

pupils to prolong their stay, to their own advantage,—must of course rest with the Committee.

But, for my own part, I would only venture to express a wish that a little latitude might be allowed to the inspector who takes the Ottawa district. To visit the schools of Chelsea, La Pêche, Aylmer, Bristol, and Shawville; I had over 130 miles of continuous road-travelling, at the very worst time of the year, just as the frost was “coming out,” and after heavy rain—great part of the way consisting of deep clay, thoroughly soaked, and cut into water-holes. Portions of the journey were not only difficult and fatiguing, but positively dangerous—the whole forming an arduous experience even in a life not altogether unused to hardship. My tour last year in May over the same ground was pleasant and easy. Moreover, the objection as to falling off in attendance after the month of March does not seem to hold good in this region. The following figures, showing the comparative attendance at the time of inspection for the years 1881, 1882, will prove what I have said:—

OTTAWA DISTRICT.			EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.		
	1881	1882		1881	1882
Lachute.....	50	46	Sherbrooke (boys)	12	15
Aylmer	19	8	(girls).....	25	24
Hull	16	7	Coaticook	31	35
La Pêche	8	4	Eaton	8	30
Shawville	19	15	Compton	30	31
Thurso	15	9	Dunham	3	5
Grenville	10	11	Sweetsburg	6	7
			Knowlton	9	31
			Cowansville	5	10
			Marbleton	2	7

It will be remembered that last year's inspection was held in May, and it will be seen that, in the Ottawa district, the attendance was in all but one instance larger than at the earlier date of this year's visit. If March happened to be a wintry month, it would be suitable enough.*

I now proceed to offer a few words of comment on the examination of each school on my list, taking the Academies and Model Schools separately. The order in which I have arranged them, represents my own idea of their comparative merits. Any arrangement of this kind must of course be to some extent a mere approximation, but, such as it is, it is the result of careful consideration; taking into account the number of pupils examined