

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND LIBRARIES, &c.

2. TABLE SHEWING THE VALUE OF ARTICLES SENT OUT FROM THE EDUCATION DEPOSITORY DURING THE YEARS 1851 to 1869, INCLUSIVE.

YEAR.	Articles on which the 100 per cent. has been apportioned from the Legislative Grant.		Articles sold at Catalogue prices without any apportionment from the Legislative Grant.	Total value of Library, Prize, and School Books, Maps, and Apparatus despatched.
	Public School Library Books.	Maps, Apparatus and Prize Books.		
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1851.....			1,414	1,414
1852.....			2,981	2,981
1853.....			4,233	4,233
1854.....	51,376		5,514	56,890
1855.....	9,947	4,655	4,389	18,991
1856.....	7,205	9,320	5,726	22,251
1857.....	16,200	18,118	6,452	40,770
1858.....	3,982	11,810	6,972	22,764
1859.....	5,805	11,905	6,679	24,389
1860.....	5,289	16,832	5,416	27,537
1861.....	4,084	16,231	4,894	25,229
1862.....	3,273	16,194	4,844	24,311
1863.....	4,022	15,887	3,461	23,370
1864.....	1,931	17,260	4,454	23,645
1865.....	2,400	20,224	3,818	26,442
1866.....	4,375	27,114	4,172	35,661
1867.....	3,404	28,270	7,419	39,093
1868.....	4,420	25,923	4,793	35,136
1869.....	4,655	24,475	5,678	34,808

From letters received at the department, we make the following extracts, chiefly relating to the selection and excellence of the books, &c., sent for prizes in our Public Schools:—

Hullett.—"The books you sent us last year gave satisfaction."

Euphemia.—"Your selection of prize books, last December, was very suitable."

Emily.—"The prizes sent gave the greatest satisfaction, and we hope to send for similar favours once or twice a year."

Kaleigh.—"We got a No. 1 package of prize books last year, which was very satisfactory."

Usborne Township.—"The books (\$40 worth) which we received last year from the Department for a Township competitive examination, gave entire satisfaction, and the Council begs you will make the selection for this year also of \$50 worth."

Blandford.—"You made a selection for us last year, and the selection suited us very well. Will you have the kindness to make one again."

Pakenham Township.—"Permit me to thank you for your courtesy in sending the prizes at the time you did for the Township competitive examination. The 61 volumes were excellent books."

Kincardine.—"Your selection last year suited admirably well."

Dawn.—"The prize books for this school section were duly received and gave excellent satisfaction."

Dorchester South.—"We ordered prize books last year, leaving you to make the selection, and as you pleased us so well, we leave it with you this time also, believing you will send us a good selection."

Minto.—"The books you sent last year pleased very well. You are better qualified to make the selection than we are and by doing so you will much oblige."

Marmora.—"We got a lot of prize books last year and the year before which gave good satisfaction."

Renfrew Union School.—"You have favoured us by making an excellent selection of such books for some years already and I trust that I may rely on your kind promise of continuing to do so."

Brighton and Murray U.S.S.—"We have received and are pleased with the books for prizes."

Woodhouse.—"I find them (merit cards) a useful incentive to study."

Camden East.—"Having just received a lot of prize books for our day school, with which we were well pleased. We think we cannot do better than to send to the Department for a Sabbath School library."

Clinton.—"We were very much pleased with your selection."

Hastings Co., N.R.—"I have great pleasure in stating that the prize books selected by the Department gave general satisfaction."

Dumfries South.—"Your own selection preferred to ours."

3. PUBLIC LIBRARY AT PARRY SOUND.

It is with feelings of no ordinary pleasure that we call attention to the fact that a handsome public library has been procured for the inhabitants of this village and surrounding neighborhood.

When the matter was first mooted, Mr. Wm. Beatty, M.P.P., was kind enough to say, that whatever sum the inhabitants raised towards this object, he would give a sum equal to all the rest.

With this encouragement the folks went to work and raised considerable among themselves, which, with Mr. Beatty's donation, has purchased a library which will be a great acquisition to the place.

Truly this is the age of advancement; whether we look at it in a social, moral, intellectual, mechanical, commercial, or agricultural point of view, we are led to exclaim—"Progress is the order of the day!" Facilities for social improvement are not rare, the means of moral advancement are numerous, and, as the result of this, the moral tone never stood higher than at present; the helps to mental culture are abundant, while mechanical art, commercial prosperity, and agricultural success prove that we have taken "Excelsior" for our motto, and upward and onward is the watchword. Some there are who still hold that "a little learning is a dangerous thing," still the people thirst for knowledge, and confirm the word of inspired truth, "that the soul to be without knowledge is not good;" here minds are panting after knowledge, and the aspirations of hundreds are ascending upwards. We rejoice that here in the backwoods facilities are afforded to those who will avail themselves of the same. Our Common School system cannot be surpassed either in Europe or America, and the terms on which libraries can be obtained are such as to bring them within reach of all.

It is gratifying to mark the interest which employers are taking in those under them, and we have a noble instance of this in the case of Mr. Beatty, of this village. Employers cannot tell the results which may flow from following this course. Many a dull lad has been stimulated to activity, many a natural genius has been drawn out, many a rough stone has been polished and gone out into the world and made their mark there, who would, in all probability, have been lost to the world, had it not been for the encouragement they received from those in whose employment they were engaged.

Who can tell but some of those who will read those valuable books which have been procured, may catch inspirations from the same, by which they will yet ascend the hill of fame, seize the wreath of honor, and prove a blessing to the world.

Some city folks entertain queer ideas about us "bushwhackers," and, judging by their statements, you would almost suppose that they thought we were composed of different material, or, at least, that we were of an inferior caste to themselves, hence when some of our sons visit them, they designate them country clowns, or awkward lads; but there is nothing in the pure air of this romantic land, or in the many exercises of agricultural labor, either to blunt the intellect or destroy true friendship. We may not walk as gracefully, nor put on as many airs as city people do, but we can assure them that many of them have honest hearts and noble minds.

We do not consider country life to be incongenial to clearness of perception, expansiveness of mind, and even the highest point of intellectual attainment; some of the first names in history have risen from the homes of the honest country poor, shut out from many of the advantages of city life, they have dared to be single in the search of knowledge, and registered their names on the highest pinnacle of fame. Amongst those who have immortalized themselves we may name Dr. Adam Clark, who proves the aphorism, that "there is no royal road to intellectual eminence."

Young men of Parry Sound, appreciate your privileges, seize the golden opportunity, let your song be—

"Higher, higher let us climb
Up to the Mount of Glory.
That our names may ever shine
In our country's story."

The catalogue of books contains some of the first works on literary, scientific and historical subjects. Remember that the water spring still remain under ground, and if you would drink of their cooling draught you must dig down until you reach their level. The costly pearls which deck the royal brow, were brought from ocean's cave, the precious diamonds which stud the royal crown, were picked up by some careful hand on India's shore, the gold of Australia lay concealed until it was sought after; so, would you gain knowledge you must search after it.

"Those heights by great men reached and kept,
Were not attained by sudden flight;
But they while their companions slept
Were toiling upward in the night."

Sir Fowell Buxton remarked that he placed more dependence upon extraordinary exertion than upon extraordinary talent. So toil on, labor on, and success is certain.—*Northern Advocate.*