

TABLE 3.

Temperature observed at Quebec, 1790, showing an unusual continuance of Extreme Cold.

Monday,	8th February,	8 A.M.,	+ 8
		Noon,	+11
		5 P.M.,	-11
		Midnight,	-23.50
Tuesday,	9th "	11 A.M.,	-27
		7 "	-29
		2 P.M.,	-16
		5 "	-18
Wednesday,	10th "	11 "	-27
		1 A.M.,	-29
		7 "	-32
		2 P.M.,	-10
Thursday,	11th "	5 "	-13
		Midnight,	-20
		1 A.M.,	-22
		7 "	-25
Friday,	12th "	2 P.M.,	- 5
		5 "	- 7
		Midnight,	-11
		7 A.M.,	-12
Saturday,	13th "	Noon,	- 3
		Midnight,	- 3
		7 A.M.,	- 7
		2 P.M.,	+11

Mem.—A corresponding week occurred in the year 1810, also at Quebec, but not quite so severe—from observations made on Cape Diamond.

January 11th	0 Zero.
12th	- 5
13th	+ 1
14th	-10
15th	-10
16th	-25
17th	-20
18th	-12

TABLE 4,

Showing the Extremes of Heat and Cold at Quebec, for Eleven Years, from 1800 to 1810 inclusive, from the Appendix to Smith's History of Canada.

Year.	Day.	Max.	Day.	Min.
1800	6th July,	96.00	29th January,	- 6.00
1801	31st July,	89.00	{ 4th January, } { 10th February, }	-10.00
1802	27th July,	86.00	6th February,	-20.00
1803	9th July,	97.00	4th January,	-18.00
1804	22d June,	90.00	21st January,	-22.00
1805	18th July,	91.00	5th January,	-20.00
1806	15th July,	85.00	{ 17th January, } { 6th February, }	- 8.00
1807	12th July,	96.00	26th January,	-20.00
1808	16th July,	96.00	16th January,	-13.00
1809	27th June,	92.00	14th January,	-26.00
1810	18th June,	90.00	20th January,	-26.00

TABLE 5,

Showing the Maxima and Minima at Montreal for Five Years—1836 to 1840, from my own Tables.

Year.	Max.	Min.
1836	90.00	-13.00
1837	90.00	-18.00
1838	90.00	-13.00
1839	89.00	-18.00
1840	91.00	-14.50

ART. XXXIII.—1. Report on a System of Public Elementary Instruction for Upper Canada. Montreal, 1847.

2. Special Report of the Measures which have been adopted for the Establishment of a Normal School; and for carrying into effect generally the Common School Act (for U. C.) of 9th Victoria, cap. 20; with an Appendix. Montreal, 1847.

3. Annual Report of Common Schools for Upper Canada for 1846. Montreal, 1847. By the Rev. Dr. RYERSON, Chief Superintendent of Schools for Upper Canada.

4. Letters on Elementary and Practical Education. To which is added a French Translation. Montreal, 1841. By CHARLES MONDELET, Esq.

5. Annual Report of Common Schools for Lower Canada for 1846. Montreal, 1847. By Dr. J. B. MELLEUR, Chief Superintendent of Education, Lower Canada.

Of all the objects which can engage the attention of the statesman, the philosopher, the philanthropist, or the Christian, there is not one of deeper interest or higher importance than that which is embraced in the above-mentioned five documents; therefore, whatever may be the diversity of opinion which unhappily prevails in this Province regarding the *modus operandi*, in the introduction of a system of *public Elementary Instruction*, every reflecting man must be prepared to acquiesce in the urgent policy and necessity of such a measure, and admit that *the* great initiatory step has at length been accomplished by *the Government and the Legislature*, and that the amount of practical success which shall be reaped, must henceforward depend on the cordial spirit with which *the people* shall co-operate in the great work.

Unfortunately for our noble Province, the rancour of party feeling, in conjunction with that curse of Canada, the ungenerous and uncalled-for war of races and sects, seems still destined to embarrass and retard for a time even the most unexceptionable attempts at improvement, be it either in our public or social organization. But we are not without hope that better days are in store for us; and we even trust that much will ere long be accomplished through the medium of the powerful agency of the system of popular education now in operation—though its value may yet, in some quarters, be ill understood or appreciated, and may for a time furnish a few heartless demagogues a fertile source of party strife. If, therefore, we shall, by our humble efforts in favour of the better understanding of so estimable an object, prove at all instrumental in accelerating “a consummation so devoutly to be wished,” we shall ever rejoice in the perhaps rather rash but disinterested patriotic step which we have been induced to volunteer in its behalf, at a rather peculiar crisis.* We would, however, wish to observe, that in deprecating the mischievous workings of sheer party feeling, and the miserably undignified

* It may be proper to state that the writer of this Essay is unconscious of any unworthy party feelings, and that he is equally free from any personal bias, being altogether unknown to the writers of the different documents which form the heading of this article.