

The schools opened Monday under very unfavorable circumstances. The wind was a perfect sandstorm, blowing all day long, and many parents kept the little ones home. Prof. Coles has been given another teacher, and with his force thus strengthened hopes to rank second to none. Lincoln has the same corps with two exceptions. The Phillips, Douglass and Sumner have the same teachers though T. W. H. Williams of the Sumner is to take charge of the new school that opens at 18th street and Woodland avenue. The Lincoln High school opens up with a larger number than it has ever had. The registration for Monday: Douglass, 152; Garrison, 182; Lincoln, 446; Lincoln High, 77; Phillips, 248; Sumner, 182; total, 1,287. With the colored population of our city this is a very poor showing and we hope in the next few weeks this may be doubled.

After two trials our young folks have not been able to pass the examination of the Board. We are sorry for many reasons that such is the case. We do not like to feel that in any point or in any way we are inferior to our white brethren. To ask the Board to make an exception in our case admits of our inferiority. To say we are not inferior and to claim we are just as able to pass as some of those already in the schools as teachers, that the whites can do no more than we, argue nothing; the fact remains that we failed, and to our shame, be it said. As to the cause of our failure, that is another matter. The blame can not be fastened upon any one person or thing, but there are many causes that led to the failure and we trust that the applicants feel that it lies within themselves to erase these failures of the past and write victory in its stead. Do not allow the grass to grow under your feet or the dust to accumulate on your books, but bend every energy to a victorious end. Scorn to accept that which you have not honestly earned, and do not expect by some hook or crook to get a certificate—remembering “other men’s failures can never save you.”

The Letter Carriers’ association is in session in our city this week.

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