

In view of these gloomy facts, it becomes very natural that we should inquire as to the causes of the comparative brevity of the lives of teachers. In one of the reports of the Registrar I have found that he estimates the proportion of deaths from consumption, in teachers, as equal to one-third of their total deaths, and this proportion was much exceeded last year. Let us compare your proportion with that shown by a number of other occupations, and we cannot fail to be struck with its magnitude. The following are the figures for the year 1879:—

Gentlemen... total deaths, 184, of which from consumption, 13=	7 %
Paupers.....	41, " " 3=7.3 %
Physicians....	29, " " 3=10.3 %
Farmers.....	2290, " " 246=10.8 %
Shoemakers..	94, " " 13=14 %
Clergy.....	46, " " 7=15.2 %
Labourers....	681, " " 117=17.2 %
Carpenters...	125, " " 22=17.6 %
Merchants....	113, " " 21=18.6 %
Masons	32, " " 6=19 %
Milliners and }	" 30, " " 10=33½ %
Dressmakers. }	" " " 23=41 %
Teachers.....	56, " " 34=51.5 %
Bookkeepers }	" 66, " " "
and Clerks.. }	" " " "

Might it not be well that our aspiring young people of this time, who are turning their backs on the plough and the milking-pail, and who, thanks to your hoisting efforts, have crammed their brain cases with such a quantity of tip-top learning as to elevate them some fathoms above their hard-working, tight-fisted, ungrammatical fathers and mothers, would cast their eyes over the above figures? Nine-tenths of them cannot promise to themselves positions higher than the last three on my list, and if they would but duly weigh the killing-off capabilities of these, they might consider it more discreet to cultivate muscular strength than to struggle after nervous enfeeblement and premature bodily decay.

As relates to the total deaths from consumption in Ontario within the four years mentioned, a very important fact is presented in the preponderance of this fatal malady among females. Of 8,480 deaths from consumption registered in these years, 4,735, or nearly 56 per cent., were of females, against 44 per cent. of males; in other words, more than 5 females to 4 males. Now, in the mortality of the Province, the proportion of total deaths was 39 of males to 35 of females; and the number of living females in the year 1871 was 36,000 less than that of males. The births of male children have, in the last 10