

rate-payers of the townships in which they resided felt aggrieved in being taxed for their support, and one blind boy no longer supported by Peterboro' County Council, made his way to the States with the view of obtaining admission into one of the Institutions there, so that he might learn some handicraft trade by which he might earn an independent livelihood.

Bearing upon this important matter, there is one circumstance which it is necessary to mention, namely, that in cases when County Councils vote one-half the sum required for the board and education of their beneficiaries and the Township the other half, much difficulty occurs on the part of Township Councillors, and great dissatisfaction on the part of parents, whose sensibilities are deeply wounded by their taxed neighbors, simply because they have to pay for "dummies." I am surprised that such characters would humiliate themselves by sending their speaking children to a free school, for the support of which the parents of deaf-mutes are taxed. The deaf and dumb have as much right to be educated by the County as those in possession of all their faculties; indeed, the claims of deaf-mutes and blind persons are much stronger, and call loudly for equal rights and privileges, which it is hoped will soon be given them.

In cases where the amount is levied upon the whole County, as in York and Peel, Wellington and Halton, no difficulty presents itself. I may here state, that from the opening of the Institution to the present time, these County Councils have extended to us a friendly and generous hand. It is, however, to be regretted that they cannot entertain the claims made upon them by the parents of this unfortunate class till a law be enacted to authorise them to carry into practical effect their benevolent intentions, namely, supporting every indigent deaf-mute and blind in their respective Counties.

The trying circumstances in which we have been placed in our efforts to provide funds for the support of the Institution, and the means to pay Teachers' salaries, added to the fact, that the course hitherto pursued in that way impedes, in a great measure, the progress of deaf mute education in this country, and blights the anticipated prospects of the blind in their sanguine expectations to learn some handicraft trade by which they may become useful and self-sustaining members of Society, rendered it my plain duty to remove the incubus which presses so heavily upon the future welfare of these classes by throwing it over on the shoulders of the Government to whom I stated in writing the grounds upon which I decline the great responsibilities attached to the support of the Institution.

They are these :

Firstly. Because some of the County Councils from which I have received countenance and support will not continue their beneficiaries

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