

most wealthy Townships in the District, and, even in these places, much improvement has lately been made; and new, and, in many cases, commodious, School-Houses are springing up in all parts of the County. Neither is there now any inhabited Township without one or more Schools, according to its population. The character of the Schools is, in many cases, changing for the better; and I am most happy to say that, among the Teachers generally, a great desire for improvement has been evinced. Many of them I believe intend spending some time at the Normal School during the summer; and the advantages to be there derived must eventually be productive of the greatest benefits in all parts of the Province."

The School Superintendent of the Talbot District, (the Reverend William Clark), states:

"The National Series of School Books, are very generally introduced. We have not more than ten thoroughly good Teachers, who hold general Certificates. Hence, I regard the opening of the Normal School as a great desideratum; and trust that, through the providence of God, it will be sustained, and prove a great blessing to the Country. To Mr. Robertson, (Head Master of the Normal School), we feel under great obligations for his cheering visit at the close of the year for the purpose of enlightening us on the subject of teaching; many of the Teachers gratefully mentioned his name."

The School Superintendent of the Niagara District, (Mr. Dexter D'Everardo), concludes his Report with the following remark:

"I will avail myself of this opportunity to observe that our Schools, as a whole, were never in a more flourishing condition than they are at present."

The School Superintendent of the Wellington District, (Mr. Alexander Allan, A.M.), states:

"Although there is a falling off in some of the Townships, yet it is gratifying to find that in the whole District, there is a considerable addition to the number of scholars beyond that of former years, and about one-third part more than the increase of the population in 1847. I have likewise to report that the School Trustees, in general, are more desirous to have qualified Teachers, and are more disposed to pay them better salaries than hitherto. This I consider a matter of great importance to the progress of education in this part of the Province."

The School Superintendent of the Huron District, (Mr. John Bignall), says:—

"I have great happiness in stating that the Common Schools throughout this District are fast and greatly improving, and are assuming a totally different character from what they bore some years back. A liberal spirit is generally manifesting itself in school matters, which I trust will not fail to introduce a superior class of Teachers. The want of suitable Text Books has hitherto been a considerable drawback, but there is every probability of the difficulty being soon obviated by the liberality of the Municipal Council, which has ordered a Hundred pounds' (£100), worth of the National School Books."

XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS ON THE FOREGOING LOCAL SCHOOL REPORTS.

In regard to the various returns contained in this Report, it is worthy of remark, that, being defective they nevertheless exhibit the state of public elementary instruction in Upper Canada somewhat below the reality.

1. *Encouraging character of the local efforts now being made.*

The facts of this Report also show with what readiness and cordiality the great body of the inhabitants of Upper Canada have availed themselves of the first facilities