

long as the rate-payers of these sections are unwilling to move in the matter, decline to elect trustees and refuse to build school-houses, there seems little prospect of a change.

Also, so long as only in a few sections the attendance is good, from seventy to eighty per cent, and in a large portion it is below fifty, and many parents are remiss in their educational duties to their offspring, it becomes almost a necessity that some coercive measures should be adopted so that Schools may be established in every Section and the children, under the paternal control of the government, may be placed in a position to receive the instruction provided for them.

As trustees too frequently, from a false economy, secure the services of teachers of the lowest grades when better qualified are needed, and as female teachers are now admitted to equal rank with male, it is but just that grade E should be withdrawn so that both sexes may compete equally in the same arena.

A review of last year's work affords proof that there has been no deterioration in the character of our Schools, but on the contrary there has been comparative progress; that people, trustees and teachers are gradually conforming to the educational ideas of the period, and that a system, which has so far stood the test of trial and vindicated its adaptability to the wants of every community, will be sustained and advanced as old defects are banished and new improvements welcomed.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. C. A. DOANE.

DAVID ALLISON, Esq., M.A., LL.D.
Superintendent of Education.

VICTORIA COUNTY.

KENNETH MCKENZIE, Inspector.

SIR,—

I beg leave to submit the following as my annual report on the state of the Public Schools of this County, for the school year ended October 31st., 1877.

The number of Sections has, during the past year, been increased to 77, by the division of the Section of South Side Little Narrows, No. 29, into two Sections—it having been about 8 miles in length.

The new one is designated S. S. L. N. West, No. 77.

It may be remarked, that while on the one hand, too limited an area in the boundaries of School Sections, is a cause of financial weakness, it is found on the other hand, that too large an extent of territory is attended with very serious disadvantage to the educational interests of the section.

Several of the Sections of this County have suffered from one or other of those disadvantages. Efforts have accordingly been put forth to remedy the evils arising from those, which had been found too large, by dividing, in one instance, 4 Sections into 5, giving 1 of these, it being (sparsely) settled, and long, 2 school-houses, under one staff of trustees. In four other instances, owing to their formation, it being impossible to make an equal division of boundaries, and at the same time secure equal, or even sufficient financial resources to each, it was thought therefore more advisable under the circumstances to grant