

# The Parish School Advocate,

## AND FAMILY INSTRUCTOR:

### FOR NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

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#### CONTENTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE
Education in Lower Canada . . . . .	113	Literature . . . . .	126
Wesleyan Education . . . . .	115	MISCELLANEOUS:	
Acadian Geography . . . . .	118	The Dog . . . . .	Ib.
Deserters from the Noble Profession of Teaching . . . . .	121	The Bear . . . . .	127
Hints for Student-Life . . . . .	122	One Good Deed . . . . .	Ib.
The Use of School Libraries . . . . .	124	Improprieties of Speech . . . . .	Ib.

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## EDUCATION IN LOWER CANADA.

THE Educational System of Eastern Canada, like the systems prevalent in the lower colonies for the last twenty years, Prince Edward Island excepted, has been in a transition state—repeatedly undergoing alterations. From having no properly organized system the proportion of school-going population of this section of Canada, with that of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, only amounts to about one-eighth of the entire population, while our more systematic and energetic colonial neighbour, Canada West, sends one-fourth of her population to school. This by no means very encouraging state of education in these three colonies, calls loudly upon the governments having the executive charge of the systems, teachers having charge of the art of teaching, and parents and others having the youth of the land under their controul to be up and doing.

Let the people be instructed by the spread of educational works, and let public lectures be delivered throughout the length and breadth of the land, teachers' institutes established, and the different legislatures agitated: then will

the people become aroused to a sense of their duty in the education of their families, and new life be infused, and the time-honoured and wonder-working systems of other countries be introduced with a more sure measure of success.

But turning from this partial digression to the more immediate object under consideration—the state of education in Lower Canada, we beg thus publicly to acknowledge, with thanks, from the Hon. PIERRE J. O. CHAUVEAU, Superintendent of Education for Canada East, the School Reports for 1855 and 1856, and also the Journal of Education for the last seventeen months, published under the same competent authority, from which we glean a few statistics well worthy of perusal by our readers, inasmuch as the rapid advances recently made under the present board of management show us, of the lower provinces, what may be done when competency, energy and determination characterize the head of the educational departments of a country.

In his report for 1855, the superintendent says:—"The social condition