

lect of duty," although she provided a fit and proper substitute to take her place during her absence.

We would have expected nothing better from them.

Next is Miss Lawson's correspondence with the Chief Superintendent. He again shirks responsibility and endorses the action of the Trustees.

NEWCASTLE, April 18th, 1885.

The Chief Superintendent of Education.

DEAR SIR: We the undersigned have received information from the Committee, acting on behalf of the ratepayers of District No. 7, Newcastle, that you regard the second notice served upon us by the Trustees as a dismissal before termination of contract.

Regarding it as such, will you now give us instructions relative to our course in the matter?

We have the honor to be,

Yours respectfully,

[Signed] MARY LAWSON,
" A. M. McLEAN.

P. S.—They have proved that they have no grounds for dismissing me because they offered to enter upon a new contract with me dating from May 1st to continue until Dec. 31st., if I would take charge of the Department embracing the 5th Standard, at my present rate of salary for teaching the 6th and 7th Standards. M. L.

865.

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 20th, 1885.

Miss Mary Lawson, Newcastle, N. B.

DEAR MADAM: In reply to your communication of the 18th inst., signed also by Miss McLean, I beg to state that my correspondence with the Trustees, on the subject of the dismissal, is not yet complete, and, therefore, I am not in a position to advise either of you.

I learn, however, from your letter, that the Trustees have revoked their notice of dismissal to you, by offering to retain your services till the end of the School Year, Dec. 31st., on condition that you take charge of Standard V., or the Department embracing that Standard, and at the same salary. If this offer has been made to you, and you refuse to accept it, you have no further claim on the Trustees.

You undertake in your contract to teach not a particular Department, but a school in the District, and at a stated salary. The salary has not been changed, and, therefore, the terms of your contract are unchanged.

Yours truly,

WM. CROCKET, Chief Supt. of Education.

NEWCASTLE, April 25th, 1885.

The Chief Superintendent of Education.

DEAR SIR: In your reply to my note of the 18th ult., you seem to imply that you understand that the Trustees did not wish to consider my contract