

ninety of the present students have been Teachers of Common Schools, and came to the Normal School to qualify themselves better for the duties of their profession.

6. *The Subjects of Instruction in the Normal School.*

The Head Master gives instructions in the Elements, and Philosophy, of Grammar, Orthography, Composition, Art of Reading, Rudiments of Logic, Geography, Mathematical, Physical, and Political, with rudiments of the Use of the Globes, Elements of General History, Linear Drawing, Mulhauser's System of Writing,* Rudiments of Trigonometry, with a view to Land Surveying with the Theodolite, Art of Teaching, with daily teaching in the Model School, mode of teaching the National School Books. The Mathematical Master gives instruction in the Science and Practice of Arithmetic, including the use of the Logarithm Tables, Algebra, as far as Quadratic Equations, the Progressions and the Binomial Theorem, inclusive, Geometry, six books of Euclid, Heat, Electricity, Galvanism, and Magnetism, Mechanics, Hydrostatics, Pneumatics, Animal and Vegetable Physiology, Elements of Astronomy and of Agricultural Chemistry. Animal Physiology is treated of in special reference to the laws of health, and the proper means of preserving it, with various practical observations on the Ventilation and Temperature of School-Houses. Under the head of Mechanics, besides a general exposition of the five Mechanical Powers, isolated and confined, the Steam-Engine, the Locomotive, the different varieties of Pumps and Hydraulic Engines have been practically illustrated and explained. Agricultural Chemistry, that important science, (as far as time will permit,) is treated in special reference to the Soils, Climate, and Productions of this Country, illustrating particularly the mode in which experiments of an agricultural character should be conducted. During the present Summer Session, upwards of fifty Agricultural Experiments are being made on the grounds attached to the Normal School, under the direction of the Mathematical Master, whose taste for Horticulture and Agriculture is not less ardent than his talents as a Mathematician and Lecturer are pre-eminent. The Grounds are placed under his immediate care, and the students derive no small advantage from his refined taste and rural sympathies; and I must not omit to add, that regular instruction is given by a competent person specially employed in Vocal Music, according to the German system of Wilhelm, as anglicized by Hullah, under the sanction of Her Majesty's Privy Council Committee on Education. This system is specially adapted for popular use, and it has been formally recommended by the Governments of France and England.†

7. *Remarks on the Proper Mode of teaching these Subjects.*

It is scarcely necessary for one to remark, that the mode of teaching these subjects is of the most thorough and practical character, exercising the powers of perception, understanding, and judgment, rather than burdening the memory; elucidating the reason of rules, rather than merely teaching rules themselves, inculcating the habit of thinking, of investigation, of reasoning, and not of a lavish reliance upon the recollection of rules, or upon their authority; and enforcing and illustrating the whole, in connection with the future duties and profession of the students. Mr. Robertson, the Head Master, from his high talents and qualifications as a Teacher, his long experience, and standing as a School Inspector, under the National Board of Education in Ireland, is most admirably adapted for the varied and important instructions and duties which appertain to his department, as a Teacher, and to his position as Head Master; and

*On the importance and advantages of this system of writing which has been officially sanctioned and recommended by the French and English Governments, see Report on a System of Public Elementary Instruction for Upper Canada, on pages 172-176 of the Sixth Volume of the Documentary History of Education in Upper Canada.

†Respecting some characteristics of this system, the manner in which it has been adopted in France and England, together with the great advantages connected with the teaching of Vocal Music in Common Schools, see Report on a System of Public Elementary Instruction for Upper Canada, on pages 186-189 of the Sixth Volume of the History of Education in Upper Canada.