

every encouragement will be afforded to those who may *hereafter* carry instruction beyond those limits; provided always, that the solid and essential shall, in no instance, be sacrificed to the brilliant, and that the Pupils shall be most thoroughly grounded in all the lower branches before they are suffered to proceed to the higher ones. A fact which will be ascertained by a searching examination at the periodical Inspections.

After providing competent Teachers for the various Districts of the Province, it appears to me that the object most in importance is, to excite in the minds of parents a sufficient interest in the education of their children, to make them grasp eagerly at the advantages thus placed within their reach. At present there is no inducement of this kind offered to parents sufficiently tangible and direct to induce them to make any sacrifices, or even any continued exertions for so desirable an object; they send their children to School, but suffer their attendance to be interrupted by the slightest impediment that may offer, and think that they have done enough for the improvement of their minds, by giving them the name of an Education, though the substance be entirely wanting, through their own indifference; an indifference which is the more to be wondered at when we remember, that in this Country, the blessings of Education offer, even to the humblest individual, every prospect of emancipating himself from the narrow and restricted circle of action in which he is born, provided his natural talents be such as to enable him to profit by the opportunities which are afforded for their cultivation.

I shall now proceed to point out what occurs to me as the most forcible method for dispelling this apathy, and for removing this indifference; and although I am obliged to confess, that upon the most economical scale which can be adopted, it will involve some extra expense, yet I feel assured, that not only will no portion of the Public Funds, appropriated to the cause of Education, be more usefully employed, but that this comparatively trifling addition will increase the efficacy of what has been already so liberally applied to this most important purpose, one hundred fold.

The plan I would recommend is that of fostering superior talent, wherever it may be found among the juvenile population, by opening for it a path from the lowest to the highest of our Educational Establishments, by means of exhibitions from Schools of one grade to those of a higher; such exhibitions being not merely honorary, but of such a pecuniary value as would enable the successful Scholar to avail himself of the advantages they offer. Thus, for example, supposing each County to contain, on an average, 80 Common Schools, and one Grammar School, I would propose that each Grammar School should be endowed with two exhibitions for two years,