

The municipalities are arranged in the statistical table according to our instructions. The condition of many of them, both as regards schools and schoolhouses, has been much improved during the year, while that of others, though greatly in need, remains unchanged. In the latter class are included the outlying municipalities of Argenteuil, those in the county of Vaudreuil, St. Anicet No. II., and the dissentient municipalities of Dundee, Godmanchester and Hinchinbrooke in the county of Huntingdon.

Various methods have been tried during the past nine years, in order to assist the teachers in securing better attendance and closer application to school work ; but one after another, as the novelty wore away, became ineffectual, and therefore had to be abandoned. The plan followed for the past two years is that authorized by section 9 of article 9 of Public Instruction. I regret to have to say that the response to the call for specimens was neither so large nor so general last year as it was the year before. In comparing school with school in general proficiency, the pupils of nearly all the city schools, as shown by the examination of the 1st and 2nd intermediate classes ; those of Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Chatham No. 2 ; of Nos. 1 and 5, Lachute ; of Nos. 1 and 4, Gore ; of Nos. 1 and 4, St. Andrew ; of Nos. 2 and 6, Chatham No. 1 ; and of No. 3, Grenville No. 3, in the county of Argenteuil ; those of the schools of St. Henry and Cote St. Paul, in the county of Hochelaga ; those of Nos. 3, 5 and 6, Franklin ; of No. 5, Havelock ; of Nos. 1, 2, 5, 7, 9 and 10, Godmanchester ; of Nos. 1, 4, 5 and 9, Hinchinbrooke ; of Nos. 4 and 5, Elgin ; of Nos. 1 and 3, Hemmingford ; of Nos. 4 and 6, Dundee, in the county of Huntingdon ; those of Nos. 1, 4, 5 and 7, Ormstown ; of Nos. 1, 2 and 5, Howick ; of No. 3, Chrysostome No. 2, in the county of Châteauguay ; those of No. 5, Lacolle, in the county of St. Johns ; and those of Pointe-Fortune, in the county of Vaudreuil, take the lead, and well deserve the title of excellent.

Physiology and Hygiene and the French language are now taught in nearly all the schools whose teachers are capable of so doing.

Obtaining statistics from private schools is a precarious matter. Though the inspector is generally courteously received, seldom he is favored with the desired information at once, but is frequently put off by being asked to leave a list of what is required. These lists, with few exceptions, are never returned. Owing to the energetic measures adopted by the school commissioners of the city of Montreal in providing superior accommodation for the children under their care, the number of private schools is diminishing. If there is a spark of gratitude in man, the Premier, Mr. Mercier, should feel the effects of it, for the inestimable advantages that he has conferred on the young artisans, clerks and laborers, not only of the city of Montreal, but also of the Province of Quebec, by the night schools. It was my privilege to teach a class of young men and women (Jews) that I found without a teacher one night last winter in the British and Canadian School,