

One Section will be represented as possessing ratable property three times its actual value, while another has not more than one-half given. Some report *nothing* received by the trustees from "all sources" and the commission to the secretary of the trustees will be estimated at \$5.00 or \$10.00. In one or two cases the column denoting the amount assessed for the year was left blank, and in others the questions were answered by a formidable line of cyphers reminding one of a row of last year's swallow's nests.

Trustees.—The record of visitation in the registers of many schools betrays a culpable indifference on the part of Trustees. In the school manual, Sec. 4th, page 20, the duties of these officials are briefly but concisely prescribed and there are times during the year when the stereotyped excuses for the neglect of such important duties cannot be admitted. Trustees have it in their power, by a system of regular visitation, to afford aid and sympathy to the teachers, and stimulate the whole school operation. In many instances the kind and persuasive influence of a Trustee, backed as it is by a certain official authority will induce a negligent parent to send his child to school when a compulsory law would be resisted as an arbitrary measure aimed at his liberty. In appointing a secretary too great care cannot be taken to select an honest and efficient man, who will keep his accounts in a correct and business-like manner.

In Labelle Section the trustees were obliged to dismiss the officer for a neglect of duty, savoring, however, more strongly of dishonesty than incapacity. Parents, clergymen, and other public men might also do much more to advance the cause of education by frequently visiting the school, and manifesting an interest in the work of both teacher and pupil. It proves a stimulus to the teacher, by causing him to feel that his labors are appreciated, while in minds of the scholars, the visit of a parent is an event of no small importance.

The Commissioners have performed the important duties connected with their office with their usual zeal and intelligence. In the Southern District an increasing interest in the educational affairs of the county is plainly manifest, and I would heartily endorse the sentiments of those Inspectors who are advocating for these gentlemen a more substantial reward for their services than the thanks of the Inspector.

Examinations.—There were fifty-nine candidates for license at the annual examination in July. The results were even more flattering to Queens County than those of last year. When sections manifest the appreciation of education in employing efficient and zealous teachers, they will, in many ways, reap an abundant return for the additional expense of supporting superior schools. This is fully exemplified in the successful examinations passed by the pupils from the Liverpool, Milton, Port Medway and Mill Village schools. The same principle of generous salaries to teachers will apply to sections collectively or to nations. Much of the success of our present school system is due to the liberal provision of our teachers in the form of Government Grants, Bonuses, &c. Indeed I ask for no more healthy sign of national life than an ample provision by a government for the support and growth of its educational institutions. Every child within its pale may be regarded as material in an immense political structure whose value and duration will depend upon its quality—as young members of a young commonwealth whose future prosperity will depend upon the patriotism, enlightenment and devotion with which their energies are applied in her material, political and educational development.

In conclusion, I would return many thanks to my friends throughout the county whose hospitality I have been invited to accept—to the Commissioners, whose uniform kindness and co-operation I have already acknowledged, and to yourself for the prompt and courteous attention which I, as a correspondent, have received at your hands, as well as the active interest that you have