

the allowing of their children to mix with those of their less opulent or less vain neighbours, will undoubtedly be dissatisfied. But let them abide the consequences of their vanity. Ours is a country in which no pompous titles or noble blood can afford an exemption from the ordinary requisitions of the law.

The writer of the pamphlet noticed in the preceding chapter, has made a furious attack upon the system of education in Lower Canada, *all* of which needs not to be repelled; indeed it sufficiently repels itself. He calls in question, without any reasoning or argument whatever, the wisdom of all modern legislation, and, like all superficial scribblers, is contented to rail at what he is incompetent to refute. He advocates a *return* to an old system which would throw this Province more than half a century behind the improvement of the present age. *Such* a proposition needs only to be mentioned that it may be rejected, and its author will require to conceal himself within the narrow enclosure of his own premises in order to escape the reproaches of his indignant countrymen. He will find a sufficiency of room to revel within the nut-shell of his own littleness. On pages 25 and 26 of the pamphlet, the author presents a table of the present expenses of elementary education for Canada East, which does as little credit to his honesty as to his knowledge of facts. By far the largest portion of the estimate exists only in his own imagination. The amount of the Superintendent's salary, £500, is all that can be ascertained with absolute certainty. Compare his statement of allowance to Clerks, Assessors, Collectors, &c. with the provisions of the Act. By the disposition of the 8th Vic. cap. 41, sec. 30, the Secretary-Treasurer is entitled only to "2½ per cent. on all monies by him received, but this sum shall cover all his contingent expenses." No salary is allowed. Now, let us make a probable estimate. On an average about £400 0 0 come into the hands of each Treasurer. He is then allowed the enormous sum of £10 0 0, instead of £30, as stated by this pamphleteer!!! The duty of assessment is performed by the Municipal Council, on application from the School Commissioners, who act upon a copy of the Council's valuation; and there are no collectors appointed, but the taxes are *received* by the Sec.-Treasurer, who notifies the people to come and pay them at his office. The host of Assessors and Collectors, therefore vanish, and with them the enormous salaries they are stated to have received. There is not indeed throughout the whole of this scandalous pamphlet a more reckless statement than that relative to the expenses of Elementary Education. I defy the seditious author, with all his boasted "acquaintance with the rights of men and things," to show from official sources that the expenses amount to *one third* of the sum he has stated.