

APRIL 15.

"WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY."—2 Cor. iii. 1.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Inscrutable good faith shall ever be observed with those of our Correspondents who may confide in us; but anonymous communications cannot receive any attention. We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.]

To THE EDITOR OF THE PROTECTOR.

Sir.—Having in my last letter shown to your readers that the second visit of inspection to the Schools, during the year, was virtually dispensed with by the Legislature, in the session of 1855, and that the Executive Council acknowledged itself at fault in not at once notifying me to that effect, by sending to the Secretary of the Board of Education, the official document, dated 11th August, 1855, before any report on the subject had been made by me, I shall now proceed to expose other of the Editor of the Examiner's inaccuracies and misrepresentations, to use the mildest possible terms.

The article contains so many palpable contradictions, that any other reader than blindfolded partisans would discover that his statements refute themselves; but, as I wished, are leaving the Colony, to give the public correct information regarding my dealings with a Government, whose Leader has had the unmitigated to make false charges against me in his absence, which he very well knew he dared not make to one person, or where there was any chance of my replying, I have thought that the end would be best served by publishing the correspondence which passed between the Royal Society and myself.

I had no long held in the office of Inspector of Schools, when I found that the funds and labor which its duties necessitated would leave me no leisure to prepare lectures on Agricultural Chemistry, as I had undertaken to do; and at the end of the second year of my engagement, I stated this, in conversation with a Member of the Executive, who is also an influential member of the Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society. At the monthly meeting of the Committee of that Society, immediately succeeding this conversation, (5th Sept., 1855), the following motion was made and resolution passed:—

Moved, That the Committee of Royal Agricultural Society are of opinion, that Mr. Stark's duties as School Visitor having greatly increased, he ought to receive the necessary attention to his duty as Agricultural Inspector.

Resolved, That application be made to the Government respecting the matter, and praying that the sum now taken from the Agricultural Society's grant be withdrawn from Mr. Stark, and the Society allowed to apply it for other purposes.

The above motion and resolution are copied from Hazzard's Gazette, September 19, 1855.

The lecturing duties I continued to perform till the end of 1855, on the understanding that the Legislature, when in session, would take steps in the matter. On the 1st of March, 1856, three hundred pounds were voted for School visiting, without any reference to lecturing on Agricultural Chemistry. This was voted along with the salaries provided by Statute, and was included in the Government estimates laid before the House; but a memorial addressed by the Royal Agricultural Society to the Government, which ought to have been laid before the House of Assembly, and would have placed the Government, I trust Society and myself, in the proper light before the Legislature and the public, was withheld, and only made use of by the Government nearly 12 months after, when it suited their own ends. The following paper will show what occasion this occurred:—

(Copy) Royal Agricultural Society, 6th January, 1857. Excelling the Lieutenant Governor, Sir, Having informed His Excellency that you have directed me to cease to lecture on Agricultural Chemistry, I have requested that the sum of one hundred pounds hitherto received by you for that service, out of their funds, may be withdrawn. I am instructed by His Excellency in Council, to acquaint you, that after the expiration of the present quarter, your Royal Society, as Inspector of Schools, will be in accordance with the 24th section of the Education Act.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
CHARLES DESBRIAY, C. C.

(Copy) Charlottetown, January 14th, 1857.
Charles Desbriay, Esq., C. C.

Sir,—I will favor you by conveying to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council, the communication I have in my possession from the Council, of the 6th instant, ordered by His Excellency in Council, respecting the reduction of my salary as Inspector of Schools, after the expiration of the present quarter.

I would respectfully request that His Excellency in Council would favor me with a copy of the communication from the Royal Agricultural Society, requesting that such reduction be made, on the ground of my having ceased to lecture on Agricultural Chemistry. I would also beg to observe, that the vote of the House of Assembly, fixing the salary of School Visitor at \$2000, until further legislation on the matter, without any reference whatever to the Royal Agricultural Society, is being well known, both to that Society and the Legislature, that I had ceased to lecture some time previous.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
JOHN M. STARK, Inspector of Schools.

(Copy) Charlottetown, February 14th, 1857.
Charles Desbriay, Esq., C. C.

Sir,—You will favor me by informing His Excellency in Council, that I hereby beg most respectfully to resign on the first of May next, my office as Inspector or Visitor of the Public Schools, and while I hold it in virtue of an appointment made by the Executive-Council, I will resign on the 2d, 1853, according to the terms of an Act intituled "An Act for the encouragement of Education," &c. &c., passed in 1852.

