

Goffin by the Science and Art Department, have agreed to the following report :—

Your Committee are satisfied from evidence taken on oath, and from documents laid before them :—

(a.) That Mr. Goffin, the Head Master of the United Westminster Schools, did disclose to his pupils in certain Science classes just previous to the examinations, the answers to a large number of questions in the Examination papers.

(b.) That the information which he thus gave was of such a nature that he must, before imparting it to his classes, have known the contents of the Examination papers.

(c.) That the registers containing the attendance roll of the pupils of Mr. Goffin, were in certain cases falsified by Mr. Goffin and his assistants, to obtain payment on pupils who had not made the necessary number of attendances.

(d.) That the statements in the petitions signed by pupils and teachers on Mr. Goffin's behalf, and presented to the Governors of the United Westminster Schools, were false, and were known by some of the signatories to be so.

Previous to his appointment in 1874, as Head Master of the United Westminster Schools, Mr. Goffin was master of St. John's School, Woking. Your Committee have taken evidence as to his system of teaching Science there, and from that evidence it is clear—

(a.) That a large number of pupils, including mere children, were enabled to pass examinations in a great number of Science subjects of which they knew scarcely anything, by being systematically taught by heart, on the day of, or the day previous to the examination, answers to the questions set.

(b.) That fraudulent fabrication of the attendance registers was systematically practised, in order to obtain payment upon the pupils who, by another fraud, had been enabled to pass the examination.

The investigations now held have disclosed the fact that Mr. Goffin has carried on a course of fraud, in a manner, and to an extent, which must have greatly lowered the tone of morality among a large body of scholars and teachers.

Your Committee record their emphatic opinion, that fraud, thus reduced to a system, and almost elevated to the dignity of an art, requires the immediate attention of the Education Department, with a view to the adoption of such further precautions as will prevent a repetition of these disgraceful practices.

Your Committee further express a hope that the Department will deal as leniently as their public duty will allow with the teachers who, in the course of this inquiry, have by their evidence exposed themselves to the charge of complicity with some of Mr. Goffin's proceedings.

It is speaking soberly to say that this report fell like a thunderbolt upon the whole teaching profession of the mother country.

The press without exception took the same view as the committee, and Mr. Goffin was dealt with in severe terms.

As a sample of the criticism of the case, the Edinburgh "*Scotsman*" remarks that the upshot of all the teachers' "eloquent speeches and indignant letters is that Goffin the champion is thrown back on their hands as Goffin the rogue."

Our readers will not fail to have noticed the strong resemblance between this case and the one we have already referred to which Judge Patterson adjudicated upon. The main difference between them is in the decision arrived at, and who knows whether this would not have been the same had Mr. Goffin had the benefit of a judicial mind accustomed to sift and weigh evidence to submit his case to as Messrs. Kirkland and McLellan had, instead of a committee of the House of Commons, even though it was presided over by a man of so brilliant an intellect as Mr. Lowe. But anyone who is inclined to this opinion must have it greatly weakened when we add that the Executive Committee of the National Union of Elementary Teachers, a body whose functions resemble those of the Board of Directors of our Provincial Association, and of which Mr. Goffin himself was a member, has after mature deliberation accepted by a formal resolution the report of Mr. Lowe's Committee as justified by the evidence.

Though disgrace has thus apparently been brought upon the whole teaching