

and patience of the teacher; this truth too long and too coldly doubted is now penetrating everywhere."

These claims and opinions gravely put forth and no doubt fully believed in by Mr. Hirsch, so far from being sustained by facts, are refuted and proved wholly untenable by a mass of evidence too strong to be questioned for a moment.

Not a single instance was an instructor of deaf mutes met by the writer, who supported these last cited views of Mr. Hirsch, and in critical examinations of schools containing in the aggregate upwards of three thousand deaf mutes far less than fifty per cent were found succeeding with articulation.

(To be continued.)

The end of learning is to repair the ruins of our first parents, by regaining to know God aright, and out of that knowledge to love him, to imitate him, to be like him, as we may the nearest, by possessing our souls of true virtue, which being united to the heavenly grace of faith, makes up the highest perfection.—*John Milton.*

ERRATUM.—JOURNAL OF EDUCATION, p. 187, "Archibald, Harriet N., GRADE E." read GRADE C.

EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

AT HOME.

Colchester Co. competition.—The morning of the 13th did not dawn at all auspiciously. It was cold, dark and dreary; floods from above met torrents below, the weather being, if I may be pardoned the phrase, of a most pluvius east; the mud oozed in unctuous blackness through the softened ice and watery snow in Truro streets, and failure seemed certain. But young hearts are not easily discouraged. Pope or somebody else says,—

"Hope springs immortal in the human breast."

The young live in an atmosphere of beatific expectation, ever seeing the bow in the cloud. Several came 20 miles that wet morning, and some of these were well rewarded. Yet I must confess keen disappointment. A goodly number came, but more might have come. I wish that some of our teachers were more emulous. Some condemn prizes. Two answers are pertinent. Young Nova Scotia is in no danger of being hurt in this way. Again, this was not a giving of prizes to the individuals of any one school, but to the representatives of many. The following table exhibits the number of competitors from each school, and of the prizes to each:—

NO. OF PRIZES AWARDED.

	No. of competitors.	Spell'g.	Read'g.	History.	Mental Arith.	Total
Model School, High Department.	6	..	..	1	..	1
" Preparatory do.	24	1	3	4	..	8
" Intermediate do.	1	..	..	..	..	..
Bible Hill, Truro.	3	2	..	..	..	2
Cross Roads, Stewiacke.	2	..	..	..	..	..
South Branch "	6	2	..	..	..	2
Middle Stewiacke, South.	3	..	1	..	..	1
Lower Stewiacke, East.	4	..	1	..	..	1
Otter Brook "	2	..	..	..	..	..
Folly.	3	2	..	..	..	2
Great Village.	1	1	..	..	1	2
Acadian Mines.	4	..	1	..	..	1
Bass River.	2	..	..	..	1	1
Totals.	61	8	6	5	2	21

The competitors distributed themselves as follows:—Spelling, 34; Reading and Recitation, 26; History, 17; Mental Arithmetic, 11.

It was very soon evident that the prizes ought not to be given in the proposed proportions. The disparity of ratio of competitors in spelling and in other branches to the ratio of prizes, compelled a change. The competition in reading and in British history was of a much higher character and merit than that in spelling. For these reasons it was thought better to make some change.

I have already intimated that the exercises in spelling were not of so high a character as were hoped for. While there was not much difficulty in spelling the words selected from the fourth book, the defining was by no means good, exhibiting looseness and inaccuracy. Some of the pupils had evidently little or no preparation on the specific words. Of those who received prizes, some excelled in consequence of special preparation, while others succeeded rather by reason of a good acquaintance with the language generally. These latter were, in some cases, able to grapple successfully with untried difficulties. The prizes were taken in the following order:—

1. L. Carson Layton, Great Village.
2. George Faulkner, Folly.
3. William McKeen, Preparatory Department Model School.
4. Jeannie McCulloch, Bible Hill, Truro.
5. Alexander Frame, South Branch, Stewiacke.
6. Wilson Frame, " "
7. Nina Gibson, Bible Hill, Truro.
8. Artemus Fulton, Folly.

