

## HOUSE...No. 148.

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### Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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Office of the SECRETARY of the BOARD  
OF EDUCATION, April 7, 1854. }

*To the Hon. Senate and House of Representatives :*

The Secretary is required, by an Order passed Feb. 1, 1854,  
“To ascertain and report,—

“1st. How many pupils have graduated from the several Normal Schools, established and supported at the expense of the State, and the average length of time such graduates were in attendance upon said Normal Schools ?

“2d. How many such graduates are now engaged as teachers in the public schools of the State ?

“3d. What has been the average length of time each graduate of said school, not now employed in the public schools of the State, have heretofore, if at all, been so employed ?

“4th. How many of said graduates have never taught in our public schools ?”

In compliance with this Order, the Secretary of the Board of Education has the honor to present the following:—

*Reply to the first inquiry.*

The whole number of graduates of the State Normal Schools, is 1,723. The average length of time such persons

were in attendance, is three and one-fifth terms, or about forty-five weeks. The number of persons who have been connected with the Normal Schools without graduating, is 607.

*Reply to the second inquiry.*

On this point there are no means of accurate information. The Principal of one of the Normal Schools, is of opinion, that about two-thirds of the graduates of that school are now teaching in the State. The Principal of another Normal School, estimates the proportion of the graduates of his school, so employed, at about one-half. The Principal of the Bridgewater Normal School, having recently entered upon his duties, is not in a situation to form any estimate.

*Reply to the third inquiry.*

There are no records kept at any of the Normal Schools, from which such information can be obtained. Indeed, it would be very difficult for the Principals of the Normal Schools to obtain such information, as it would require them to renew their inquiries from year to year, in regard to persons no longer connected with them, and who are often widely dispersed from each other.

*Reply to the fourth inquiry.*

The Principal of the Framingham School informs me, that since his first connection with the school, in May, 1849, every pupil has signed a written pledge to teach; and that there are only seven or eight who have not actually become teachers on leaving the school, or rendered a satisfactory reason for not so doing. The Principal of the Westfield School reports less than five per cent. of the whole number, as not having taught. The Principal of the Bridgewater School, who recently retired from his office, reported in November last, fourteen of the whole number of graduates, as not having taught, besides ten persons who have not been heard from.

BARNAS SEARS,

*Secretary of the Board of Education.*