

promoting the education of the people and the welfare of his country, the treatment the Bill had received might be ascribed to some other cause. But he would have the satisfaction of knowing that no charge had been pointed at him, as to his wishing to secure on his part anything in the shape of advantage; on the contrary, he believed that he would leave a name that would be preserved in their memories so long as they lived as the name of one that had raised their school system to a place among the best in the world. But he could not agree that the measure should pass the House in its present state, and he therefore wished it withdrawn. The Government could not but regard the wishes of the Chief Superintendent, and, therefore, he moved that the Bill be now discharged.

The order was then discharged.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BILL.

Attorney-General MACDONALD said the same remarks which he had used would apply in a certain degree to this Bill. And at the request of the Chief Superintendent, he moved that the order be now discharged.

VOTE ON THE "JOURNAL OF EDUCATION."

During the recent discussion on the Estimates before the House of Assembly, objection was made to the grant of \$1,800 for the *Journal of Education* for Ontario. The objection was two-fold. First, that it was not well edited, and secondly, that it was not read by the School Trustees.

In regard to the first objection, it may or may not be well founded, according to the variation in the taste and judgment of the objector. All we have to say is that we have endeavoured to discharge our duty in editing the *Journal* in the way which we believe will promote, in the highest degree, the interests of the schools. We have advisedly refrained from writing theoretical editorials on the details of school management and discipline, and on the best methods of teaching the various branches in schools. We have also refrained from writing editorials or admitting correspondence on controverted subjects connected with our school system; but we have endeavoured to make the very best selection we could from experienced and approved writers on the subjects indicated above, and have sought to insert only those additional miscellaneous articles which we believed contained valuable suggestions, or interesting items of information or instruction connected with education in our own or other countries. We could, probably, more popularly fill the *Journal* with detailed accounts of local presentations to teachers in the various school sections, or with the doings of Local Associations; and though, we confess, many of them would now and then present points of more than mere passing interest, yet we felt that the very sameness and purely local character of the chief part of these articles would detract from the usefulness, as well as compel us to lose sight of those higher objects which we maintain this *Journal* has kept steadily in view during the twenty-two years of its existence. We believe, further, that having this object in view, and having confined our selection of articles of those of the best and most experienced, as well as interesting writers, in harmony with the views, counsel and experience of the Chief Superintendent of Education, we have silently, yet powerfully, assisted our trustees and teachers (probably unconsciously to themselves) in forming a higher standard of management, teaching and discipline in the schools, as well as aiding in promoting the erection and furnishing of a more comfortable description of school-houses, and the employment of a

better class of teachers than would otherwise within the same time have been done. We have, too, we believe, assisted very materially in promoting the views of many experienced educationists among us, and have thus strengthened their hands in carrying out in their own localities the enlightened views which they entertain in regard to the best interests of the schools.

In regard to the second objection—that the *Journal of Education* is not taken out of the post office and read by Trustees—we believe that this general assertion is based solely on the individual exceptions to the rule. That all parties—even those most deeply interested in our schools—should receive and read the *Journal* with equal interest, or at all, is not for a moment to be expected. This is an experience common to all publications, even the best, and especially so of those devoted to the promotion of special objects like our own. We do not believe that our *Journal* is as generally read and appreciated as highly as we could desire; but the letters of inquiry we are continually receiving, when trustees fail to receive the *Journal*, convince us that the interest in our publication is increasing from year to year instead of diminishing.

We append herewith the remarks on this subject made by the Chief Superintendent last year, in his "Acts Explained and Defended," pages 26 and 28, as follows:—

"Objection is made in regard to the amount paid, and to whom paid, for editing, etc., the *Journal of Education*—a periodical which I published six years by subscriptions, at considerable loss to myself, and which I determined to discontinue unless the Legislature would provide means for its publication and transmission without charge to each School Corporation and Local Superintendent in Upper Canada. The sum of \$1,800 per annum was granted for that purpose in 1850; and for that sum the *Journal of Education* is edited, 5,000 copies of it printed, folded, put in covers, addressed and sent to all parts of the country per month. If any objector will do this work, and do it as well, for that sum, I should be happy to see him do it. If I have been authorized to prepare and publish the *Journal of Education*, and am responsible for it, I have the right to select whom I please to do the work, and pay what I please, so that I do not exceed the Parliamentary appropriation. When I ceased to edit, or superintend the publication of it myself, it was my own, and not another's business as to whom I should confide that confidential and important work. I might have selected and employed the literary editor of the *Globe* newspaper; and had I done so I might not have received so much abuse from that quarter. But it became me to select an editor who was of one heart and mind with myself, who thoroughly understood the school system, and was in other respects competent for the work. There was no room for hesitation as to the most desirable choice; the only question was as to whether Mr. Hodgins, with all his masterly arrangements of business and economy of time, could, without interfering with his official duties, devote the attention and labor necessary to edit and superintend the publication of the *Journal of Education*. This he succeeded in doing; and for doing so, I could not, in the progress of years, offer less than had already been paid for editing the *Journal of Education for Lower Canada*—a journal of less circulation than ours."

"*Objections to the Journal of Education Answered.*—Complimentary References to it.—But it has been objected to the *Journal of Education* itself, that as a periodical, it is uninteresting, unworthy of support, etc. I dare say this may be true in regard to those who never read it, or any thing else worth reading. The honourable member for South Norfolk, resident of the township of Charlotteville, and formerly master of the Vittoria Post-Office (within a mile and a half of my own birthplace), is reported to have said that parties refused to take from his post-office copies of the *Journal of Education* addressed to them. I doubt not the truth of this statement, which the *Globe* adduces as certain proof that the *Journal of Education* is not worth taking out of a post office. I dare say the same parties take no journal whatever, and that if the *Canada Farmer* or *Daily Globe* were addressed to them, they would not take either out of the post office—a proof, according to the *Globe*, that neither