The contest for the first place was spirited and exciting, very few words being missed by either Layton or Faulkner. The former had, however, a considerable advantage in age.

The reading and recitation were highly interesting and creditable to those engaged. While there was no great difficulty in making an award, many of the unsuccessful deserved high praise. The prizes were awarded in the following order:—

1. Sarah Calkin, Preparatory Department Model School.
2. Elsie Fisher, Middle Stewiacke, South.
3. Thomas Prince, Preparatory Department Model School.
4. Sarah J. Delaney, Acadian Mines.
5. Jane Hattie, Preparatory Department Model School.
6. John Wright, Lower Stewiacke, East.

The mental arithmetic trial was comparatively a failure. I wanted that life which is generally exhibited when the exercise is conducted simultaneously. I felt tied up by the instructions to give the questions individually, a course which I would not again pursue. A few shewed great readiness, and if the questions had been more varied, would have succeeded better.

1. L. C. Layton.
2. Edward Fulton.

The work in British history was a high success. I venture the assertion that it was not excelled in the Province. Several seemed to have so studied Collier's history as to make every sentence their own. The moment the question was given, the event was related with scrupulous minuteness. The final trial in dates, called for with rapidity and without consecutive connection, was most exciting and highly interesting. The following received prizes.

1. Duncan Campbell, High Department Model School.
2. Jessie McKay, Preparatory " "
3. Thomas Prince, " " "
4. James Archibald, " " "
5. Duncan McKay, " " "

The youth of many of the successful pupils is worthy of note. Nine of them were from 9 to 12 years of age.

I must again express my regret that but 13 schools were represented. Known circumstances lead me to think that some teachers may plead ignorance as an excuse. All had equal chance of information. If any one say that he did not see the *Journal*, I leave him to the judgment of the intelligent. Rev. J. Forsythe and Mr. Calkin of the Normal College rendered valued assistance. Other gentlemen were invited but could not attend. It is to be hoped that other similar competitions may take place, and that a larger number may participate.

H. C. UPHAM, Inspector.

Pictou Co. competition.—The Competition for the Government prizes for the County of Pictou, took place on the 13th March, in our new school house. Notwithstanding the very unfavorable state of the weather, we had a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen, who took a very lively interest in the proceedings. There were fifty-four candidates for the several prizes to be competed for, from Pictou, New Glasgow, Merigomish, &c.; several teachers were also in attendance.

The contest for the prize in English history was very keenly contested. A. P. Ross, Esq., who was present at this very exciting examination, presented the defeated candidate with a prize of equal value.

The prize for reading and recitation was equally animated. As we had twenty-five prizes to award for spelling and definition, no less than forty-one candidates competed for them.

As it was getting late in the afternoon, the candidates from the rural sections were anxious to return home, leaving but two competitors for the prize in mental arithmetic. After a short examination, it was decided that this prize should be retained for the present.

No. candidates for prize in spelling and definition...	41
" " reading and recitation...	31
" " English history.....	12
" " mental arithmetic.....	2

No. of competitors.....54

No. competitors from Pictou Town.....	33
" " New Glasgow.....	14
" " Merigomish.....	2
" " Backland.....	4
" " Saltsprings.....	1

54

Master Robert Ross gained prize for reading and recitation.

Master Charles McDonald gained prize for English history.

M. T. SMITH, Inspector.

Antigonish Co. competition.—The prizes, Murdoch's History of Nova Scotia, 3 vol. qto., assigned to the most advanced pupils in the public schools in the County, were competed for in one of the halls of St. Francis Xavier's College on Friday, the 13th inst., according to arrangements made in the Education office. Pupils from Arisaig, Antigonish, South River, and the Harbor, were in attendance promptly at the hour. The Inspector, Roderick McDonald, Esq., who, we are rejoiced to notice, is fast recovering from the effects of a severe accident incurred in the discharge of his duties early in the winter, conducted the examinations. The