As regards the vote of the House of Assembly, of the 1st of March last, in your communication, I am instructed to state, that it was for the current year only.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
CHARLES DESBRIAY, C. C.

(Copy) Charlottetown, February 1st, 1857.
John M. Stark, Inspector of Schools, Esq., &c. &c.

(Copy) To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

The Memorial of the Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society.

Humblye sheweth—

That the year 1856 Mr. Stark, School Visitor, was engaged to deliver Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry, at an annual stipend of \$2000.

The sum of \$2000, which Mr. Stark's duties as School Visitor have increased as much of late, he cannot afford to shift to agricultural matters, the importance of which subject requires.

Your Memorialists therefore pray, that the sum of one hundred pounds, now taken from the Agricultural Chemistry, be restored to him, and that your Memorialists be allowed to apply it for other purposes connected with the Society.

By order,

W. W. IRVING,
Secty. and Treasurer R. A. Society

Committee Room, Charlottetown, Wednesday, 6th February, 1856.

A true copy, CHARLES DESBRIAY, C. C.

[Extract from Minutes of the Executive Council.]

Council Chamber, 21st February, 1857.

Present:—The Right Hon. the Lieutenant Governor, &c., &c., &c., &c., &c.

The Board having sat in intermission, the communication, dated 14th February instant, addressed by Mr. Stark, in the Clerk of Schools, in the Clerk of the Council, intimating his desire to resign that office on the first day of May next, and further requesting of the Council, that he be made ex-officio, to the Board of Education, and placed by them as Inspector of Schools, and thereby his authority, as Superintendent, rendered null and void, or, if opinion, that Mr. Stark is not justified in making the statement, he has done, as to the effect of the writing of the document, &c., &c., &c., &c., &c.

The Act of 1852 which established the Normal School, by its 3d Section, provides as follows: "The Master of the Normal School shall be conducted, unless when otherwise provided for in this Act, shall be ordained by proper regulations, and made fit for that purpose by the Board of Education, and placed by them as Inspector of Schools, and thereby his authority, as Superintendent, rendered null and void, or, if opinion, that Mr. Stark is not justified in making the statement, he has done, as to the effect of the writing of the document, &c., &c., &c., &c., &c."

In accordance with the foregoing provision, five rates relating to certain points connected with the conduct of the Normal School, were submitted to the Council on the 5th of February, 1857.

The first rate made the hours of attendance of the pupils extend from nine o'clock, a.m., to four o'clock, p.m., on each day, which being considered too long, an alteration of the hours from ten o'clock, a.m., to three o'clock, p.m., was suggested.

The third rate was for evening holidays, was disengaged.

The fourth rate, which required the Master to be on duty from nine to four, with half an hour's intermission, was accepted.

The fifth rate, providing that one day in the week should be set aside for the public to visit, was disengaged; the Council

come, those hours would be considered very moderate for a young man of his age and standing, receiving his present salary. I then anticipated that, ere the time arrived for making the Summer arrangements, the Legislature, if they visited the Normal School to inspect, or to prove the merits of the school, would have taken steps for the appointment of a Tutor, or second Master for the students. From the very different dispositions of the students on admission, it is absolutely necessary that they should be instructed in all the branches which they are required afterwards to teach; and for this purpose, two hours, daily, are not sufficient, but it is the most that can be had with only one Master. Knowing the requirements of the students, the Master of the Normal School made no objection to giving the students two hours special instruction, daily, and for a time, all went well. But very soon his love of pleasure and amusement, of a kind more inconsistent with his position and profession, led him to curtail these hours, and sometimes to cut them off altogether. Finding remonstrance futile, and my authority, as Superintendent, and that of two other Members of the Board of Education, set at nought on this and other particular connected with the welfare of the Institution, it became necessary for me to submit, the following rates (with any reasons for so doing) for the governance of the Normal School, to the Board of Education, for their sanction, at the meeting, on the 23rd December last.

Rule 1st, That the hours of attendance for Students during the Winter term shall be from 8 a.m. to, 4 p.m., with half an hour's intermission, so that the Master of the School, under the present circumstances of the Institution, will be able to give them two hours special instruction daily.

Rule 2d, That no holidays shall be given, at any time, without the concurrence of the Superintendent, or, in his absence, of the Secretary and other Members of the Board.

Rule 3d, That the daily and weekly costings for Students and Children be constantly kept, up in their respective class-rooms.

