

Having thus detailed the views which I entertain as to the course by which I think it would be wisest and most advantageous to commence the great work of systematic instruction, and those which appear to me best calculated to further the great cause of Education, I shall conclude with expressing a fervent hope that they will be so fortunate as to meet with the approbation of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Council, and with that of the Members of the Legislature of the Province.

I sincerely trust that my anxiety to commence operations with the essentially necessary only, will not be mistaken for an apathetic disregard of the advantages of a more extended Education, and that I shall be understood to have adopted a limited scale of instruction, merely from feeling an intimate conviction that it is the best adapted to the present urgent wants of the community, and the best calculated to effect the objects which the Legislature had in view, when the formation of the Normal and Model Schools was resolved.

To the Teachers I would address a few words on the very great importance of the duties which they will have to discharge. Theirs, which is no common task in any Country, will be a very arduous one in this Province, if they faithfully and conscientiously follow out the plan which I have traced for their guidance. Elementary Instruction is, of all others, the most wearisome and the most uninteresting ; and this is, probably, the reason why it has hitherto been left in the hands of persons who were rarely competent to impart it ; but the real value—I may say the absolute necessity—the vital importance of a well laid and truly solid foundation, is now universally acknowledged. The early instruction of the young is no longer entrusted to the ignorant, and in many ways, incompetent persons, who formerly conducted our Elementary Schools. Men of first rate abilities do not now disdain to bend the tree into the position in which they wish it to grow, and they find their reward in the important fact, that they are by this means spared the ungrateful labour which formerly but too often fell to their lot, I mean the fatiguing process by which the Pupil was made to *unlearn* all that he had previously so painfully, but alas, so fruitlessly acquired. They are now thoroughly convinced that the safety of the superstructure mainly depends on the early and skilful construction of the base, and this point now engages their attention in proportion to the facility which they find it affords to their future labours.

Let then the Teachers of this Province undertake these onerous duties with a due sense of their importance ; let them bear in mind that to their diligence, to their zeal and attention, are confided the well being and future success of the rising generation, and above