

SUMMER TERM.

	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	Total.
Males.....	2	30	16	10		58
Females.....		1	44	37	16	
“ Assistants.....			1		1	100
Total.....	2	31	61	47	17	158

In winter there were 57 males and 85 females; in summer 58 males and 100 females. This shows an increase of 16 males and an decrease of 8 females during the year; and an increase of 11 grade B, 6 grade C, and 6 grade E, with an decrease of 1 A, and 13 D.

In winter there were 13 young teachers, and in summer 9, and there were 36 others in winter and 30 in summer who had not taught in this County during the previous term. The majority of our teachers are young in years and in experience. Of those engaged in the winter term 36 had not been over 3 years in the service, and in summer there were 100: of the males 10 had taught from 5 to 7 years, and 3 upwards of 7; of the females 9 from 5 to 7, and 7 for upwards of 7 years. In winter 66 remained in the same section as in the previous term, and 30 removed; in summer 31 remained and 33 removed.

Work done:—Where there is so large a number it would be extraordinary to find all successful. There were a few entire failures, and some that succeeded but *middling* well; yet the great majority manifested skill, fidelity and perseverance, and secured success. There is of course as great diversity of tact and manner as of persons. Some are systematic and neat in everything, others energetic and active, but do their work in a loose, incomplete manner, and allow their school-room and all pertaining thereto to be untidy and confused, they are always in a hurry and, “everything in a bustle,” and yet their pupils make good progress.

All the ordinary branches have received more or less attention. Drawing, hitherto almost entirely neglected, has received increased attention, especially in the summer term. In winter there was a total of 1594, and in summer 3736 that were studying it. The total in 1875 was 1206. Of course the work yet done is purely elementary.

The greatest obstacles to success are the want of skill, and consequently the want of taste on the part of teachers; and prejudice on the part of parents and Trustees—many regard it a mere waste of time, and some have even forbidden it. This is illustrative of the old maxim: “They that know nothing fear nothing;” we get along without it and so may they.

Writing:—This continues the most unsatisfactory branch. The want of system, and of firmness on the part of teachers is the great cause. Too many have studied no system themselves, and cannot teach what they do not know; others, for fear of giving offence, take any kind of copies, or of paper the parents may provide; or, do without any, as the case may be. In some schools there are almost every variety of copies, and in some nothing but blank foolscap paper. In all cases I insist upon the teachers taking nothing but the proper article. I recommend them to choose some one of the prescribed series; and when a pupil requires a copy, to give the name and No. on a slip of paper, that the parent may know exactly what to provide. Where system in this respect is followed we find very satisfactory results.

Nova Scotia History is very generally taught to some extent. In the Statistical Table under the head “History British America,” Nova Scotia alone