For the REVIEW.]

New Brunswick Schools of the Olden Time.

BY W. O. RAYMOND, M. A.

(Continued.)

The following document shows very clearly the loose way in which the business of the New England Company was then conducted, and the inducements which were held out to the noble red man to obtain his consent to be educated and civilized:

"This agreement witnesseth that I, Joseph Maductick Governor, do hereby give up my Family, (viz., Susan Sal, Mary Demecan, Mary Angelick, Joseph Murray, John Nicola, Fransway Sal), to Mr. Burrows Davis, of Westfield, for one whole year from the date hereof, to be educated by him after the English manner, upon the condition following, viz., He, the said Burrows Davis, providing me, my Squay and the above named Children with good and wholesome Provision and comfortable and sufficient Clothing, with Powder and Shot for my hunting, Tobaco, &c., to which agreement we do interchangeably set our hand and seal this twenty-eighth day of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, at Sheffield, County of Sunbury.

[SEAL.]

JOSEPH × MADUCTIC GOVERNOR.

[SEAL.]

mark
Bur's Davis.

Witnesses Present:

GERVAS SAY,

JOHN RUSSELL,

PETER × PAUL.

The attempt to establish an Indian school at West-field was not a brilliant success. Two months after the arrival of Joseph Maductic Governor and his interesting family to be civilized and instructed, it was resolved to close the school as there were no indications that any considerable number would resort to it. The Hon. Geo. Leonard wrote Ward Chipman, March 22nd, that he and Major Coffin would endeavour to prevail on the Indians at Mr. Davis' school to go up the river to Mr. Dibblee's school at Woodstock; that if they did not go willingly they must stay their year out. It is to be presumed they went, as Mr. Davis' salary was discontinued shortly after.\*

Gervas Say probably continued his school at Sheffield until the year 1794, when the Indian Academy, having been completed at Sussex, the Commissioners concluded to centralize their operations at that place and to close the schools established in other parts of the province.

Ward Chipman's accounts for the year 1791 include allowances of £20 each for twelve scholars at Shef-

\*A few years later (1796) Burrows Davis was living in St. John, where he advertised "Genteel Boarding" at his house, next door to Messrs. Thomson & Reid, which firm was then in business near the "Coffee House corner," foot of King street.

field, and of £30 sterling to Mr. Say as Instructor; similar appropriations being made in the case of Mr. Arnold's school at Sussex.

The circumstances under which the school was established for the benefit of the Micmac Indians at Miramichi will appear on reading the following from Ward Chipman to Mr. James Fraser\*:

Sr. John, 31st May, 1788.

SIR,—I herewith inclose to you a copy of the minutes of the Board at their last meeting respecting your appointment as a missionary and instructor to the Indians at Miramichi; this will intimate to you that the appointment is rather by way of experiment to determine the expediency of a more permanent establishment there. In addition to what appears in the minutes, I am authorized to inform you that any necessary expenses incurred in procuring and maintaining any of the children of the Indians in that district, until provision can be made by the Board for those purposes, will be reimbursed to you. You will, of course, keep the Board informed of your proceedings and the success you may meet with by every opportunity.

You will receive no particular instructions; one principal object is to procure from the Indians as many of their children as they can be prevailed upon to send to you to be civilized and instructed.

I consider myself authorized to advance to you one quarter's salary whenever you set off for your district, so that your preparations may be made with a reliance upon its being paid at that time.

I am your most obedient and very humble servant,

WARD CHIPMAN,

Acting Treasurer.

During the three years which Mr. Fraser was missionary to the Indians at Miramichi, he seems to have made efforts for the improvement of the natives under his instruction, and annual remittances were sent him—that for the year 1790 amounting to £70. From information received by the Commissioners they either decided the results attained at Miramichi were not commensurate with the expenditure, or considered it advisable for other reasons to discontinue the employment of Mr. Fraser as their agent. Their action drew from that gentleman the following spirited remonstrance:

MIRAMICHI, April 24th, 1791.

SIR,—Some time ago I received a letter from Mr. James Stewart, informing me that my mission at this place was discontinued by the Board, &c. I am fully sensible that Gentleman, of so much honor as the characters composing the Hon'ble Board, would not give ear to reports hatched by the tongue of malevolence and formented by envey or party;

<sup>\*</sup>This may have been the gentleman referred to in the following paragraph contained in a St. John paper of 24th October, 1786: "Those gentlemen who wish and intend to encourage the Rev. Mr. Fraser to settle in this city are requested to meet at the Coffee House to-morrow evening at 7 o'clock. It is expected every person thus inclined will not fail to attend, that it may be known with certainty what salary will be promised Mr. Fraser."