

The pages of the statute books of these colonies, are already encumbered with a mass of useless and impracticable machinery, on the subject of education.

We anticipate the enactment, during the approaching sessions of the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia legislatures, of laws for the better regulation and encouragement of parish schools. What the measures to be enacted may be—whether the assessment principle will be

introduced, or local boards of education be established, and trustees paid as they should be—we are unprepared to say.—However, we do hope that the legislatures will not, as heretofore, impose laws touching a subject of such vast importance to the future prosperity of these important provinces, without taking measures to acquaint the people with their details.

A WORD TO PARENTS AND TEACHERS.

The primary object we have in view in issuing "The Parish School Advocate," is the advancement of education; and, in order to this end, we hope to secure the co-operation of both parents and teachers,—if not, our work will be one of labour without encouragement.

First—to Parents. The moral and secular education of youth must ever be a subject of importance, and any object for its better and more substantial advancement, must also claim your attention.—In issuing our Magazine, of which this is the first number, we propose to embody such information as will not only be useful in every family, and tend to secure better laws and regulations for the management of schools, but elevate and encourage the youth of our land to take a higher, more dignified and exalted stand, in the scale of moral, sentient, and intellectual existence.

Second.—To teachers of parish schools. The position you occupy as instructors of youth, is one of no small importance. If rulers fail to make and administer the laws of a country in accordance with free and enlightened principles, their course may be retrieved: but it is far different with the teachers of youth. If wrong principles have been instilled, and a false foundation laid, the whole moral and intellectual superstructure will be false, and almost impossible to be again brought to a state of rectitude; to retrieve in this case will be the work, not of the present, but of a coming generation. Therefore, you occupy a high and responsible position, and should be careful what sort of moral and intellectual seed you sow. The work of every teacher devoted to his calling, is a work of toil, and in too many instances he gets little

thanks for all his assiduity and usefulness. Parents and neighbourhoods have got a lesson to learn on this point. We hope to see the day that the place of the properly qualified teacher will stand next to that of the minister of the gospel; and when ministers, teachers, and people will fully co-operate in the extension of a proper system of public and private instruction.

In conclusion, we think the importance of our object,—the moral and intellectual advancement of the education of the youthful mind; that youth, which is yet destined to rule and be ruled; to develop the resources of these valuable and extensive domains; to be both the teachers and the taught of a coming period; to be the parents and guardians of a coming generation; and to be the future guardians and protectors of us, parents and teachers, the now responsible parties, when old age and decrepitude are upon us; is a department of stirring importance. And as it is justly said that "the labourer is worthy of his hire," we ask you, and we hope we are not asking too much, to encourage our efforts by assisting in our circulation and subscription list, for without such aid we must fall to the ground. The work is cheap, and contains a large amount of reading matter upon the various topics of education.

We are happy to introduce our first number with the year 1858, and hope you and ourself will be long spared in health and strength to advance one common object—education; and when you are about to select reading matter for the current year, please do not forget to subscribe for "The Parish School Advocate."