

APPENDIX (G.)

In this settlement is a new, and very suitable school-house, built solely, I understand, at the expense of a gentleman of the District, Mr. Dingwell. Such exertions in the cause of education are highly praiseworthy, and were an example like this followed, not only by individuals, but by whole settlements, the educational wants of the Island would not be so great as they now are.

The School of Pisquid, after being vacant some years, has been lately reopened, under the tuition of Edward Walsh. I can make no further remark on this school, than, that the majority of the pupils are in the first stages of reading and arithmetic; and my visit having occurred shortly after the commencement of the school, I can only say that the proficiency of the scholars will form the subject of a future report; and it is to be hoped that their improvement will be satisfactory.

The only other schools in this county, receiving government aid, are at Bay Fortune, John M'Neil, Teacher. This school I found to be in a state of improvement, and the teacher giving satisfaction.

At Little Ponds, Lot 56, Edmund Shea, Teacher, whose school is but limited in number, and the improvement upon the whole appeared to be satisfactory.

At Grand River is a school, taught by Patrick Sweeney—opened a few weeks before my visit in July; and on the second occasion in October, the teacher was absent from his charge.

The great benefits which the services of the school-master confer on society are evident, no calling involves higher duties or greater responsibilities, than that of the teacher; and yet, there is no class whose services are generally less appreciated, nor any whose labours are less adequately remunerated, in this country at least. Although this is the case, no one will deny that it is imperative on those who undertake this office, to discharge with fidelity its important duties; and nothing can afford me greater satisfaction, than being the instrument of bringing the merits of such teachers before the public. But being sensible of the importance of the trust confided to me, and feeling how much the efficiency of our educational system depends on my conduct, a sense of duty will not permit me (however painful to my feelings) to pass over, without censure, any wilful neglect of duty on the part of the teacher, which comes to my knowledge; or to see the public money misapplied to undeserving objects. That such neglect in more than one instance has existed, I have some cause of suspecting; and should I find suspicion well founded, or complaints which have been made, substantiated, the teacher in question will assuredly find, that any departure from that course which has heretofore gained for them approbation, will as certainly carry with it that censure which a proceeding so culpable merits. Against any misconduct or remissness on the teacher's part, the law places a remedy to a great extent, in the hands of the school trustees; their certificate of approbation of his conduct must be obtained in order to entitle him to the government allowance; yet it is sometimes surprising to see with what facility such certificates are procured from those very parties who are loudest in their complaints of the remissness of teachers, and of the inefficiency of that educational system, which their own acts thus tend to render inoperative and ineffectual.

APPENDIX (A.)

Copy of a Letter addressed to a Committee of the Highland Society.

Charlottetown, July 28th, 1838.

GENTLEMEN,

To you as the Committee chosen by the Highland Society of Prince Edward Island, for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of the educational destitution of the Scottish part of the population, I have the honor of submitting the following statement; in the hope it may prove of some service to the society, in promoting the principal object of its formation, viz: "the introduction of suitable schoolmasters; and the importation of