

make up for the falling off in voluntary subscriptions. The rate of expenditure per head has slightly diminished in Roman Catholic and Board schools, and slightly increased in Church, Wesleyan, and British schools. It varies from £2 1s. 11½d. in Board schools to £1 10s. 6d. in schools conducted by Roman Catholics. The general average has risen from £1 16s. 5d. in 1879 to £1 16s. 8½d. in 1880. The average salaries of certificated masters amount to £121 2s. 7d., and of certificated mistresses to £72 12s. 8d. The Wesleyan masters receive the highest rate of salary, the average amount being £155 9s. 1d.; while the Roman Catholics receive the least, the average in their case amounting to but £101 13s. 8d. Of mistresses, the best paid are those in Board schools, whose average amounts to £85 6s. 4d.; and, again, the worst paid are the teachers in Catholic schools, where the average is but £59 11s. 3d. One hundred and thirty-seven masters receive over £300 per annum, and eighty-nine mistresses have salaries exceeding £200. There are one hundred and thirty-two masters receiving less than £50, while as many as eight hundred and thirty-nine mistresses are passing poor, on less than £40 a year.—*The Schoolmaster.*

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.

Electric Light is at present the scientific subject attracting most attention from the general public. Although expensive, this light has been used with marked success for illuminating large spaces. It has not yet been found possible to divide the light so as to give jets suitable for lighting the apartments of private houses. Although it was announced some time ago that Edison had perfected a system that would permit of the subdivision of the current, experiments made to prove the efficacy of his system were a failure. Rumors concerning this light have a wonderful influence on Gas Stock, the public evidently thinking that the electric light will be cheaper than gas, which we very much doubt.

As spring merges into summer, Medical Councils and Boards of Health, profiting by the experience of past years, are issuing to the public instructions for the prevention of disease and as to the use of cheap and efficient disinfectants. Indeed, the whole subject of contagious disease is now receiving no mean share of attention from the scientific world.

Agriculturists and dairymen are at present freely discussing the value of "ensilage" compared with cured or dried fodder. "Ensilage" is green fodder preserved in nearly the same state as that in which it is cut, by being stored out of contact with air, and subjected to great pressure, in a building called a "silo." Although "ensilage" has been prepared and used in France and Hungary for several years, it is something new so far as this continent is concerned. Sufficiently accurate knowledge on the subject has not yet accumulated to permit one to judge fairly of its merits.