Rule 4th, That a monthly account, in detail, of the instruction imparted to the Students, and of their attendance, be submitted to the Superintendent, at the end of each calendar month.

Rule 5th, That one day in the week be appointed, on which the public may visit the Institutions, and visitors' book be kept, in which such visitors may insert their names.

(Copy) Charlottetown, March 4th, 1857.

Charles Desbriay, Esq., C. C.

Sir,—You will oblige me by conveying to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council my respectful request, that he would be pleased to order that the rates submitted by me, and approved of by the Board of Education, for the governance of the Normal School, be adopted by the Executive-Council, so that the Superintendent may have the full benefit of the same.

Rule 6th, That the hours of attendance for students, during the winter term, shall be from 9 a.m. to, 4 p.m., with half an hour's intermission, so that the Master of the School, under the present circumstances of the Institution, will be able to give them two hours special instruction daily.

Rule 7th, That no holidays shall be given, at any time, without the concurrence of the Superintendent, or, in his absence, of the Secretary and other Members of the Board.

Rule 8th, That the daily and weekly costings for Students and Children be constantly kept, up in their respective class-rooms.

Rule 9th, That a monthly account, in detail, of the instruction imparted to the Students, and of their attendance, be submitted to the Superintendent, at the end of each calendar month.

Rule 10th, That one day in the week be appointed, on which the public may visit the Institutions, and visitors' book be kept, in which such visitors may insert their names.

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Rule 11th, That the hours of attendance for students, during the winter term, shall be from 9 a.m. to, 4 p.m., with half an hour's intermission, so that the Master of the School, under the present circumstances of the Institution, will be able to give them two hours special instruction daily.

Rule 12th, That no holidays shall be given, at any time, without the concurrence of the Superintendent, or, in his absence, of the Secretary and other Members of the Board.

Rule 13th, That the daily and weekly costings for Students and Children be constantly kept, up in their respective class-rooms.

Rule 14th, That a monthly account, in detail, of the instruction imparted to the Students, and of their attendance, be submitted to the Superintendent, at the end of each calendar month.

Rule 15th, That one day in the week be appointed, on which the public may visit the Institutions, and visitors' book be kept, in which such visitors may insert their names.

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Rule 16th, That the hours of attendance for students, during the winter term, shall be from 9 a.m. to, 4 p.m., with half an hour's intermission, so that the Master of the School, under the present circumstances of the Institution, will be able to give them two hours special instruction daily.

Rule 17th, That no holidays shall be given, at any time, without the concurrence of the Superintendent, or, in his absence, of the Secretary and other Members of the Board.

Rule 18th, That the daily and weekly costings for Students and Children be constantly kept, up in their respective class-rooms.

Rule 19th, That a monthly account, in detail, of the instruction imparted to the Students, and of their attendance, be submitted to the Superintendent, at the end of each calendar month.

Rule 20th, That one day in the week be appointed, on which the public may visit the Institutions, and visitors' book be kept, in which such visitors may insert their names.

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Rule 21st, That the hours of attendance for students, during the winter term, shall be from 9 a.m. to, 4 p.m., with half an hour's intermission, so that the Master of the School, under the present circumstances of the Institution, will be able to give them two hours special instruction daily.

Rule 22nd, That no holidays shall be given, at any time, without the concurrence of the Superintendent, or, in his absence, of the Secretary and other Members of the Board.

Rule 23rd, That the daily and weekly costings for Students and Children be constantly kept, up in their respective class-rooms.

Rule 24th, That a monthly account, in detail, of the instruction imparted to the Students, and of their attendance, be submitted to the Superintendent, at the end of each calendar month.

Rule 25th, That one day in the week be appointed, on which the public may visit the Institutions, and visitors' book be kept, in which such visitors may insert their names.

during that a rule should be framed, allowing the public to visit the Normal School more frequently, for the convenience of parties coming in from the country, who might desire to visit the institution. In fact, the final consideration of the fifth rule was deferential, although the Clerk of the Board of Education, and the Clerk of the Board of Education, stated it to be unnecessary.

The Council are quite unable to perceive how the action taken by R. Stark, as above mentioned, can be construed into rendering Mr. Stark's authority null and void. They consider that Mr. Stark, if he believed the regulations in question to be of such vast importance, and the education of the children, should have addressed a letter to the Board of Education, requesting a change in the rules, either through the Board of Education, or through the Legislature.

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