

TEACHERS.

Total number employed during the year 68, average number 43. I find those schools kept by teachers holding certificates, have made most progress, and more, that teachers are slowly but surely finding out, that in order to teach well, they must prepare themselves well.

My predecessor was very careful in his examinations and issued certificates to none who were found wanting. He gave only 4 first grade and 7 second grade certificates—the others taught with “permits.” Some of these having mistaken their calling, have ceased to teach. Some have sufficient knowledge of the branches taught, but do not possess the happy faculty of interesting their pupils, maintaining order and imparting what they know to others. Some merely make it a stepping stone to something they consider higher. There are some who are “school keepers,” whose highest object is the salary paid them. There are others who are real students, desiring to know and to learn, who are advancing the interests of all to the fullest extent.

EXAMINATIONS.

I employ the oral and written methods. The oral, to test the applicant's mode of expressing himself and imparting what he knows to others, and the written, to obtain a more uniform test of his literary attainments as well as to expose his errors and to compel him to rely entirely upon his resources.

Part of the exercises were catechetical and part topical. I have taken also the place of pupil and requested the teacher to follow and point out when I was in error, and how or why I was in error. I am not governed *strictly* by the standard of grade of examinations. I consider the comparative degree of mental culture, the facility in illustrating principles or in expressing thoughts.

SALARIES.

We have abandoned “salaries according to numbers.” Teachers' reports show that third class, or “permit” teachers, have received larger salaries than first grade teachers. This discourages good teachers and holds out no inducements to bad ones to improve. Until we have teachers of equal grade, it would not do to pay according to numbers.

For the current year we offer first grade teachers \$125.00; 2d grade teachers, \$100; teachers with “permits,” \$75.00 per term.

VISITATIONS.

My object, during my visits, has been to ascertain the