

[illegible]

Examined and found to be correct.—L. A. DURRIEU, Auditor.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit the annual report of the work of the Training College. In doing so I cannot but utter an expression of regret that it should have fallen to my lot to deal with the closing year of the institution. Under these circumstances it may perhaps be well if I venture to supplement the account of what has been done with some few remarks on the general question of training.

I took over charge of the College on the 1st day of February, 1887. There were then thirty students in daily attendance, distributed thus: Males, 12; females, 18: total, 30. During the year there were admitted into the College six new students, of whom three were males and three were females. On the other hand, there were removed by the Board eleven, of whom five were males and six were females. The number of students in the successive quarters was as follows: First quarter, 30; second quarter, 28; third quarter, 25; fourth quarter, 25: average, 27. The work of the College was mainly defined by the requirements of the D and E Certificate examinations, and also, though only to a very limited extent, by those of the University. The number of those who attended the professorial lectures was however very small. Throughout the year a considerable portion of time, amounting to one day in each week, was devoted to practical work under the supervision of the Vice-Principal and myself, regular criticism being given on the manner and method of the students in the conduct of a class. In drawing, singing, and drill weekly instruction was given by visiting teachers.

When an institution has practically ceased to exist it may seem a waste of time to discuss plans, or offer suggestions for its improvement; yet the experience of the past year leads me to say that the work of the College would have gained greatly in worth had there been in every case an entrance examination and a definite term of studentship.

Passing now to what I may call the side work of the College—namely, the Saturday classes, the correspondence class, and the class on Monday and Thursday afternoons—in the first of these, the Saturday classes, without counting the certificated teachers who came to the College for singing, drawing, and drill, there were in average attendance as follows:—

Of first-year pupil-teachers ...	...	...	...	...	...	34.2
Of second-year pupil-teachers	...	...	...	...	...	25.3
Of third-year pupil-teachers	...	...	...	...	...	27.3
Of uncertificated teachers	...	...	...	...	...	32.3
Total	...	...	...	...	...	119.1

Regular weekly lectures were given in school method and management, arithmetic, English language and literature, history—in fact in the various subjects demanded by the pupil-teacher or E examination. In the case of certain of the pupil-teachers the Saturday classes were further supplemented on Monday and Thursday afternoons. The average attendance on these days was 39.1, and the subjects taken up were history and English grammar and analysis.

Besides these weekly classes held at the College, there was a large correspondence class, the average number being 50.3. In this were comprised the uncertificated country teachers who, by