, at 2.30 p.m. Subject—"English Literature." These lectures are free to all who are interested in the subjects presented.

THE reception of the first number of the *Canadian Mute*, which is noticed in another column, reminds us of the noble and philanthropic work which is being done for a sadly afflicted class, by the excellent Institution at Belleville. Teachers have excellent opportunities for learning of the existence of deaf mutes, some of whom are, we dare say, yet to be found growing up destitute of all the blessings of light and education which may be had at this institution, and which must come as life from the dead to those who receive it. Every teacher should be familiar with the work of the Institution and should know that all deaf mutes between the ages of seven and twenty, not deficient in intellect, and free from contagious diseases, who are *bona fide* residents of the Province of Ontario, will be admitted as pupils, and that while parents, guardians or friends who are able to pay, are charged the sum of \$50 per year for board, deaf mutes whose parents, guardians or friends are unable to pay the amount charged for board will be admitted free. Clothing must be furnished by parents or friends, but tuition, books, and medical attendance are in all cases free. Teachers may often make themselves benefactors of a human soul, and earn its lasting gratitude, by pointing the way to the light which shines at Belleville and similar institutions, for those who must otherwise pass their lives in dismal darkness.