

Extracts from the Reports of Inspectors of Schools, for 1859 and 1860.

(Concluded.)

Extracts from Mr. McCORD'S Report.

1. *Notre-Dame de Bonsecours*.—There were two schools in operation, conducted by teachers holding diplomas from the Montreal Catholic Board of Examiners. Their salaries were \$180 each.

About 100 pupils were in attendance, or less than half the number of the children of school age in the municipality. The Commissioners did all in their power to carry out the law, but their zealous efforts were counteracted by the indifference and poverty of the ratepayers.

2. *Ste. Angélique*.—The schools in operation under the control of the Commissioners were three in number, with an attendance of only one hundred children out of nearly 350 of school age in the municipality. Two of the teachers were licensed and in receipt of salaries of \$180 each. One of these schools was in charge of a female teacher, who also had a diploma. Her salary was \$72 per annum with board found by the different ratepayers. Although these teachers were not devoid of capacity, few of their pupils made satisfactory progress. Besides the above there were two dissentient schools under the management of the Trustees, and attended by 50 out of the 83 children of the municipality. One of the schools was conducted by a teacher who was allowed a salary of \$216; and the other by a female teacher with a salary of \$72 and boarding from house to house. Both these teachers had diplomas.

3. *St. André Arélin*.—There were 400 children of school age in this municipality; of this number about 120 attended the schools and were progressing in their studies. The ratepayers were well disposed towards education. The teachers' salaries ranged from \$80 to \$160.

4. *Lochaber*.—This municipality, divided into nine districts, had but four schools. The number of children in this place was 550, but only 150 attended school. Three of the teachers were paid \$60, \$104 and \$108 respectively, besides their board with the ratepayers. The other teacher received \$144, without board. The management of the affairs of the municipality was very unsatisfactory, each district managing its own business separately. Although petty jealousies prevailed in all parts of this township; the Inspector believed that a better state of things would soon be brought about, as the cause of education had many friends here.

5. *Buckingham*.—There were five schools under the control of the commissioners, which were frequented by about 200 pupils, the whole number of children in the municipality being 700. Here, as in the preceding municipality, the districts managed their school affairs separately. There were four dissentient schools in operation under the trustees, with an attendance of over 200 pupils.

The academy of the village of Buckingham, conducted by Mr. Fitzgerald, was attended by 50 pupils whose progress was satisfactory.

6. *Templeton*.—There were 5 schools open in this municipality, frequented by about 350 pupils.

7. *Waterloo*.—The school in operation in this place was as successfully conducted as any in this district of inspection.

8. *Hull*.—Schools were open in 7 or 8 of the 15 districts comprised in this municipality. The affairs of the Corporation were in a sad condition, owing to sectional animosity and a feeling of opposition to the tax in some quarters. Here also the practice of separate administration by districts prevailed. Other circumstances, however, added to the difficulties experienced by the Commissioners; a secretary-treasurer had neglected to deliver his books to them, while another functionary of the same class had detained the books so long in his hands that they were scarcely of any service when returned.

9. *Masham*.—There were six schools open in this township when the Inspector's visit took place. The salaries allowed the teachers were generally higher than in the other municipalities of this district, and the most praiseworthy efforts were made in this municipality to promote education.

10. *Wakefield*.—The affairs of this municipality were in a deplorable condition. There was but one school in operation, and the settlers refused to pay the assessment.

11. *Love*.—There were no schools here. The inhabitants opposed the levying of the tax.

12. *Maniouaki*.—The school of this new and wild settlement, after it had been closed for some time, was reopened. The principal settlers were so divided in regard to this school that they no longer appeared disposed to contribute to its support. The Rev. Oblat Missionaries, however, had exerted their powerful influence in the matter and succeeded in keeping the establishment open.

13. *Aylmer*.—There were two schools here, in connection with the local Catholic academy. One of the teachers was about to leave, and the Commissioners had advertised the situation. The dissentient trustees had an excellent school under their control, conducted by Miss Grant, a clever teacher. Besides the academy above mentioned, there was a Protestant academy in Aylmer, whose teacher was held in much esteem. The two institutions would no doubt be found very progressive.

14. *Eardley*.—This municipality maintained three schools. The Commissioners, and notably their Chairman, were very zealous; but the ratepayers were poor, and dissensions existed with regard to the location of a schoolhouse.

15. *Onslow*.—Several years of mismanagement, during which the school grant was obtained irregularly, and the total absence of statistical records if we except the register containing the minutes of meeting, had greatly contributed to bring about a sad state of affairs, from which the municipality would not probably emerge until the law was fully carried out.

16. *Bristol*.—This township possessed three schools. The affairs of the Commissioners were in a very unsatisfactory condition, and large arrears of taxes remained uncollected—the lawsuits commenced several years ago to recover these taxes having proved ineffectual. The system of independent local administration was in force, each school district managing its own affairs.

17. *Clarendon*.—Five schools were established in this municipality. Some years ago actions were instituted against the commissioners, and the schoolhouses had to be sold to satisfy the creditors. Difficulties innumerable had beset the municipality since that time, and their influence was still felt. The districts of this municipality were left to manage their own affairs independently; and, as in Bristol, it was found impossible to put executions against delinquent ratepayers into effect, in consequence of threatened violence to the officers of justice.

The academy was very ably conducted by Mr. Goslin.

18. *Litchfield*.—A small proportion of the children of this municipality frequented its schools. The attendance, however, was better at Portage-du-Fort, where a good school was maintained. The Commissioners were very active and no doubt this would hasten the development of education here.

19. *Calumet*.—Two schools were open in this municipality. The system of independent administration in each district was adhered to, and caused much embarrassment.

20. *Allumettes*.—Four schools were open in this municipality. The majority of ratepayers were opposed to the assessment, and their opposition had been fostered by persons who could have rendered good service to education had they been disposed to do so. The efforts of the Inspector to remove this hostile feeling were ably seconded by the Curé and other persons, and success was anticipated.

21. *Mansfield-Waltham*.—This municipality, though poor, possessed three schools, of which two were ably conducted.

22. *Chichester*.—Although poor the ratepayers of this municipality also supported three schools, and the Commissioners spared no pains to make them as efficient as possible. The school affairs were not yet managed exactly as they ought to be.

23. *Sheen*.—This township is the most remote of this district of inspection. The ratepayers were poor but maintained two schools, one of which was very well conducted.

Extracts from the Reports of the School Inspectors, for the years 1861 and 1862.

(Translated by order of the Legislative Assembly.)

Extract from the Report of Mr. Inspector PAINCHAUD.

MAGDALEN ISLANDS.

The schools work well where they are in operation; the evil in this remote locality is the difficulty of procuring teachers who are competent and who hold diplomas.