

torship as authorised by law; former inspectors, in many instances, did not do their duty; inspectors to examine schools twice a year, there are four hundred third class teachers in the province; intends to make a record of the character and qualifications of teachers; the establishment of county boards contemplated; trustees should do their duty without pay, but should be freed from sitting on juries; duties of trustees and committees explained; want of globes, maps, black-boards, and proper school-books; all payments by the inhabitants in aid of education, to be in cash; the assessment principle favorable to the advancement of education; bad state of school houses in many places; the public mind favourable to education generally.

Such is a brief outline of a few of the various subjects referred to by Mr Fisher, some of which were dealt with at some length.

The opinion of the meeting was taken, and found decidedly in favour of supporting schools by direct assessment.

There appears to be a prevailing feeling in the minds of those having charge of the common school institutions of the country to bestow all the emoluments

on persons over whose conduct the people have little or no control. Mr Fisher says that education did not make satisfactory progress under the law which gave trustees charge of the schools: but that the inspectorship, under existing regulations, if properly carried out, will remedy the prevailing evils. It is to be hoped that such will be the result under the present inspectorship, who each get 250*l.* per annum. But it should not be forgotten that the trustees, three for each parish, had nearly all this duty, with their present duties, to perform for nothing, consequently the work could not be expected to be very satisfactorily done. We really wonder that it was so well done.

Had the trustees been allowed twenty shillings per annum for the examination of each school, we have no doubt but the duties would have been as well done, and certainly much cheaper, than under any subsequent law. Such a course would have been the means of imparting a local stimulus; and any person would have felt a direct interest in the promotion of education; the public would have been better qualified for the duties of the office, besides a more equitable distribution of the public monies would have prevailed.

OCEAN TELEGRAPH.

THE communication of knowledge by telegraph, though of recent discovery, is now assuming a most important aspect. The developments continually being made by the application of the arts and sciences are truly wonderful.—Almost every property in nature is now being made to minister to the requirements of man.

When man began to employ the electric element for the transmission of his thoughts and desires for a few yards in extent, intelligence itself stood amazed and astonished at the result; and when the system became improved, and telegraph lines began to multiply, and the different countries of Christendom to be traversed by these lines of communication, then was the mind of the mass of mankind filled, not only with wonder, but many entertained superstitious notions as to the means employed and the

end to be gained by this remarkable means of holding correspondence, and the power by which it was managed.

As soon as the power and the *modus operandi* of telegraphing became understood, country began to vie with country as to its extension. Not only have the most of the nations of the earth employed this means of transmitting thought, but science and art has again been called into play; telegraph cables have been constructed and placed in the bottom of rivers, lakes, straits, gulfs, and seas, where the electric current passes to and fro, conveying thoughts and desires as freely as if suspended in the air.

But who would have thought for a moment of a sub-marine cable being made to span the Atlantic ocean? Such is the stretch of man's ability to accomplish—continent holding converse with