

of it was, at his suggestion, placed in the hands of John Waudby, Esquire, Editor of the *Kingston Herald*. It was issued in Toronto early in 1841, but ceased on the death of Lord Sydenham, in September of that year." (Pages 264, 265.)

1844. In Letters to England from America in 1844, by Mr. J. R. Godley, I make the following Extract:—

Education among the "lower orders" is in rather an unsatisfactory state in Upper Canada; the elementary parts of it, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, are perhaps as generally diffused as at home, and, at any rate, where the population were so well off, as is the case here, the demand for such "practical" education will inevitably produce the supply; but, at the national Common Schools it is impossible, from the state of society and the policy of the Government, to impart any religious instruction.

At present, there is in each "District" a Grammar School, supported by the State, the Master of which, gets One Hundred pounds (£100,) a year. These Schools are subject to the inspection of Trustees, appointed by the Provincial Government, and consisting generally of the Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Presbyterian Ministers, and of any laymen who may be deemed proper for the purpose.

These Schools are, I believe, tolerably well taught and managed; but, of course, they avail nothing to the great mass of the people scattered through the District, which embraces a vast extent of country. Recently, by an Act of Lord Sydenham's Parliament, of 1841, Municipal Councils have been established after the American mode, elected by the people, who transact the local business of each Township, very much in the same way that Magistrates in Quarter-Sessions do in England; and, among their duties, is the Establishment and Maintenance of Township Common Schools, for the support of which, they are empowered to levy a tax; and the Masters of which, they, of course, appoint. It is very easy to conjecture, from the composition of these Councils, what sort of appointments they are likely to make; as in our Poor Law Unions at home, politics, private friendship, everything, in short, but proper qualifications, influence their selections; so badly, indeed, has the plan worked, and so great is the outcry against it, that I believe there is no doubt the Law will be altered and remodelled; but, as there is not the least chance that Government will make the Church of England the means of educating the people, and, as secular instruction will take care of itself, where it is wanted, I look to the various schemes of State Education without much hope, or interest.

J. R. G.

1841-44. IMPROVEMENT IN THE STATE OF EDUCATION IN UPPER CANADA.

Up to the time of the Union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada in 1840 the control, or direction, of Education in Upper Canada was rather carried on in rather a desultory fashion. In 1842, the system of Education in the two Provinces was placed under the general control of the Provincial Secretary with an Assistant Superintendent on each Province.

The Reverend Robert Murray, M.A., was appointed as the Assistant Superintendent for Upper Canada, although the Reverend Doctor Egerton Ryerson was suggested by Lord Sydenham, the Governor General for that office. Sir Charles Bagot, the Lieutenant-Governor, however, appointed the Reverend Robert Murray, M.A., to the position in 1842. Mr. Murray, having felt the anomalousness of his position, and his inability and powerlessness to establish a system of Public School Education, resigned his position and accepted that of Professor of Mathematics in the University of Toronto.

The circumstances under which the Reverend Doctor Ryerson, then Principal of Victoria College, was subsequently appointed as Assistant Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada are thus described by himself:—

"In the last interview with which I was honoured by [Lord Sydenham], he intimated to me, that he thought I might be more usefully employed for this Country than in my present limited sphere; and where there was not some position in which I could more advantageously serve the Country at large. I remarked, that I could not resign my present official position in the Church, with the advocacy of whose interests I had been entrusted, until their final and satisfactory adjustment by the Government, as I might thereby be represented as having abandoned or sacrificed their interest; but that after such adjustment I should feel myself very differently situated, and free to do anything which might be beneficial to the Country, and which might be beneficial to the Country, and which involved no compromise of my professional character; that I knew of no such position likely to be at the disposal of the Government except the