

HANTS COUNTY.

J. D. MacGILLIVRAY, Inspector.

SIR,—I now follow up the abstracts and tables with my report based on my observations during my inspectoral tour, and on the trustees returns. In last year's printed report by a misprint on page 39, I am made to say: Education is not a process of *education*—"drawing out,"—but of nurture under authorized and authoritative supervision. Had education, where it occurs the second time in this sentence, been *education*, then the readers of the report would have been favored with what I did write, I had in view the erroneous derivation of the *word* education by many educationists from *educu*. *educere*, which would give us only education and suggests, as the most prominent idea in the thing, development; whereas the idea really most prominent in education, from *educu*,—*educere*, *educatio*, is nurture, training. Successful education results in development, but through instruction and discipline with which it is chiefly concerned.

Twenty-one sections were without school during the Winter term. Of these, all but five, had school in Summer. The five were, Birchbrook, Renfrew and East Uniacke in E. Hants, and Ardoise and Lakeland in W. Hants. The School Board of East Hants, at its May meeting, divided Moosebrook, Sec. No. 37, making Moosebrook, No. 37. and East Tenesape, No. 54; also Enfield, No. 19, making a new section called Grand Lake, No. 55. The Board also changed the boundary line between Mount Pleasant and the Milford Sections. This change has been the occasion of a great ferment in Milford: but it was long called for, was several times before the Board and was finally effected by a unanimous decision which had regard only to the educational interests of both Sections. Each has hitherto employed only second class teachers. Mount Pleasant, which needed a new school house and wished the matter definitely settled before it began to build, can now employ a first class teacher or probably have a graded school: while the school house in Milford can now be set nearer to families from which it has hitherto been located too far to admit of the attendance of the children which they had to send. The Board of West Hants, at its November meeting erected two new sections in Falmouth, viz., West Branch Falmouth, No. 46: and Falmouth Valley, No. 47. This step was taken specially at the urgent solicitation of Falmouth Village, No. 9, and a settlement to the West which lies about four miles from the nearer of the two school houses in No. 9. This school house is now given to these two outlying settlements and is to be located between them. Falmouth Valley has a school house already which was built some years ago, but has been closed of late years. For the formation of this section some families were set off from Centre Falmouth, No. 10. But families and property sufficient were still left to support a much better school than No. 10 seems disposed to keep.

The state of the schools during the Winter term was on the whole satisfactory. Compared with their condition at the date of inspection, in the previous summer, it was very encouraging. But the summer schools of 1877 again fell back and presented a discouraging picture. In many instances a much cheaper class of teachers is engaged for the summer schools, and, consequently only a lower grade of work can be obtained. In a few sections however advantage was wisely taken of the summer vacation of our College. Colin Pitblado, B.A., of Dalhousie, Edward Thorpe and H. H. Whittier, general students of Dal-