

HUMORS OF WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS.

The many teachers who read the *Journal*, as well as the brighter of their pupils, will be amused by some of the stories, told in recent English journals, of answers actually on record in official reports of the examinations in physiology in London schools.

To the request to "describe the process of digestion," one child responded as follows:

"Food is digested by the action of the lungs. Digestion is brought on by the lungs having something the matter with them. The food then passes through your windpipe to the pores, and thus passes off your body by evaporation, through a lot of little holes in your skin, called capillaries. The food is nourished in the stomach. If you were to eat anything hard, you would not be able to digest it; and the consequence would be, you would have indigestion. The gall-bladder throws off juice from the food which passes through it. We call the kidneys the bread-basket, because it is where all the bread goes to. They lay up concealed by the heart."

Domestic economy, as nowadays taught to "children of the elementary-school class," is a subject which affords hosts of amusing answers. Thus, in reply to the question, "Why do we cook our food?" one fifth-standard girl gives the delightfully inconsequent reply, "Their of five ways of cooking potatoes. We should die if we eat our food raw." Another girl writes: "The function of food is, to do its proper work in the body. Its proper work is to well masticate the food; and it goes through without dropping, instead of being pushed down by the skin." A third pupil puts in her paper that "food digested is when we put it into our mouths, our teeth chews it, and our tongue roll it down into our body. We should not eat so much bone-making foods as flesh-forming and warmth-giving foods; for, if we did, we would have too many bones, and that would make us look funny."

On the subject of ventilation, one student informs us that a room should be kept at ninety in the winter by a fire, and in the summer by a thermomete.; while a class-mate writes: "A thermometer is an instrument used to let out the heat when it is going to be cold." Another girl sets down: "When roasting a piece of beef, place it in front of a brisk fire, so as to congratulate the outside." But an answer, perhaps, best illustrating the jargon that comes of the cram system is the following: "Sugar is an amyloid; if you was to eat much sugar and nothing else, you would not live, because sugar has not got no carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen. Potatoes is another amyloids."

Educational Notes and News.

Mr. Pichard is re-engaged in S. S. No. 5, Greenock.

Mr. Lees, principal of Chepstow school, has been re-engaged.

Mr. B. M. Brisbin, principal of the Essex Centre Public School, has resigned.

Miss Nettie Clark, of Woodville, has gone to teach at Aspsden, near Huntsville, Muskoka.

Ralph Ross, B.A., Toronto University, is second master in the new High School, Dutton.

J. C. Graham, of Middlemiss, has been engaged to teach Cowal school for the current year.

Collingwood Collegiate Institute has a larger attendance this year than for many years past.

Miss Maggie McPherson, of Lorneville, holds her school for the present year, near Collingwood.

Mr. W. H. Sharpnall commenced his duties as principal of the Napier school on the 6th inst.

Miss Taylor, of St. Thomas, has been engaged as teacher in the infant department of the Aylmer school.

Miss Mabel Nixon has gone to Waubuno to take charge of the public school of that place for the current year.

Mr. King has been re-engaged for the Enniskillen school, and Mr. Johnston, has accepted Eden Grove school.

Miss Lilly McKelvey has been appointed to a position in the Sarnia public schools, at a salary of \$250 per annum.

Mr. John Simpson, B.A., late assistant in the Vienna High School, has been appointed to a similar position in Cayuga.

Miss Aggie Dundas, of Hamilton, has taken a school near Alvinston and commenced her duties at the beginning of the year.

Mr. Simmons is engaged in S. S. No. 7, Greenock, salary \$512.50. He holds a first class C, non-professional certificate.

Miss Helen R. Foote has been engaged as teacher of the Norland Public School. She is spoken of as a very successful teacher.

Mr. R. Fairman, Woodville, has been re-engaged at Lambeth at an increase of salary. He has been very successful during the past year.

The highest salary paid in Kinloss township a few years ago, was \$400, not \$200 as stated in a recent number of the *JOURNAL*. It is now \$510.

Mr. Thomas Allin, late of Durham, is in attendance at Collingwood Collegiate Institute, preparing for 1st A. We wish him success.

Oakwood High School has a larger attendance this year than it had for many years. Additional seating accommodation had to be provided.

Mr. R. E. Brown, of S. S. No. 5, Colborne, Huron County, lately referred to in the *JOURNAL* as resigning his position, has entered the insurance business.

Mr. Wm. Egbert, for several years the popular principal of Dunnville Public School, has resigned to take up the study of medicine. He is succeeded by Mr. Hindson.

Miss Springer, of Scotland, Ont., has been appointed third assistant in Goderich High School in place of Miss Spence, who goes to Toronto to complete her university course.

Gladstone school-house, near Belmont, has been totally destroyed by fire which, it is supposed, originated from some defect in the stove. It had been erected only a couple of years and was worth \$2,000.

At the late examination for the entrance to the High School seventy-one candidates from Sarnia schools wrote, but owing to the unusual modes of expression used in many of the questions a large number have failed to pass.—*Sarnia Observer*.

The *Beacon* puts it this way:—"Mr. Arthur was a teacher in St. Mary's Collegiate Institute at \$800 per year. He asked for \$900. A Mr. Chisholm, of Hamilton, came along and offered his services for \$750. Chisholm got the situation.—*Mitchell Advocate*."

The friends of Mr. John Darrach, editor of the *Parkhill Review*, recently presented him with a purse of \$53 and an appropriate address in acknowledgment of his valuable services in the cause of education. Mr. Darrach was assistant teacher in Parkhill High School.

T. Otway Page, B.A., the new principal of Waterdown High School, has arrived. He comes from Port Perry and is said to possess the qualifications requisite to maintain the reputation of the Waterdown High School, viz., age, experience, learning and tact.—*Canadian Champion*.

Mr. Lauchlin Gilchrist, principal of Woodville Public School, has had his salary increased. This is his seventh year in succession at that school, during which time he has passed many third class teachers and a large number of entrance pupils. At last examination this school sent up 7, of whom 6 passed.

Miss Robertson, of Oshawa, lady teacher in the Peterboro' Collegiate Institute, arrived and will at once enter upon her duties. The Institute appears to be in a flourishing condition. There is a much larger number of pupils in attendance this year than last, both from the town and country.—*Peterboro' Examiner*.

At the late High school entrance examination eleven pupils from the Catholic Separate School of this city (London) passed—seven boys and four girls. This makes fifteen pupils of the city Separate schools that were successful at the entrance examinations of 1885—ten boys from Mr. Brown's class, four girls from Sister de Sales' class, and one from Madam Scott's.—*Free Press*.