

having one single school in my parish, I cannot give my opinions on the questions you have addressed me; as I have only been *curé* of St. Ferréol since last autumn, I do not yet exactly know what prevents the putting into operation of the School Law here.

Rev. Mr. *Pepin*, (Boucherville). I think that the school system affords a sufficient education to youth.

Rev. Mr. *Bedard*, (St. Raymond). Negatively, and for certain reasons.

Rev. Mr. *Vinet*, (St. Constant). The school system would work very fairly if the children attended the schools more regularly.

Rev. Mr. *St. Germain*, (St. Laurent). I think that the school system works in this municipality in such a manner as to give sufficient instruction to the youth who wish to place themselves in a position to profit by it.

Rev. Mr. *Asselin*, (Ange Gardien). We cannot think that the system here affords an education suitable to the industrial interests of the country, but it may to individual interests. The causes which retard instruction are the apathy of the parents and the occasional incapacity of the teachers, for if we are well provided with teachers during certain years, we are badly off during others.

Rev. Mr. *King*, (St. Sylvester). No.

Rev. Mr. *Russell*, (Buckingham). The unsuccessful operation of the School Act here, is principally the result of three distinct causes: the opposition of persons of influence; the ambiguity of the Act; the apathy of the School Commissioners, who commit wilful blunders, calculated to defeat the object of the Act.

Rev. Mr. *Kemp*, (Lingwick). The school system has hardly been tried here.

Rev. Mr. *Brady*, (Buckingham). The school system does not work well.

*Extracts from answers given by the persons whose names are hereinafter mentioned, to the questions of the Committee.*

*J. Olivier Arcand*, Esquire, (St. Michel d'Yamaska).

*Answer to Question No. 14.*—We may say that the school system does not work at all here, so that the children remain without a sufficient education, suitable to the interests of the country.

*Answer to Question No. 24.*—The causes which have retarded and still retard education in this municipality proceed therefore from the fact:

1. That the Government has voluntarily and knowingly honored the opposition, and humiliated the friends of order and of the working of the law.

2. That the Superintendent has too much given as an excuse the incapacity of the School Commissioners, in order not to use with energy the powers the law gave him in all the cases where the School Commissioners could not or would not surmount the obstacles which arose to the execution of their duties. He may say as much as he pleases that he could not be everywhere. A good general ought to show himself at the most threatened points of the territory the defence of which is confided to him.

The Honorable *D. B. Papineau*, (Petite Nation):

*Answer to Question No. 14.*—From reasons and from circumstances which it would be too long and perhaps useless to assign here, I ought to observe that it is scarcely little more than a year that we have been able to overcome the prejudices of the majority of the inhabitants of the municipality, who were much excited and disturbed by persons who are altogether strangers, and who made a point of coming there and creating an opposition. It is only recently that the well-disposed persons have succeeded in obtaining a slight majority, favo-