

our clothing is largely plant study. Plant distribution is fully as interesting as plant structure and growth. The markets to which our own plant products go add interest to the fact that we produce these products. The geography text book, therefore, may well supplement the botanical text.

A LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF NEW BRUNSWICK EDUCATION.

1802 — 1847.

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[Continued.]

A second important measure which appeared early in the legislation concerning parish schools was the principle of administration through an appointed local board. In the Acts of 1802 and 1805 the schools of each parish were to be under the "direction, regulation, control and management" of the justices of peace of the county. In 1816 the justices of the peace were authorized to appoint "two or more fit persons to be trustees of the schools in each parish of the county, at the time of making the annual appointments of town or parish offices." This method of appointing the Parish Trustees continued throughout the period under consideration. All schools of the parish were administered by these trustees even after they were authorized to divide the parish into school districts. The duties of these trustees were quite definitely outlined by the Act of 1816.¹ They were to hire the teacher; encourage all the children in the parish to attend school; appoint the free scholars; expel unruly pupils; make rules and regulations for the conduct of the school; hold a public examination twice a year in each school; apportion the Provincial grant, and, if they wished, offer prizes procured with £1 of the Government grant. In 1823 the duty of reporting was added to these. In 1829² they were empowered to dismiss a teacher for negligence and gross misconduct, but must report to the Lieutenant-Governor the conditions of such procedure. By the law of 1833³ they were authorized to divide the parish into as many school districts as was found "convenient and necessary." They

were also empowered to divide the Provincial "grant among the schools in the parish according to their respective claims, whether male or female, yearly or half-yearly schools."

In the Act of 1802 the control of the government was confirmed by the clause, "The justices shall make report to the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Assembly, at the next meeting of the General Assembly, of the monies which have been used."¹ The same was affirmed by the Act of 1805. By the Act of 1816 the parish trustees were required to "account annually to . . . the court of the General Sessions in each county . . . for all monies by them received, disbursed and distributed to and for the use of their respective schools." In 1823 the trustees were required to report to the justices, who in turn reported to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council concerning the parishes of their county. A form of certificate² was included in the law and was to be used by the trustees for this purpose. The required content of the trustees' report to the justices was taken up in the Law of 1829. It must include the number of school houses, the names of the teachers, the amount subscribed by the parish, the sum obtained by tuition fees, and the number of free scholars "together with such other remarks and observation as they may think necessary."³ By the Act of 1833 the teacher was required to report twice a year to the trustees regarding the number, age, sex, etc., of the pupils, the course of study, the number of days on which the school was actually open, etc. These reports were to be incorporated in the more general report of the trustees to the justices. They, in turn, sent a yearly schedule to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council who thereupon issued warrants for the Provincial grants for the different parishes.

By this system of elaborate accounts the government was kept informed concerning the more general facts of the administration of the schools in each parish in the province. These schools were only those which were acknowledged to be government schools and received government aid.

There was at all times a number of private schools in the province. In 1820 we find an act⁴ "confirming

¹56 G. III, Cap. XXIII, secs 6, 7, 8.

²10 G. IV, Cap. XXII, secs 1, 2.

³3Wm. IV, Cap. XXXI, secs 2, 5.

¹42 G. III, Cap. VI, sec. 3.

²4G. IV, Cap. XXV, sec. 4.

³10 G. IV, Cap. XXII, sec. 5.

⁴60 G. III, Cap. VI.