

A SCHOOL LIBRARY.

We have often wished our public school board could get the burden of its school house debt worked off so as to have more funds for other uses than the current expenses of the school. Among the things desired is a school library, composed wholly or nearly so of books of reference and standard reports of representative bodies together with a few of the best educational journals. For instance, there are three great educational periodicals in this country, the Journal of Education, of Boston; the Educational Review, by Henry Holt of New York and the School Review by the University of Chicago. Our teachers should have access to all of these; that is, they should be on file in the Superintendents' office during the year, for the teachers use and then bound up for a place on the shelves of the school library. No teacher should be retained who did not make thorough use of such periodicals, for no teacher can keep in touch with the best thought and methods in school work who does not peruse such professional periodicals.

Then there are valuable reports published by the National Government, and affiliated educational bodies of the highest value, most of which could be secured without large expense. In addition to this class of books, are those brought out by private enterprise, as President Gilman's recent volume of discussions of educational problems. His position as the head of Johns Hopkins gives him great weight. Also President Elliot's of Harvard and so on, not very numerous but very valuable.

There should also be a standard encyclopedia, as much or more for the pupils as for the teachers. These three lines of aids, in the way of literature would be of incomparable value to our schools.

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