

during term to dragging a small number of imperfectly trained girls through their Cicero or their Horace, for a sum considerably less than he could earn by a single article in a magazine; or when one remembers the many hardworked and kindly college tutors who, sooner than let those who want to learn go without teaching, have devoted the walking and recreation time they could ill spare to the poorly paid labors of the Women's Association, one puts the facts as they are side by side with your correspondent's remarks, and one realises once more what kind of evidence it is with which prejudice will content itself."

Mrs. Kitchener, of Newcastle, who for eight years has kept a calendar of teachers holding University Certificates, thus records experience:—

"For teachers in high schools a University Certificate is absolutely necessary, and each class has its regular separate value, i.e., a woman with a Third Class may succeed better in the long run than her sister with a First Class, but she must be content to start behind her in the race. With regard to private governesses, parents are thoroughly alive to the advantages of having a governess whose knowledge has been tested. It is true that they not unfrequently write that 'refinement and high moral tone were more valuable to them than a First-Class Certificate,' but they almost invariably added that, if they got the former without the latter, they would expect to give a lower salary."—*Educational Times*.

GENERAL.

The National Educational Exposition to be held in Madison, Wis., July 15-18 of this year, promises to be highly successful. It will certainly be one among the most notable exhibitions of the kind that have ever taken place. The exhibits will be organized in twelve departments, those, viz., of the Main Exhibition, which will include work of the higher schools, both public and private: industrial education; art; kindergarten; selections from the National Educational Museum; pedagogic literature; Ward's Museum of Mineralogy, Geology, and Zoology; school architecture, including ventilating and heating apparatus; school journals and other current educational publications; apparatus and supplies; school books and school furniture. The exhibits in the main department will be grouped in three classes. Class I. embracing examination manuscripts, specimens of penmanship, graphic work, etc., prepared by students according to prescribed rules. Class II.—Special work, prepared by students, for which no rules are prescribed except such as may be made by the teachers or by local school authorities. Class III.—Materials arranged by students, teachers, or school authorities, and presented to illustrate systems, processes, and results of instruction.

A writer in the Boston *Advertiser* complains that teachers in Massachusetts are frequently removing without just cause, and he calls for the abrogation of the custom of electing teachers for a single year. He takes the sensible ground that teachers ought to be chosen to serve during efficiency and good conduct. The practice now in vogue he characterizes as "worse than Greek ostracism."

A student of Harvard medical school wrote an excellent set of papers for examination lately, and two others copied them word for word. The examiner ranked the papers at 98 per cent., and for a moment the trio were happy. Then he remarked to them as the three papers were identical, they were entitled to an average of about 33 per cent. each, and as 50 per cent is required for a diploma, all three were plucked. The youth who wrote the papers is still wondering at this display of even-handed justice.

A contest in pronunciation gave great amusement at a church social meeting in Chicago lately. Each candidate was called in separately, and required to read the following sentences:—

The root of the difficulty was a pile of soil allowed to accumulate on the roof.

The rise of the waters has injured the rice crop, and it may be expected that the price will rise.

He had moved his goods to the depot, but his friends bade him not to be discouraged, as he would soon become acclimated if he would only stay.

He is an aspirant for Asiatic honors.

The disputants seemed to be conversant with the question, and if not good financiers, they are at least familiar with the problems of finance.

The irrefragable evidence that he was the sole cause of the alteration indisputably fastened on him the responsibility for the irreparable damage.

His conduct was indicative of the blatant blackguard, but his complaisant coadjutor, with his incomparable complacency, was even more dangerous.

The physician, after a careful diagnosis, pronounces the patient to be suffering from bronchitis, gastritis, periostitis, and meningitis, caused by the prevalence of nephritis, and has prescribed morphine.

S. D. Risley, M. D., who has devoted much time to the study of ophthalmology among the pupils of the public schools, in an illustrated lecture at the Spring Garden Institute of Philadelphia upon the subject, "Our School Children's Eyes," showed that one of the most important considerations and one which is most frequently overlooked in the building of our schools is their architectural adaption to the laws of optics. The position of a window or a black-board may become the source of serious widespread optical weakness among the pupils. He deprecated the practice of giving young students lessons to prepare at home after school hours, and recommended greater attention to the character of the type used in the text books. He held that children are sent to school too young, and thought that better results would be attained if pupils were not eligible to the public schools until eight or ten years old.

FRENCH SCHOOLS.—A prominent feature of republican France is the attention which is paid to education. Between 1870 and 1881, 16,678 schools have been erected, at an average cost of \$2,600. In a recent statement M. Jules Ferry said, in vindication of the money spent on education by the government, that there was not a village church but cost \$8,000, and that the school was at least of equal value. Twenty years ago the ambition was to erect churches. Now it is to erect schools. In the course of ten years it is expected that 400,000 schools will be erected throughout the country, at a cost of \$60,000,000 to localities and \$140,000,000 to the State. In the event of any parish proving contumacious the prefects are invested with compulsory authority. The school buildings are to be modelled after the best patterns of those of England, Belgium, Saxony and Wurtemberg, and the value of the playground is much insisted upon. There can be no two opinions as to the value of education to the republic, but it will be a misfortune if education is divorced from religion.—*New York Herald*.

The experiment of dispensing with recesses is being tried with success in some of the schools of New York. In the Yorkers schools it has been found to work well for the study, health and morals of the children. Physical exercises are introduced twice during the morning and once during the afternoon session. At a signal the doors and the windows of all the class rooms are simultaneously opened, so that the buildings are filled with fresh air, and three to five minutes are devoted to vigorous calisthenics. Good results are said to have followed.—*Detroit Evening Journal*.

At last women are to be admitted to the Oxford University examinations. They have gained a great victory over the more illiberal portion of the University, and, although not yet placed on a footing of full equality with their sisters at Cambridge, they are now certainly in a position to fight their battle for "complete academical equality" with their undergraduate brethren at Oxford, as the Warden of Merton puts it, in practically assured hopes of success. On Tuesday last (February 26th), the battle to which we have been referring was fought and won in Congregation at Oxford. The proposal was to the effect that women should be admitted to certain of the University examinations, those in Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and History, *pari passu* with men. In these schools both the sexes are for the future to be examined by the same examiners, and the class-lists issued after each examination are to be similar in the two cases. This is all that was secured by the form of statute proposed on Tuesday, but it is highly satisfactory to note that the proposal was carried by the large majority of 54,—100 voting in favor, and 46 against the statute.—*School Guardian*.

Strange to say, Texas limits by statute the salaries of her teachers. We never yet saw town or city so generous to this class of servants that it became necessary for the State to interfere to prevent extravagance. But it would seem that the love of education is so strong in the breasts of the Texans, that they have felt obliged to place themselves under guardianship through fear of impoverishment. It is evident, however, from the *Texas School Journal*, that the law has not worked well, for it has proved impossible under the law to obtain a sufficiency of first-class teachers. It is suggested by the same paper that the engine be reversed and *minimum* salaries be provided by law.