

and this country, is therefore thoroughly anxious that the knowledge of the system, with its accompanying benefits should be made known as widely as possible.

SHORT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM TEACHERS.

(Under this head we will be happy to insert short articles of a suitable character, and solicit teachers to make free use of our columns.)

A SUGGESTION.—Allow me to say a few words with regard to the summer vacation. A great number of us (teachers), would like to make ourselves more thoroughly acquainted with the more difficult branches; yet we do not feel able to attend the Normal School, especially since there is but one session during the year; and besides we hesitate before we leave a good situation; under these circumstances would it not be well for some competent persons to open an academy during the summer vacations, for such teachers? Should the proper persons take hold of this I doubt not they would be well remunerated. I am aware, sir, that the objection would arise, that teachers require rest during the holidays. Notwithstanding this I must urge that there are scores of teachers in this fine Ontario of ours, who would be most happy for such an opportunity to improve themselves; they would not only get an insight into the more difficult parts of their studies, but a great deal would be learned as to the proper method of *teaching*; the mere association of teachers, while at such an academy, would be a great boon both to the teachers, and the pupils under their charge. Let some first class teachers take hold of the matter at the coming vacation and they will find among their pupils,—A TEACHER.

THIRD CLASS TEACHERS.—Third Class Teachers are not getting fair play. Why should they not, as heretofore, (that is,

before the standard was raised) be allowed to renew their certificates, provided they can pass the Board? Before the standard was raised and when nearly every third class at least, obtained a certificate, there was then no surplus of teachers, and now that only about one-third of those who apply pass the Board, I cannot think that the Province will be over-stocked with Third Class Certificates. It appears to me there are some parties, perhaps some of them teachers, who wish to work the third class out of the profession, with a view, I suppose of raising the salaries of first and second class teachers, who would then not have to compete with the third class in the school market. I hope you don't intend to patronize this scheme, but to show fair play to all. Third class teachers are best adapted for rural schools, where the majority of the pupils do not attend a sufficient length of time to prepare themselves for studying those branches exclusively taught by 1st and 2nd class professors. About one-half of the pupils in these rural schools, attend only three months in the year, these are the seniors; the juniors very irregularly for the twelve months. The foundation of the superstructure must be laid by some one, and third class teachers do this sort of work better and cheaper than first or second class professors, who deem themselves above the work; in fact they won't do the job; the *a b c* part of the programme is distasteful to them. First and second class men are indispensable in High Schools, in large schools in towns and villages, where the attendance is regular, and the time of