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CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT FOR 1874.

As usual, owing to what is called Parliamentary etiquette, the Report of the Chief Superintendent, which was, no doubt, ready for several months, had to be laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly before it could become public property. We are aware, that in regard to certain documents, the publication of which is discretionary with the printing committee, that such a formality is necessary, but in regard to all departmental reports, that are always submitted in printed form, there is no reason why the public should be deprived of the information they contain, least offence should be given to mere parliamentary routine.

This report, like its predecessors for the last twenty-five years, contains much valuable information. The statistical tables from which we purpose making a few extracts are full, and exhibit the most gratifying progress. Indeed, we doubt very much if there is any indication of our continued prosperity, so cogent and emphatic, as

that of our educational system, and the increased interest taken in the intellectual improvement of society.

Expenditure.—The interest manifested in education may fairly be estimated by the extent to which the people voluntarily submit to taxation for its support. Improvements cannot be made without increased expenditure, and it is a most gratifying indication of the public spirit of Ontario to notice that the expenditure on education, which in 1844 amounted to only \$275,000, increased in 30 years more than tenfold, amounting in 1874 to \$2,865,332. During the last three years alone there was an actual increase of over one million dollars in the amount contributed for the maintenance of our public schools—the total taxation for 1874 amounting to \$3,250,000.

The improvement of school-houses necessarily absorbs a large amount of money. The primitive log cabin, which in its day rendered good service, must give way for more commodious and expensive