

forty-five to fifty-five years of age. Their chief object in writing me seemed ~~xxxxx~~ to be that they were anxious to tell me how successful they had been in life, some of them having been knighted, others being millionaires or retired with a competency ~~xxxxxxx~~ &c &c. As is always the case in correspondence of this nature they all proudly assert that a large part of their success in life was due to the sound education we gave them in the English School, generally known as the "Merchants School" of Valparaiso of which I was Headmaster for over twelve years. While all those who left school with a Senior Certificate could speak, read and write four languages they all seem to feel that the drilling they got in Latin and kindred subjects had given them a mental grip of things which they would not otherwise have acquired, by making them exact and more appreciative of real values. In this school I may tell you I was Schoolmaster, School Commissioners and Board of Education all in one - an expert only responsible to God and to the children when they reached manhood or womanhood; and I am glad and humbly thankful that I have lived long enough to know that the old and somewhat medieval parish school system of Scotland has given unexpected results even when applied to the heterogeneous crowd of young people, drawn from the Isthmus of Panama to the Straits of Magellan and from the interior of Bolivia and Peru, who passed through "Fowlie's School".

I may add in closing that I had taught Latin and Greek in the Paisley Grammar School and Academy, one of the oldest and most highly reputed Burgh Grammar Schools in Scotland, before I was selected by the late merchant Alexander Balfour, the distinguished ~~xxxxxxx~~ and philanthropist of Liverpool, to re-organize their English School in Valparaiso, Chile. Needless to say that I made the curriculum of the Paisley Grammar School the basis or rather the outline of my future programme of work, and it is pleasing to know after so many years that my programme has proved eminently satisfactory both to teachers and taught.

I am, Yours very sincerely,

James F. Fowlie
J. F. Fowlie