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We may safely affirm that not one-tenth of the pupils that have been admitted below the standard have graduated; their progress was generally so unsatisfactory, even to themselves, that they very soon become discouraged by their unsuccessful efforts and left school, assigning no other reason for leaving than their inability to get along in their studies as they desired. Only those familiar with this subject are capable of appreciating the paralyzing effect upon those pupils that withdraw from school on the ground just stated.

The standard for admission, as recently arranged, must, if adhered to, meet the approval of all who fully understand and appreciate the true sphere of the High Schools, and the important relation which they sustain to the Grammar and Primary Schools. The Female High Schools have reached a point, in regard to numbers, that it seems to me would fully justify the adoption of the following measure, as suggested in a former report, viz: When the usual examination of candidates for admission takes place, and the report of the work is made by the teachers, then ascertain the number of seats made vacant during the year by graduation and other withdrawals, and select from the whole number examined the names of those pupils who have produced the best work in every respect, a number sufficient to fill the vacant seats, and let those be declared the successful candidates. By this arrangement our classes would be kept more uniform, and only the most meritorious pupils would receive promotion, and thus a double advantage be gained, and the efficiency of the High Schools would thereby be greatly increased. To the Grammar Schools it could not fail to be equally beneficial. inasmuch as a greater spirit of honorable emulation would be excited among the pupils, and a greater effort put forth to make their work neat and clean, as well as correct, and thus more careful habits would be formed.

In this connection permit me to suggest to those parents and friends, into whose hands this report may fall, and who

may be unduly anxious for the rapid advancement of their daughters or wards through the Primary and Grammar Schools, so as, at the earliest practicable period, to get them into the High Schools, that they will do well to exercise greater caution in this matter, if they do not wish to do great wrong to those whom they desire to benefit. During an experience of twenty years in this institution, I have been called upon too frequently to witness the sad effects of a lack of prudence in this regard. It would be advantageous to consult the teachers of their daughters concerning their fitness, physically and mentally, to take up the advanced course of studies in the High Schools, for in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred their judgment may be relied upon. Although the examination is the proper legal test, it is by no means infallible, as many pupils have passed the regular standard and yet have not had that mental development necessary to take up successfully an advanced course of study. This has usually been the result which has followed too rapid advancement through the lower grades of the schools. If the ground work is being thoroughly laid they should rest contented. Though the progress at first may seem slow, they will be abundantly satisfied in the end.

Notwithstanding the drawbacks to the perfect success of the institution, in regard to which I have made some suggestions, I have the pleasure of being able to report it in as prosperous a condition as at any previous period in its history. I may here state that whatever degree of excellence the institution may have attained, it has been the result of the united and untiring efforts of the teachers associated with me, and their prompt co-operation in carrying out every measure adopted to advance its interests and increase the efficiency of its workings.

I am compelled again to remind you of the urgent necesssity for at least two additional class rooms. Our number, as