

Our School System—6th Paper.

I PROPOSE this paper to be somewhat of a miscellany.

I wish, if possible, to show what would be the results, other than those already indicated, both to the Government, the districts and the teachers, should my previous suggestions be adopted, and to point out the kind of buildings and grounds, which, in my opinion the enlarged schools should have and where they should be located. I also propose to briefly touch upon inspection,

Leaving, for the present, the strictly educational part of the subject to one side, let us consider what would be the material and financial effect of adopting the system outlined in the foregoing papers.

It goes without saying that to the eye the most evident result would be a very large reduction in the number of primary schools. Were this Island of such shape as to admit of being mapped out in square blocks there would be no real difficulty in including an area of say 36 square miles, i. e. a six mile square, in a school district. True this would be a very large district, but if it has been found by actual experience in Massachussets that a distance of three and a half miles presents no difficulty in bringing children to school, the maximum distance to a central site in a six mile square should present little difficulty here.

But this Island is not so shaped. It is very much cut up by arms of the sea and by rivers, which, with one or two exceptions, are in reality arms of the sea. Then again the central point in the area of a district would not necessarily be the most suitable situation for the school. The centre of population must also be considered, and in that connection the interests of the minorities in the more sparsely settled parts of the district should not be over-looked. Still