

Report on the Distribution of the Grant for Superior Education.

EDUCATION OFFICE, Montreal, 18th November, 1858.

To the Honorable the Provincial Secretary, Toronto.

SIR,

I have the honor to transmit herewith my report on the distribution of the annual grant to universities, colleges, academies and model schools, in Lower Canada, for the year 1858.

The amount granted being insufficient to award to new institutions any aid, without reducing the sum heretofore given to those previously established, I have been obliged to limit as far as possible the number of the new establishments as well as the amounts granted to them. Notwithstanding, however, the utmost discretion in this respect, I have found myself obliged to recommend a general and equal deduction of two and a half per cent on all grants to institutions that have heretofore received more than £25.

As the following institutions did not send in their reports within the time prescribed by Law, notwithstanding the advertisement published in the *Official Gazette*, informing them that any delay in sending in their demands would prevent their obtaining a share in the grant, I have not included them in the lists accompanying my report, these are:

The University of McGill College, High School of McGill College, College Ste. Marie, Montreal; Academy St. Colomban de Sillery (Ste. Foye, cath).

Academies:—Farnham (protestant); Kamouraska; Ecole Commerciale de Montréal (catholic); Sorel (cath.) boys; Sorel, for girls; British and Canadian School, Montreal.

Model Schools:—Coteau Landing, St. Philippe, St. Sylvestre, Chateaugay, Commercial and Literary School, Quebec, and the Montreal Catholic Infants' School.

As, however, it is very probable that many of these institutions will be able to give satisfactory reasons for their delay in sending in their reports. I did not consider it my duty to dispose of the amounts heretofore granted to them.

The following institutions included in the lists of previous years, have not yet sent in their returns, namely:

High School, Quebec; Academy (female) Nicolet; Academy (female) Pointe aux Trembles, Quebec; Model School: St. Andrews School, Quebec; Educational Society, Three Rivers; Model School, St. Joseph de Lévi; St. Isidore, Buckingham.

I regret to state that the Chambly College does not appear, either with reference to the number of scholars attending it, the number of its professors, or the course of studies pursued, in a position which would justify me in retaining its position in the list of industrial or commercial colleges for another year, unless a material change for the better be effected. I respectfully suggest that I may be permitted to notify the directors of this institution to this effect. I have not, however, deemed it expedient to strike it off the list for the present year, in consideration of the great sacrifices suffered by its generous founder, the Rev. Mr. Mignault, and which it must be supposed he made, under the confident hope of receiving the annual government grant.

There are several academies which do not, in my estimation, deserve to be retained on the list, unless a favorable change take place; and with reference to several of them situated in counties in which there have already been established institutions of the same class, I would request to be permitted to inform them, that unless a marked progress be perceptible during the ensuing year, they cannot expect to receive any portion of the government grant.

It is a matter of urgent necessity, that the number of these academies should be reduced, and that the amount now distributed among so many institutions should be only granted to those considered as the best conducted.

New academies, both for male and female pupils, in counties where such institutions were already established, have sent in demands for a share in the grant. In accordance with the suggestion submitted in my last report, and considering the very limited amount of the grant for superior education, I have found it impossible to recommend them for any share of the government grant.

I consider it my duty, however, to recommend that the new institutions mentioned in the following list be allowed the sums set opposite their respective designations:

10.—Academies for Boys.

Protestant Academy, Three Rivers..... \$195:00

This institution was not in operation during one year, it is not

therefore in my power to recommend so large a grant as the one it heretofore received.

Academy, Baie St. Paul..... \$195:00

20.—Academies for Girls.

St. Martin, in the county of Laval.....	\$100:00
St. Cyprien do Napierville.....	100:00
Kakouna do Temiscouata.....	195:00
Green Island do do.....	195:00

With reference to the two last mentioned institutions, I would beg to remark that the buildings erected for their use were commenced previous to the passing of the law respecting superior education, but that they only came into active operation during the present year. Altho' situated in the same county, I considered it expedient to include them both in this list; but it must not be taken or considered as a precedent, as I have only done so in consideration of the privations suffered and the amount expended by the inhabitants of these two localities for the purpose of erecting and establishing these two schools. When new institutions are established in counties in which schools of the same class are already in operation, it cannot be expected that any share of the grant can be awarded for their support.

Model Schools.

Ste. Anne des Plaines.....	\$80:00
St. Cesaire.....	80:00
St. Polycarpe (diss.).....	60:05
St. Joachim, Two Mountains.....	85:00
Boucherville.....	80:50
Lachine (diss.).....	80:00
Ste. Gertrude.....	80:00
Malbaie, Charlevoix.....	80:00
St. Hermas.....	80:00
Ste. Rose.....	80:00
St. Vincent de Paul.....	60:00
St. Denis, Kamouraska.....	80:00
St. Hyacinthe.....	80:00
Chicoutimi.....	80:00
St. Sévère.....	80:00
St. Roch de l'Achigan.....	80:00
Chambly.....	60:00
St. Pierre, South River, Montmagny.....	60:00
Bury.....	80:00
Granby.....	80:00

The forms without backs, now generally used in colleges and academies, being considered, and with much reason, as extremely injurious to the health of the pupils, I respectfully suggest, that the grant for this year, may be made to the several institutions, only on condition that they provide themselves with seats and desks similar to those, of which patterns are given in the twelfth number of the second volume of the *Journal of Education*; or made after any other improved pattern.

I subjoin to this report, a statement showing the amounts granted for preceding years, the number of scholars attending the schools during the present year, and the amount recommended for each institution for 1858.

The amount of the sum required for distribution for the present year is as follows, namely:

List No. 1.—Universities.....	\$ 1,950:00
do 2.—Classical Colleges.....	10,140:00
do 3.—Industrial or Commercial Col... ..	9,067:00
do 4.—Academies, boys or mixed.....	14,068:00
do 5.—do girls.....	10,770:67
do 6.—Model Schools.....	11,652:36
	\$57,049:28

I also subjoin a statement of the amounts granted for superior education for the years 1856 and 1857, by which it will be seen that the fund for the present year will be found indebted in the sum of \$277:89. (See statement annexed marked C.)

The balance of the amount to be granted for 1858, deduction being made of the lists hereunto subjoined will therefore amount to \$10,672:83, but it may probably be necessary to deduct from this balance the amounts to be granted to some of the colleges and academies whose demands or reports were not transmitted to this office within the time prescribed by Law.

I beg further to submit, that in my report for last year, I recommended an appropriation of the sum of £17,114 11 0, equal to