

Minister. There is, however, to be stated that in the majority of the mixed schools, while the Ontario Readers are in use, yet for want of an authorized French Ontario series, the "Montpetit" readers of Quebec are in daily use also; that "the little Catechism" is not used by every one, that is, that its use is not obligatory, but that as a text-book in religious instruction it is used at the hour appointed in the regulations, by Roman Catholic pupils only; that the use of unauthorized text-books is condemned by no one more severely than by the Inspectors; and that the advance is no greater simply because, for the paltry pittances paid, no efficient teacher in both languages can be obtained. In this connection the fact that the two counties send, out of a school population of 12,104, 120 to the High Schools of Hawkesbury and of Vankleek Hill, or one per cent. of the school population, against an average of three per cent. for the whole Province, while the average yearly attendance of these counties is forty-three per cent. against the Provincial forty-four; all this must not be lost sight of as indicating small ambition to rise beyond and above the Fourth Book. To these few facts the writer must add that while farm-buildings and farming methods are in general not so commodious, nor so advanced, as those of Western Ontario, the school-houses are very often substantial and useful buildings.

Before terminating this necessarily imperfect attempt of a large subject, let us refer to the L'Original school trouble. This has been so ably described by *The Mail* correspondent, and subsequently by a private authority in the *Dominion Churchman*, and the two accounts agree so substantially that no apology is made for giving them here at length.

The Mail, Dec. 18th, 1886:—"As far as I can ascertain, the English in-

habitants of L'Original have always treated their French fellow-townsmen very fairly. Some twelve years ago the French petitioned for, and were allowed to establish, a Separate School, but after a short trial, in which they found even the teacher's salary to be a burden, they abandoned it and were again received into the English or Public School fold. A year or two later, so numerous were the scholars, and so flourishing the school, that it was determined to build a fine, large brick six-roomed school. At that time the English paid four-fifths of the school rates. Debentures to run for twenty years were issued to the amount of \$8,000. I think it was about this time that an arrangement was entered into that the two French trustees, who were then on the Board, should have the privilege of selecting a French teacher, who should teach that language exclusively to those who desired it for their children. The appointment was one that was in reality in the hands of the priest. Some eighteen months ago Mr. Howard Hay, head master of the school, was made aware that at that time the French catechism was almost the only book studied in the French division. He felt it his duty to inform the French teacher that he could not allow that in a Public School, and he absolutely forbade her to teach the catechism. This brought a perfect storm of French indignation about Mr. Hay's ears, which found its expression at the polls at the succeeding elections. The French found themselves in a majority at the School Board, and the inevitable result followed. Mr. Hay and his English assistant got their *congé*, or, recognizing the circumstances, took it; and their places were filled by the appointment of two French teachers. The chief of these, Mr. Famillard, a Parissian, was advertised by the trustees as capable of teaching both languages