

blessing on the willing hearts and hands of brethren dwelling in unity, you will be able to do. And that God may bless and prosper you a thousand fold, make you a praisela His Church and a glory in His name; and that your children may be as olive plants round about your tables—your houses abodes of righteousness and peace—little streams that go to swell the volume and increase the power of the river of our God; and that to those who come after you may transmit, intact and unsullied, the honor of your Master, is the earnest prayer of your attached pastor.

HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN TRURO.

Prize Essay by Miss Aggie McKay of Grade IX, Model School, Winner of Governor General's Silver Medal, December 3rd, 1885.

The school system existing at present is very different from that which existed a century ago.

One of the earliest schools was taught by Gavin Johnson, about 1775, in a school house which stood on the hill, where Mr. Reading's residence now stands. This hill was originally known as "Joe Moore's Hill."

Another early school was held in a little school house near where the Hon. J. B. Dickie now resides, and which we will term the "Prince street school." Mr. George Dill taught here about the year 1804. Dillworth's spelling book, and the "English Reader" were the only books used until the scholars were sufficiently advanced to read from the New Testament. A story is told at Mr. Dill's expense, and I mention it to show that "tricks" played at school now do not compare with those of former days. Mr. Dill had some distance to walk to school, and being lame, it fatigued him exceedingly. It was a very familiar sight for his pupils to see him pull his chair up before the fire-place and perch his feet upon the "crane" to rest himself. While thus situated, he generally had a succession of "naps." On one occasion he went sound asleep; when the boys, noticing this, tied all their slate-cloths together, and with this rope hurriedly improvised, secured his feet to the crane and then went out to play.

Notwithstanding all Mr. Dill's trials and tribulations, he taught, more or less, for twenty-five years, until he was appointed Prothonotary of the Supreme Court in 1831.

Mrs. Faulkner taught, about 1809, on "Joe Moore's Hill." She remained here for some time, when she removed to Upper Prince street. The trustees at this time were Messrs. Edward S. Blanchard, George Dill, and Hugh Moore. Mrs. Faulkner subsequently established a private school, which was taught in her own home. Elizabeth Miller, a niece, Miss Nancy Smith and Alice Moore, were successively teachers in this school.

Mr. James Irving taught on Prince street; and about the year 1810, in a red school house erected in a hollow, on the corner of what is now called Queen and Church streets. In wet weather the school house resembled a floating island. This hollow has disappeared, being filled in for the purpose of leveling up Queen street. Mr. Irving was educated in Edinburgh, and was considered an accomplished scholar and thorough teacher.