

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EDUCATION.

The Committee appointed to watch over Public Education in the Maritime Provinces, beg leave to report as follows :—

1. That we are glad to learn that the non-sectarian school system in New Brunswick which some time ago met with such strenuous opposition from the Roman Catholic ecclesiastics is now becoming very generally acceptable to the great body of the people, and under efficient administration is successfully promoting the cause of Education in that Province.

2. That it is with great pleasure that we congratulate the friends of free non-sectarian schools in P. E. Island, upon their late triumph in that Province; and think they deserve the commendation of this Synod for working so energetically and unitedly in the contest which has resulted so favourably to the cause of non-sectarian schools.

3. That the special feature in the inefficient administration of the school law in Nova Scotia to which we would call attention is the virtual application of a religious test to the teachers engaged in the common schools in the City of Halifax, and we believe that by the arrangement entered into by the Halifax School Board, not only is an undue advantage given to the sectarian schools, but the law of the land is evaded, if not violated.

4. That this Synod does now declare its most hearty approval of the principle of free non-sectarian common school education, to which it has formerly given utterance, and would hereby strongly express its disapproval of any attempts to thrust Separate schools upon these Maritime Provinces either by faithless administration or new legislation.

C. B. PITBLADO, *Convener.*

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