

The Graded Schools in Cape Canso, Port Mulgrave, Sherbrooke, and Goldenville, have been in constant operation, and pretty well conducted. In Cape Canso section during the summer term there were four schools in operation, but only two were graded; of the remaining two, one was in Cape Canso Islands, and the other in the western end of the section.

Registers. A great improvement has taken place during the year in the keeping of Registers. The majority of them are kept neatly and correctly, many of them models of neatness. But very few imperfect and dirty. The register of the School in Section No. 34, Tracadie, was taken out of the teacher's desk by some evil disposed person in June last, and destroyed.

School-houses.—Four new school-houses have been erected during the year, in the District of Guysboro', and three in the District of St. Mary's, viz.: No. 2, Riverside—the house in this section was destroyed by fire three years since; No. 16, Crow Harbor; No. 18, Black Point, and No. 25, Gammon's Point. In the District of St. Mary's, No. 19, Lower Liscomb; No. 15, Ecum Secum, and No. 32, Union Section, Goshen. These buildings are not finished in the interior, with the exception of the one at Gammon's Point, which is a neat and commodious building, and capable of accommodating fifty pupils comfortably.

I very much regret that there has been no school in Ecum Secum Section during the year, owing in some measure to a misunderstanding between the trustees and some of the rate-payers of the Section, respecting the site of the new building; but trust that the matter will be amicably arranged, and that a School will be in operation next summer term.

During the year schools have been in operation for the first time in six sections, viz.: No. 7, Antigonish Road, and No. 18, Black Point, in the District of Guysboro', and No. 17, Upper Liscomb; No. 19, Lower Liscomb; No. 22, Indian Harbor Lake; No. 32, Union Section, Goshen, District of St. Mary's. These Schools have been very well attended, and the average has been very fair.

From the foregoing it will be seen that we have been making some progress in educational matters during the year; but in some sections still without schools, the greatest apathy and indifference prevails. The rate-payers of Half Island Cove, Section No. 17—this section was organized two years since—voted down the erection of a building by a majority of one. The Board of Commissioners have retained the County fund for this section for the past two years, to aid in the erection of a building which amounts to \$50.00. There are about forty children in this section between five and fifteen years of age who are growing up without any education. Some of the rate-payers who have large families voted with the majority.

Visits.—During the winter term I visited all the schools that were in operation, with the exception of eight, which was owing to the bad state of the road, along the sea coast the latter part of March. During the summer term I visited all the schools, with the exception of two, viz.: No. 10, East District of Guysboro, and No. 30, Liscomb Island. The former was closed the early part of September on account of the illness of the teacher. On account of stormy weather prevailing when at Liscomb Harbor in September I could not get out to the latter.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM HARTSHORNE.

REV. A. S. HUNT,

Superintendent of Education.