

that he had conscientious scruples against using them and the Board in consideration "of his great merit as a preceptor" did not insist on his violating his conscience, but allowed him to continue his prayers as formerly. They altered the school hours, however, from 7 a. m. to 8 a. m., from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m., and from 1 p. m. to 4 p. m. during the months of September and October, and fixed upon October 1st as the commencement of the curriculum for the year. A class in Hebrew was also established, and owing to the great range of subjects taught during the day, it was decided that for the future the mathematical class should be taken up at some hour in the evening. Such a well filled school day as this would scarcely meet with favor by the advanced educationists of the present day.

The school continued to flourish under the principalship of Mr. Patterson, and its advantages having gone abroad in the province, numerous applications were received from parents in other parts of New Brunswick for the admission of their sons into the school. The chief difficulty in the way was the lack of suitable boarding places for the boys. The resolution of the Board to erect a dwelling for the preceptor had not been carried out, and on December 27, 1819, the Board, by another resolution, decided to erect a dwelling house large enough to allow the preceptor to take in boarders, and petitioned the General Assembly for a grant to "enable them to carry out so desirable an object." There is no record of an additional grant, and as the Clerk, on April 6, 1820, was ordered to invest £250 on hand, it would seem that the resolution was never carried out. For four years everything went on harmoniously, the board holding the regular semi-annual examinations and reporting themselves as highly satisfied with the preceptor and the progress made by the scholars. A correspondent of a city newspaper did not find everything as satisfactory as the Board thought it was, and wrote a rather severe criticism of the management of the school, which was printed in the *City Gazette*, a newspaper published by William Durant. At the next meeting of the Board, held on April 10, 1824, the following minute was recorded:

"The Board having observed that in the *City Gazette*, published by William Durant, there is an insertion containing remarks on the visitation of the public Grammar School on Monday last, which were not authorized by any order of this Board, or anything which was said by the President or Directors who held the examination; and considering it highly improper that any statement of this kind should appear in the public prints without the order or approval of this Board, it is therefore ordered that the clerk be desired to call upon Mr. Durant for the name of the person who furnished him with the above remarks, and also to deliver to each of the printers in this city a copy of this order."