

BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF GASPE.

1st Class Elementary, (F).—Mr. Alexis Ouellet.
August 1, 1885.

T. VIBERT, Jr.,
Secretary.

SITUATION WANTED.

A teacher with the degree of B. A., and the holder of a diploma from the Montreal Board of Protestant Examiners authorizing him to teach in academics, is desirous of obtaining a situation. Enquire at this office.

JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

MONTREAL (LOWER CANADA), OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, 1885.

The Council of Public Instruction.

The Council of Public Instruction for Lower Canada held its half-yearly meeting on the 12th October. The Honorable the Superintendent of Education having formally announced to the Council the death of their late President, Sir Etienne Paschal Taché, and having also paid a just tribute of respect to his memory, moved the following Resolution, which was seconded by Rev. Mr. Dowd and unanimously agreed to:

That the members of this Council have heard of the death of Sir Etienne Paschal Taché, the late Premier and President of the Council of Public Instruction, with profound sorrow, and that they desire to place on record in the archives this their formal expression of the love and respect with which they had ever regarded him, and also of the sorrow felt at the loss of one that, notwithstanding the calls of so many pressing engagements, had still found time to preside even at the last meeting; of one that had never ceased to take an interest in the progress of education nor to labor assiduously for its success.

On motion of J. Crémazie, Esq., LL.D., seconded by C. Delagrave, Esq., it was unanimously

Resolved,—That the foregoing Resolution be published in *le Journal de l'Instruction Publique* and the *Journal of Education*, and that a copy be transmitted to Lady Taché, together with an address of condolence on the part of the members of this Council.

On motion of the Hon. the Superintendent, seconded by Rev. Mr. Dowd, C. S. Cherrier, Esq., LL.D., Q.C., was chosen President, in the room of the late Sir Etienne Taché.

Mr. Cherrier having alluded with much feeling to his predecessor in office, accepted the charge and returned thanks to the Council.

The Council then proceeded to the consideration of other business. The decisions that were arrived at will be published when they shall have received the approval of His Excellency the Administrator of the Government.

Judicial Decision.

We have already acquainted our readers with the decisions of Judge Coursol and Judge Short as regards the question which came up before each, concerning the right of non-residents to become dissentients and pay their school taxes to the trustees of the religious minority to which they belong. Judge Coursol's judgment was in favor of the dissentients, but that of Judge Short was the reverse. Judge Sicotte, who recently decided the

same point, also gave judgment in favor of the dissentients, that is to say against Judge Short's ruling. The case was between the School Commissioners of St. Bernard de Lacolle and J. C. Bowman, in the District of Iberville, and the *St. John's News* promises a full report, for which we will endeavor to find a place in our next.

The New Inspectors of Schools.

The *Presbyterian*, in its last issue says: "One change is being managed quietly and apparently unnoticed, that, namely, of dividing up the districts of School Inspectors in the Protestant parts of Lower Canada and making new districts for Roman Catholic Inspectors," and "that already FOUR of these new appointments have been made."

It is true that FOUR inspectors were recently appointed, but the facts are as follows.

1st. When Inspectors of Schools were first appointed, that is to say in 1851, Protestant and Catholic inspectors were jointly appointed for the cities of Quebec and Montreal; this was done at the request of the Protestants, and, as the Catholic population was a large majority, it was evident that if but one inspector had been appointed for each, these inspectors would have been Catholic. Protestant inspectors were appointed for the Eastern Township counties and Catholic inspectors for all the other districts.

2nd. On the resignation of Mr. McCord, a Catholic, who was inspector for the counties of Ottawa and Pontiac, the Protestant population insisted on having a Protestant inspector; at their request the district was divided and a Catholic and a Protestant inspector were appointed. This was in June 1861.

3rd. About the same time the Catholics of the Eastern Townships, who had become very numerous and who in several counties are now a majority, sent in petitions to the Government and to the Education Office to obtain Catholic Inspectors. It was only very recently, that is to say in March last, that something was done towards granting their request.

4th. The FOUR inspectors recently appointed are: 1st. Mr. McGrath, a Protestant, to inspect the Protestant schools of the Counties of Ottawa and Pontiac, vice Mr. Hamilton, also a Protestant, who had resigned; 2nd. Mr. Alexander, a Catholic, vice Mr. Bourgeois, also a Catholic, who had resigned. In addition to the district which had been assigned to Mr. Bourgeois, Mr. Alexander is to inspect the Catholic schools of the county of Shefford in Mr. Parmelee's district, leaving the Catholic schools of the counties of Brome and Missisquoi still under Mr. Parmelee's care; 3rd. Mr. Stenson, a Catholic, is appointed for the Catholic schools of Mr. Hubbard's district; and 4th. Mr. DeCazes, a Catholic, replaces Mr. Leroux, also a Catholic (dismissed), for a district almost exclusively Catholic.

The following extract from a series of articles already published in this journal, will show how matters stood previously to these appointments, and also, that while very few Protestant schools are now under the inspection of Catholic inspectors, there are still a great many Catholic schools under the inspection of Protestant inspectors in the districts assigned to Mr. Parmelee and Mr. Hume:

"The next grievance alluded to in the Report is that 'Protestant schools are examined by Roman Catholic Inspectors who do not understand the English language, and who cannot therefore make correct reports concerning them, though desirous to be impartial; and that sometimes rewards are given (to Protestant children we suppose) connected with the Roman Catholic faith.'

For every one who knows something of Lower Canada, it is easy to see that with a mixed population like ours, and with Protestant schools scattered at great distances from each other to Catholic districts, and vice versa, it is almost impossible that the schools belonging to one religious denomination of the community should not sometimes be visited by Inspectors of a different religious persuasion.

The first division of districts was made to secure to all large sections of the Protestant community the advantage of having Inspectors of their own faith, and every thing that has been done since was with