

The dissentients are struggling on under the difficulties incident to a new settlement. They have sustained their school under the same teacher as last year, and have their school-house finished so as to be comfortable. The school has not been large, but appeared to be under excellent management. Fair progress had been made by the scholars.

Charleston Academy was taught during the fall, winter and spring by Mr. Johnson, from McGill Normal School. He was regarded as a good teacher. In the summer, Mr. Hall, who had been in charge of Barnston High School, was employed, and under him and Miss Harvey the school is making a good beginning and promises to have a large attendance. The people seem to be more awake to the importance of sustaining their school.

School matters seem to be, on the whole, well managed in this municipality. There are a few poor school-houses, but the larger number are good, and compare favorably with those of other sections.

4. *Magog*.—The commissioners have added another district in this municipality, making 8, though a school has not yet been opened in the new district. The other districts, with one exception, have sustained their schools. The school district No. 1 was rather small and backward, though I saw no reason to impute blame to the teacher. In No. 2, I found a large and interesting school. The scholars had made good progress for their age, and the recitations were quite creditable. The teacher seemed quite competent and efficient, but I was sorry to find, had no diploma. No. 3 is united with Magog High School, which has been taught with good success by a young man from New England. The school-house in this district is not used for a school, being quite old; the school is kept in the model school-house. An efficient private school for smaller children was kept in summer. The other school was at vacation. No. 4 has a poor house; school small and rather backward. In No. 5, the school was small and did not appear to be making much progress; teacher without diploma. No. 6 is also a small school; the scholars were young and not advanced, but seemed to be well taught. No. 7, suspended in summer for want of scholars. Districts 5 and 6 have good school-houses. As a whole, the schools of this municipality are, perhaps, hardly up to those in the adjoining townships in the district, though those in Nos. 2 and 3 will compare well with others. The model school will, I trust, prove of valuable service in fitting teachers for the other schools.

5. *Barford*.—School matters are, I think, well-cared for as a whole. Finances are in good condition, as a comparatively large assessment is laid. There were only five districts, as heretofore, at the time of my visit, but a movement was being made for a new district, which seemed to be needed. There appeared to be some difficulty, however, about the erection of a new district, from the fact that an assessment had lately been levied in the district which it was proposed to divide (No. 1), for the erection of a school-house. (This case has been already reported, and your advice taken in regard to it.) District No. 1 sustains a good school, and I expect at my next visit to find a well-finished new school-house. No. 2 also had a good school, and likewise a prospect of a well-constructed new house. This district, as well as No. 1, may soon have to be divided or somewhat changed. No. 3 had a fair school—small, good house. No. 4 had a good school; teacher competent, and scholars making good progress—good house. No. 5 had a fair school, not advanced; good house. The teachers in winter had diplomas, and seemed generally efficient. A good degree of interest is felt in schools in this municipality as in the others in this county, and, for a new township, things are in good condition. The commissioners had dispensed with the school fees to which I objected as being, in my view, illegal and unwise. I intend soon to visit this municipality again.

All the schools in Stanstead County (80), with the exception of the dissentient school in Hatley are English, and a very large proportion of the families Protestant. The branches of study pursued, the text books used, methods of teaching, form of school houses, &c., are quite similar in all, though there is considerable diversity in the advancement of the pupils, the quality of the houses, &c., as has been already intimated. As a whole, this county stands decidedly at the head in its schools; for, though there are some excellent schools in the other counties, still the schools in this county are more generally good. The seven high schools have, on the whole, done good service to the cause in fitting teachers for the elementary schools. The Board of Examiners are men careful in their examinations, and will, I trust, raise the standard of teachers. A large proportion of the children in this county attend school, I

shall give statistics in the tables. A large proportion of the teachers are females.

COUNTY OF COMPTON.

6. *Compton*.—This municipality has still the largest number of schools of any in the county. The school commissioners manifest a good degree of energy and faithfulness in the discharge of their duties. Much pains is taken to secure competent and efficient teachers, and all have diplomas. The meeting of the Teachers' Association, held here in winter, which was a decided success, seemed to produce an admirable influence upon the locality, in awakening interest in school matters. The attendance at the schools generally is good. The houses are, most of them, of much the same quality as those in Stanstead county, and the branches of study pursued are similar; arithmetic, geography and grammar receive a good share of attention, particularly the former. I found no pupils in history.

Compton High School is respectably sustained, and does, I think, good service, considering its limited funds.

7. *Clifton*.—This municipality has four districts. All the districts sustain schools, and have good houses, except No. 4. District No. 3 sustains, perhaps, rather the best schools. No. 1 has a fair school; that in No. 4 is backward. All the teachers held diplomas, and received fair wages. The funds are, I think, judiciously applied.

8. *Hereford*.—This municipality still labors under the difficulties incident to new settlements. The people are scattered, and the face of the township, being in part quite hilly, operates against the success of the schools. There are still but the four districts in the southern part of the township, and these have to be united into two for a part of the year. The commissioners have had much trouble, too, growing out of matters connected with government lands. Commendable effort is, however, made by the commissioners to keep up the schools, and to have them well kept, and the scanty funds are, I think, judiciously applied. The schools were not all open when I made my visit; scholars are yet backward. I hope for gradual improvement in the schools affairs of this municipality. The school-houses are in fair condition.

9. *Eaton* continues to sustain a high position, as regards the state of its schools. The commissioners have deemed it necessary, this season, to re-model and increase their number of school districts, and they have added three, making now 15, although the new districts have not, as yet, erected school-houses, or opened schools. There are still quite a number of the inhabitants who are badly accommodated, and it may be found necessary to make further changes. Several settlements are so connected with other municipalities, and so isolated, as regards their own, that great inconvenience is experienced in properly arranging districts. There is no section of my district where the operation of municipal limits is so unfavorable for school purposes as in Eaton and townships adjacent to it. A good assessment is raised, and the accounts, &c., are kept in fine order.

Schools will probably soon be opened in the districts lately erected.

Cookshire academy is in successful operation, under the tuition of Edward Terrill, A. B. The school-houses, except those mentioned as poor, are generally good; and some compare well with the best in the district. All the teachers have diplomas, and are well paid. The meeting of the Teacher's Association, held in Eaton in May, was well attended and awakened much interest. The independent school is well kept up. They have a good house, and sustain a good school.

10. *Newport*.—This municipality has recently been enlarged in its limits by the addition of Auckland, Ditton, Chisham, and part of Clinton, but the addition is, as yet, only in extent of territory, there being no inhabitants in the townships annexed, unless there are one or two families in Auckland. There are 4 districts, though nearly all are below the legal requirements, as to the number of scholars, and some are badly arranged. Schools have been kept in all the districts, and an independent school has been kept part of the year near Auckland.

The scholars in the three first mentioned schools, more particularly in Nos. 3 and 4, are as well advanced as in the most favored townships, as schools have been kept in these districts for years. The teachers all have diplomas. Commissioners labor under great difficulties in carrying out the law, arising from the scattered nature of the settlement and other causes. The fact that the settlements are in close proximity to others in Eaton, operates against the success of the schools in both municipalities. This was referred to in