

Rev. Mr. *Thurcot*, (St. Philomène.) Satisfied. Want of education in the commissioners.

Rev. Mr. *Brassard*, (Coteau du Lac.) I do not think so, the great object for the inhabitants is to have cheap schools. A man who offers himself with the assurance of giving such schools has every chance of being elected. This is the reason why so many *extinguishers* are met with among the commissioners.

Rev. Mr. *Jeannotte*, (St. Mélanie.) It is beginning to do so.

Rev. Mr. *Bélanger*, (St. Ours.) Yes.

Rev. Mr. *Aubin*, (St. George.) Yes.

Rev. Mr. *Besserer*, (Ste. Famille.) He answers that it is the indifference of the people who cannot appreciate what they do not know, and imagine that their children will not follow any other mode of living than that of cultivating the soil; according to their notions it is throwing away trouble and money to acquire knowledge which will soon be lost by the continual occupation in field labor.

Rev. Mr. *Marcoux*, (St. Régis.) Well. One of the principal causes which retard the perfect operation of the law, is the want of instruction in the Commissioners.

Rev. Mr. *Mutle*, (Ste. Hélène.) To this I answer emphatically, no! What retards education is the want of money and of educated teachers.

Rev. Mr. *Faucher*, (Lotbinière.) The principal causes which have retarded education have been the want of means to pay good masters, the want of books, the want of masters, the want of education generally among the Commissioners.

Rev. Mr. *Béland*, (St. Rémi.) The same reasons.

Rev. Mr. *Dufour*, (St. Zotique.) In three schools out of five.

Rev. Mr. *Naud*, (St. Laurent.) Well.

Rev. Mr. *Portier*, (Pointe aux Trembles.) Well.

Rev. Mr. *Delage*, (Islet.) No.

Rev. Mr. *Beaudry*, (St. Jean Chrysostôme.) Much is wanting.

Rev. Mr. *Provençal*, (St. Césaire.) "There are 14 schools in operation in St. Césaire, 4 in Ange Gardien. They are in my opinion far too numerous, being generally so thinly attended. There is but one male teacher. The female teachers in these two school-districts, with the exception of three or four, are little girls, whose education is very imperfect. In consequence, their salary is very limited. It varies from £16 to £30. You may well judge of what education can be when confided to such hands. I desired and asked for a model school, without being able to obtain it; our Commissioners, being for the most part without education, cannot work efficaciously in propagating it. Besides, I see much indifference and apathy in them. They barely make the visits required by law. The most crying disorders exist in all the school-districts and under the eyes of the Commissioners. It is all the same to them. The number of five is perhaps more embarrassing than useful. Three educated men would suffice for each Municipality. There are but a very small number of Parishes where such men could not be found. It is not just then to make the majority suffer for the minority. The rate-payers seeing disorder on the one side, and on the other the indifference of the Commissioners, conceive the most unfavorable ideas of education, they are, therefore, loud against the system of education. Hence, it follows that they cannot have sufficient zeal to send their children to any college. I do not know whether four or five could be found in the large Parish of St. Césaire who have been sent to college after having attended our little schools since the existence of the present law. You can readily understand that the answer to your 14th question will be a negative one.

"All our schools have been visited by the Inspector, I believe twice; one half hour or three quarters of an hour was generally the time devoted to each school at each visit.