

have now a fair number of grade A teachers, among whom trustees of county academies and of our better class of schools will find no difficulty in selecting young men in every way able to discharge the duties they may undertake, and to make themselves a credit to the section enjoying their service. Of the 146 candidates for grade B, 82 were successful; of the 722 for grade C, 276 succeeded, and of the 692 for D, 299 were rewarded with the grade applied for; of the 318 who received grade E, very few of the number were applicants for the class they obtained. The most of the successful candidates for E were females who applied for a C or a D, and failing to make the required average were awarded an E. Objections are made to teachers holding grade E, as having a stand too low for the present state of our schools, and it is frequently suggested that it be removed altogether from the list of licensed teachers. There would be more force in all this objection if the holders of grade E had been examined for that class and had made no effort for one higher. This, however, is not the case; probably one-half of all our E teachers were examined for a C, but failing in some branch essential to that class, come down to an E. Such teachers are quite competent to take charge of a large number of our schools, and who, when employed, make excellent instructors. Teachers of this grade moreover are disposed to accept schools in poor and remote sections, as there they can command time and quietness for reviewing and preparation for another and more successful examination. In this way many a poor and remote section gets a teacher really capable of taking the pupils of a much higher school.

We think a little change may advantageously be made in the syllabus of examination. On some subjects the exercise may be a little more extended, on others made somewhat more concise. The time however for making a change is not the middle of the year, as in most cases the entire years study is arranged for during the autumn preceding the July examination, and always according to the syllabus as printed in the Manual of Education. Justice therefore requires that any change deemed necessary should be made very soon after the annual examination.

An examination of table XXI, exhibiting as it does such a large percentage of failure, will, we think, convince the careful inquirer that the questions upon which the candidates are tested are by no means too low, and when it is observed that a very large part of the whole get their license on an average that barely entitles them to the class awarded; when this is known it must be acknowledged at once, that any considerable increase in the severity of the questions would result in the defeat of almost all who apply, and that, as a consequence, our school trustees would experience difficulty in providing 1st class teachers. We are persuaded that, as yet, the questions are sufficiently severe for the general class of candidates who compete for licenses to teach.

HALIFAX CITY SCHOOLS.

The City of Halifax is sustaining 95 free public schools, under the instruction of 96 teachers, mostly of the 1st class, and at an expense of \$84,433.63. The Commissioner's Report, as printed in the Appendix, exhibits in detail, the progress of these schools for the year. From this