

even in matters in which their own personal feelings and interests may be involved. A District Superintendent, who, from his standing, qualifications, ability and experience, is looked up to by the Council as well as by the inhabitants generally, will be beyond the influence of any personal or local opposition. But such fortunate examples—fortunate for all parties—are rather exceptions, than the general rule. It is all-important, therefore, that the District Councils, having made the best possible selection for the office of District Superintendent, should enable him to feel that he has nothing to fear as long as he performs his duties efficiently *according to law*.

But the most onerous part of a District Superintendent's duties is, to visit the Schools throughout his District. He can prescribe certain days or weeks of certain months for the *payment* of teachers and the examination of candidates; but the visitation of the schools is literally the work of the year. The excellent article in this number of our Journal, from the pen of the Head-Master of the Provincial Normal School, clearly shows both the *importance* and the *labour* of School-inspection; and we observe that several District Councils have strongly insisted upon it. The fatigues, exposures, industry, and qualifications required in the performance of this most essential part of a District Superintendent's duty—especially in new Districts or settlements—cannot be easily appreciated. He must be upon the road, with a horse or conveyance of his own, during the greater part of the year. This involves no small item of expense—an expense from which most public officers are exempt, as they are not compelled to travel. Probably none will doubt that a District Superintendent's duties are much more onerous than those of a District Judge; nor will any doubt that his office is less important, or that it demands a lower order of varied qualifications. Why should, then, the salary of the one be so much less than that of the other? Can it be supposed that a District Superintendent can labour with heart and satisfaction, with energy and constancy, for a remuneration little more than sufficient for his horse-hire and travelling expenses—a remuneration less than that of many clerks or book-keepers in a merchant's shop? Can Councillors reasonably expect much and efficient service from a District Superintendent, if they refuse him a salary equal to that of a subordinate writing clerk in other public offices? It is gratifying to see Councillors alive to the importance of frequent and thorough school-visitations on the part of District Superintendents; but they should be equally liberal in encouraging Superintendents to do so by showing how highly they value such labours. It is quite unreasonable to suppose that the office of District Superintendent will be filled by men of proper qualifications and character for half the salary attached to other offices requiring lower qualifications and less labour. A cheap Superintendent, like a cheap School-master, is poor economy. The addition of £50 or £75 to the salary of a District Superintendent would not