

It is not made necessary to create separate and special schools for teaching elementary science and drawing. Rules are established whereby they may be introduced into primary and existing public schools. Ten or fewer primary schools, offering in the aggregate 500 children for instruction in drawing, may obtain the services of a certificated teacher of art, and the aid of the department. This is a temporary measure until the general schoolmasters have acquired the power of teaching drawing concurrently with writing. The primary division of the education board will add eight pounds annually to the schoolmaster's certificate allowance when he is able to do this. It will be a great step when one town can show that drawing is taught in all its public schools; the schoolmaster teaching the elements, and the art master of the district teaching an advanced class and inspecting the whole. Besides this direct action, the department further aids by examination and prizes. There are three grades of examinations, and every one, however taught, is free to offer himself or herself for examination and take the prize attached to the grade. These prizes begin with a pair of compasses and terminate with ten pounds worth of works of art given to the School of Art which produces the student who successfully competes with all the other students of the whole schools.

These prizes themselves exert a beneficial influence generally. A trade in cheap drawing instruments and drawing boards has almost been created since these prizes were instituted. The electrotype reproductions being in the general market, cannot fail to improve public taste. And the publication of such works as Owen Jones' on ornament is assisted by them, without engaging the State in the business of a publisher, as on the Continent.

The suggestion of improved diagrams and examples is another function of the department. It is not too much to say, that the publication of diagrams like Professor Henslow's for botany, Mr. Patterson's for zoology, and Mr. Marshall's for physiology, all suggested by the department, but published in the ordinary channels of trade, are the best which can be shown in Europe. In the Paris Exhibition there was no parallel exhibition to our own of the aids for teaching science and art, and this result is due to the abstinence of the department from invading the province of the tradesman, which is too common abroad. In the use of these examples by poor schools only, the department is authorized to grant an aid of about forty per cent. Since this system was instituted in 1852, upwards of 1,500 public schools have been assisted, and all the private schools in the country have had better examples placed before them.

The public attendance at this museum thus far has been very remarkable. Since the museum was opened in the middle of last June the average numbers attending monthly have been upwards of forty-four thousand. At Marlborough House during the year 1855, being the last before the removal, the average numbers attending monthly were seven thousand eight hundred. Should the rate of the present numbers be maintained they will be above half a million in the year, and exceed the numbers who visited the British Museum in 1854 and 1855, as well as