

incapacity of the master, and consequently murmurs are got up, and great disgust evinced towards the schools.

Revd. Mr. *Fortier*, (St. Michel.) Yes.

Revd. Mr. *Brunel*, (St. Damase.) The school system has always worked without opposition in this municipality, but the little time that the children generally devote to attendance at the schools and the difficulty that has existed up to the present time of procuring good teachers, are the causes, I think, which have prevented the instruction from answering either the industrial interests of the country or the expenses incurred for that purpose.

Revd. Mr. *Brassard*, (Longueuil.) Is not a commissioner, and has been absent.

Revd. Mr. *Desilets*, (St. Guillaume.) No; far from it.

Revd. Mr. *Chauvin*, (Baie St. Paul.) I think it hardly possible that all the schools in a municipality, numerous as they are, can effect this end. I am persuaded that it is only a model school which could completely produce this effect. Though I think that some of the schools of the municipality nearly attain this end.

Revd. Mr. *Tremblay*, (St. Agnès.) Yes, but there are not sufficient schools, from the want of money. There are but two schools, and there ought to be four.

Revd. Mr. *Baillargeon*, (St. Nicolas.) The instruction afforded by the qualified teachers would be sufficient, if the youth would take advantage of it; but unfortunately the children do not follow this instruction sufficiently long, nor attend to it sufficiently regularly.

Revd. Mr. *Beaumont*, (St. Jean Chrysostôme.) We might perhaps wish for more than is to be found in my parish; but time and the good inclinations of my parishioners lead me to hope that every thing will be effected without so frequently altering the laws relating to education.

Revd. Mr. *DeVillers*, (St. Norbert.) The education given in the schools is sufficient. I am of opinion that there are too many inspectors; besides the powers that are given to them, they ought to have the right of naming commissioners in localities which have refused to name any, and of forcing the commissioners of each municipality to make the school laws work.

Revd. Mr. *Archambault*, (St. Hugues de Ramsay.) The system does not yet work in such a manner as to produce sufficient results to promote the industrial interests of the country, but I think that at St. Hugues it works sufficiently well for the time that it has been in operation. "This progress does not yet harmonize with the industrial wants of the country; by no means. But it is a gradual approach to it. It was impossible to proceed faster with the elements and materials at our disposal.

"The present elementary school law is calculated to produce the greatest good, but it will only do so slowly and progressively notwithstanding what may be said by many people whose honesty and sincerity appear to me to be very problematical. The law is good for every one who will fairly put it into execution. If there has not been more progress, that does not depend upon the law, but rather on the people, who are not prepared to derive every thing from it that might be desired. A nation does not hastily pass from infancy to mature age. The vice does not rest in the law, but in the want of aptitude and good will of the people."

Revd. Mr. *Gosselin*, (St. Jean Isle d'Orléans.) Well. The causes which retard instruction lie with the commissioners and the want of assiduity in the children attending the schools.

Revd. Mr. *Poulin*, (St. Thomas.) He hopes that the system will work.

Revd. Mr. *Lévesque*, (St. Marc.) Very well. He recommends rendering the mode of teaching uniform.

Revd. Mr. *Aubry*, (St. Léon.) No. The teachers are not sufficiently paid.