

Mr. Hind, to the qualifications already mentioned, unites the rare advantage of a practical acquaintance with the thorough and profound German system of teaching the exact sciences, and the different branches of Natural Philosophy, having attended lectures two years in the celebrated Royal Commercial School at Leipzig, in Germany. The Provincial Normal School is also provided with excellent Models, and Apparatus for illustrations and experiments in the course of lectures, or rather teaching by lecture; that is, blending continuous examinations with oral lectures. The immense advantages to the students themselves of such a preliminary course of training, and the benefits to the Province at large of sending out annually from 150 to 200 Teachers, thus prepared, into its various Municipal Districts, can be more easily conceived than described. A process of this kind, for a few years, will render our Common Schools worthy of being the "Schools of the People."

8. Provision for Religious Teaching in the Normal School.

It is also worthy of special remark, that every Friday afternoon, from two to four o'clock, is devoted to Religious Instruction, when the Clergy of the several Religious Persuasions attend, and give such courses of Religious Instruction to the members of their respective Churches as they judge expedient. This arrangement is found to be both convenient and satisfactory, and, I have no doubt, very beneficial. The students are also required to attend their several Places of Worship on the Sabbath.

9. Terms of Admission to the Normal School, and Weekly aid to Students.

The Terms of Admission, which, after mature deliberation, were adopted by the Board of Education, will be found in the Appendix to this Report; as also the General Rules and Regulations.

In a printed Circular, dated the 4th of August, 1846, the Board announced, as a Regulation applicable to all students "a trial of three months as to capacity and disposition both to learn and to teach.* The Board has extended this condition to the whole period of the student's attendance, so that if at any time any student relapses in his application, and manifests inattention to his studies and duties, the weekly assistance is no longer allowed him, the Board being determined to expend whatever means the Legislature has placed, or may place, at its disposal, with the most careful economy, and to advance most effectually the objects of Normal School Instruction in Upper Canada. The aiding of students to the amount of five shillings a week each, in addition to providing them with Books and giving them instruction, has been adopted after the example of the Executive Committee of the New York State Normal School at Albany, and from the circumstances that too little encouragement is given to Common School Teachers. The continuance of it must depend upon the liberality of the Legislature, as this expenditure was not taken into consideration, when the original estimate of the probable current expenses of the Institution was laid before the Government. But I know of no way, as the experience of other Countries has shown, in which so much may be done to promote directly, and indirectly, the great interests of sound popular education; in some Countries of Europe all the expenses of Normal School students are defrayed by the Government.

10. The Condition, requiring Students to continue Teaching for a fixed period, is reasonable.

The only point on which, as far as I know, any doubt or apprehension has been expressed, relates to the declaration required by the Board from candidates for admission to the Normal School respecting their intention to teach School, and that their object in coming to the Normal School is to qualify themselves better for that profes-

*The part of the Circular here referred to will be found on page 238 of the Sixth Volume of the Documentary History of Education in Upper Canada.