

sion may offer in the discharge of duties which offer special facilities for the task. Year after year it has been a ground of complaint at Teachers' Conventions that so little value has been attached to professional education at the provincial examinations for First-class certificates, and the teachers themselves have tried to impress upon the department the necessity for a change. The separation of the two courses of study would give a prominence to each which is unattainable under existing arrangements, and the wish of those who for other reasons ask for a division of the subjects might be easily and advantageously complied with. It is not likely, either, that the education of such students in Literature and Science would suffer in schools that have become the mainstay of the Provincial University. But the utilization of the High Schools for the non professional training of First class teachers would confer additional benefits on both classes of schools. The discontinuance of the literary and scientific courses in the Normal Schools would relieve the masters of duties which now occupy a large portion of their time. For years to come one session of a few months would be sufficient for the professional training of students desiring the full rank of First-class teachers, and the rest of the masters' time would be available for the instruction of another division of candidates for Second-class certificates. Instead of admitting one hundred and twenty each session as they now do, the Normal Schools would in this way be able to accommodate twice that number for two of the three sessions in the year. Certainly one Model School of the dimensions of the Toronto one, might prove insufficient, but the example of Ottawa could be easily and inexpensively followed. There are, no doubt, difficulties of detail, but from a teacher's standpoint they do

not seem insurmountable. So far as the High Schools are concerned, the advantages of a change would be marked. At the Teachers' Convention in Toronto, in August, 1877, it was the unanimous opinion of the High School Section that the introduction of the Intermediate, and the absence of a University Matriculation Examination in Science, were dwarfing to the elementary requirements of the former examination in the study of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry in the schools of the Province. The ordinary Matriculation Examinations, and the recently introduced Local Examinations for Women, develop one side of the High School programme, whereas, except in the few schools where the work of First-class teachers is now attempted, instruction in Natural Philosophy and Chemistry generally ceases at the Intermediate line. This is certainly to be deplored. The principle of controlling educational work by examinations has been inaugurated, and it is only reasonable to expect that undue attraction in one direction will produce an unsymmetrical result. The introduction of candidates for the highest grade of certificate amongst ordinary students who have taken for their Intermediate the Science group, would at once develop this department of Upper School work, and the present lop-sided course would become *totus, teres, atque rotundus*. The study of Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Physiology and Botany—those important subjects of modern education—would in this way receive in our best schools increased attention, and all classes would in time participate in the advantages of the change. The preparation of Honor Matriculants is not confined to a few schools, neither would that of candidates for First class non-professional certificates. No change would be required in the High School course of study, and no additional