

The summer vacation would suit admirably for general county organizations. But to ensure efficiency, some legislative provision should be enacted to secure the attendance, at the regular Sessions of the Institutes, of all those teachers who have not already received special professional preparation.

In this connection permit me to acknowledge my high regard for your late lamented predecessor—the Rev. Mr. Hunt,—a gentleman whom I always found prompt and punctual in all his business relations with me, kindly in disposition, and friendly in his co-operation for the advancement of every measure calculated to elevate the standard of education in the county.

Here, and now it becomes my melancholy duty to record the demise of two esteemed members of the Board of School Commissioners.

Rev. Allan McLean, P. P., with a mind cultured by an exceptionally long course of training in the far famed halls of Valladolid, and subsequently, by travel through the more historical localities of sunny Spain and other parts of the Continent—was always respected and esteemed by every member of the Board of Commissioners, for the maturity of his judgment and the broadness of his views in dealing with educational questions.

Of all the School Commissioners, Hugh McMillan, Esq., was perhaps the most punctual in his attendance at the semi-annual meetings of the Northern Board. Long and varied experience as a Teacher and as a School Commissioner, and abundant technical knowledge which he was always ready to utilize in the examination of school returns and in testing statistics—rendered him a most efficient member of the School Board.

In conclusion, I beg to express my most grateful acknowledgments to School Commissioners, Teachers, Trustees and a host of other kind friends whose sympathy, co-operation and unflagging hospitality, I shall never forget.

Very respectfully,

JOHN Y. GUNN.

DAVID ALLISON, Esq., M. A., L.L. D.,
Superintendent of Education.

RICHMOND COUNTY.

R. BENOIT, Inspector.

SIR,—

I beg leave to submit, for your information, my Report of the state of the Schools in the County of Richmond, for the year ended Oct. 31st, 1877.

Before entering into details and figures, I have the pleasure to remark that the condition of our schools is constantly, though slowly, improving from year to year. Education is being generally more and more fully appreciated by our people, the law better understood, and more determined and earnest efforts made to bring it under its legitimate and complete operation. In consequence, there is everywhere manifested a greater, stronger, and more sincere desire on the part of rate-payers and trustees, to erect suitable and convenient school-houses and provide them, at least, with the necessary furniture and apparatus, thereby procuring more comfortable accommodation for their children; trustees and people now, as a rule, endeavor to secure and, in fact, insist upon more satisfactory and higher results from the school than heretofore; and they show greater anxiety to procure the services of really competent teachers, and are