

the evenings, wrote out my geological observations for the Geological Society, and made extensive notes in preparation for a separate work on the physical geography and geology of the province. In all this, my energies and strength were taxed to the utmost, and at the end of the second year, after some weeks of travelling in inclement weather and the fatigue of a large teachers' institute at Truro, I was barely able to reach home, in the first stages of a fever, which I had contracted somewhere on my route, and which confined me to my bed for many weeks. It brought me near to death, and but for the assiduous attention and skill of our physician, Dr. W. J. Anderson, and the careful nursing of my wife, might have finished my earthly career. As it was, it left me neither time nor strength, to get passed through the Legislature certain amendments and additions to the school law, which seemed essential to further progress. The results, however, up to this time were encouraging: intelligible statistics as to the schools had for the first time been collected; some unity had been introduced into the work of the local commissioners of schools; improvements had been made in books,