

are about establishing a new school section. The affairs are in a satisfactory state.

St. Jean-Baptiste.—There is no change worthy of note in the schools of this parish. The commissioners having neglected to furnish records of visits, I could not, under your instructions, distribute any prizes in these schools. The affairs of the corporation are conducted in a satisfactory manner.

St. Hilaire.—The schools in this parish have not progressed as much as would be desirable. Two of them are very irregularly attended. The girls' academy under the Religious Ladies of the Sacred Names of Jesus and Mary is, as heretofore, well managed; the pupils gave proof of remarkably close application, this year. I had no difficulty in regulating the pecuniary affairs of the commissioners.

St. Césaire.—The schools of this parish, with two exceptions, are very well conducted. The pupils continue to advance with increasing rapidity, but it is to be regretted their truly devoted teachers should be the worse paid of any within the district under my inspection. The model-school of this parish, conducted by Mr. J. Bte. Delage, merits a special notice. French and English are both taught with equal success in his school. The girls' academy under the *Sœurs de la Présentation*, is undoubtedly one of the first of its class. This year it has been attended by 136 pupils. English, French, and all the branches of a good education, are taught in this institution. It is in every sense an honour to the worthy founder, Mr. Provençal, the parish priest of the place.

St. Matthias.—The salaries of teachers in this parish, vary from £50 to £56, and the schools are generally well attended. The pupils have made satisfactory progress. The commissioners, whose zeal is worthy of all praise, are about to establish two new sections, a step which is evidently necessary. The accounts are kept in a satisfactory manner.

St. Marie de Monnoir.—Five of the schools in this parish are well kept. The pupils gave proof that they had made progress. There is no change worthy of remark in the other four, since last year. I think this may be attributed, in great part, to the incapacity of the young female teachers, by whom these schools are conducted. As regards the college and the girls' academy, I have merely to repeat the favorable account contained in my last year's report.

St. Pie.—The schools in this parish are in general better kept than at the period of my first visit, and much better attended. The salaries of the male and female teachers are low. St. Pie would require a primary-superior school. The population of the village is large and desirous of possessing this advantage; I have every reason to hope that there will not be much delay in the matter. The school-houses are still in a very bad state, and devoid of almost every requisite. The accounts of the school corporation are kept in a very satisfactory manner; but its affairs are negligently managed.

St. Damase.—Two of the schools of this municipality are badly conducted, the others give proof of progress. The village school under Mr. Lussier, is, for an elementary school, every thing that could be desired. Several of the children are studying with success in the branches required for teaching, in the model schools. I hope the commissioners will soon take steps towards the establishment of a primary superior school. The pecuniary affairs of this municipality are now in a very satisfactory position; but the school houses are in very bad order.

St. Dominique.—The lack of progress prevailing in the schools of this parish with but one exception, is owing to the apathy of parents in neglecting to send their children to school regularly. The commissioners' accounts and the records of their proceedings are kept in a very unsatisfactory manner. There is, in fact, neither a register nor books.

St. Simon.—The schools are well kept, and the pupils progressing remarkably well. The manner in which the affairs of the corporation are managed, is such as to reflect credit on those to whom they are entrusted.

St. Hugues.—This parish is behind the others in many respects. At the date of my visit, it was the only parish in my district in which the teachers had received nothing, or next to nothing, of their salaries. With the exception of the girls' academy, under Mrs. Blanchette, the schools are very inferior. The former displayed very satisfactory evidence of progress. At the girls' academy, conducted by the *Sœurs de la Présentation*, the day pupils

whom I examined impressed me with a very favourable idea of that institution. The accounts of the school corporation are kept in a very satisfactory manner, but there are large arrears to be collected.

St. Ephrem.—Two of the schools in this parish are on a footing which leave nothing to be desired. The other gives no evidence of progress. The dissentient school is very well conducted. The accounts of the commissioners are well kept. I was unable to see those of the dissentients.

St. Hélène.—There are now two schools under control. That which was last opened, and which I visited, appeared to me to be in a satisfactory condition. The commissioners have dismissed one of the teachers on a charge of immorality, they have also changed the secretary-treasurer. The affairs of the corporation are now in good order.

St. Rosalie.—The state of the finances of this municipality, is now every thing that could be desired, and the accounts are very well kept. This cannot be said of the schools. With the exception of the village school, the progress of which becomes more and more marked, they all seem to recede in place of advancing. Last year the commissioners discharged a good teacher, without cause, and they now regret having done so.

Notre-Dame de St. Hyacinthe.—All the schools of this parish are provided with the usual requisites. The progress made in most of them is very marked, and the attendance is also more regular than at the period of my first visit. The teachers' salaries vary from £30 to £35. The affairs of the corporation are in very good order, and the accounts are well kept.

Town of St. Hyacinthe.—Mr. Kerouac's school is conducted, as heretofore, with zeal and success. His salary, and that of Mme. Kerouac, who is entrusted with the division including the younger children, amount to £105. The school under the Sister of Charity is attended by 186 pupils, nearly all of them being the children of the poorer class, who but for the intervention of these good Ladies, would be condemned to grow up in ignorance and idleness. The Sisters of the *Présentation de Marie* have taken the place of the Sisters of the *Congrégation de Notre-Dame* at the girls' academy. Their house is the mother-house of the order, in the diocese of St. Hyacinthe. There are 11 Sisters and 175 pupils. The education imparted is at once very solid and very refined.

La Présentation.—I am happy to state that the recommendation which I deemed it my duty to make to the commissioners and rate-payers of this parish, during my first visit, has had the desired effect. The schools were then but poorly attended, and they are now filled with pupils, and except in one instance or so, the greatest progress has been made in every respect.

I devoted a considerable time to examining the accounts and registers of the commissioners, in each of the parishes within my district, and I repeat, that the great evil, is the delay in paying the teachers. This, again, is caused by delay in collecting the school rates and monthly fees. I am convinced that if the commissioners were bound to collect these rates in the Autumn, the time when the rate-payers are best able to pay, and to furnish at the same time, with their semi-annual report, a certificate from the inspector testifying that there are no arrears and that the teachers have been paid, many of the abuses complained of would cease to exist.

The following statistical summary will enable you to judge of the progress made within my district during the year. In 1857 the number of pupils attending the different institutions was 6,378; in 1858 the number has been 7,666, increase 1,288; number of pupils reading fluently in 1857, 1,803; in 1858, 2,749, increase 946; number of pupils learning to write in 1857, 2,882; in 1858, 3,183, increase 301; number of pupils learning simple arithmetic in 1857, 1,699; in 1858, 2,187, increase, 588; number of pupils learning the compound rules in 1857, 1,041; in 1858, 1,576, increase 535. In 1857, only 64 pupils were taught book-keeping; this year, 1858, it has been taught to 115, increase 51. Only 980 were taught geography; this year it has been taught to 1,546, increase, 666. Only 1,749 were taught French grammar; this year it has been taught to 2,677, increase 928. History was taught to 1,146; this year to 1,677, increase 531. Literary composition, mensuration, linear drawing, English grammar, singing, and instrumental music, also show an increase of about one hundred per cent. The sum contributed by the rate-payers has increased by £657, and the salaries of the teachers have also been somewhat increased.

(To be continued.)