

had been examined. The result was—"More rapid execution of the work, better writing, and very much better spelling, than the papers of the students exhibited."

The Superintendent has found a general improvement over last year in the schools visited this year, particularly in the lower classes: showing a very desirable care on the part of the teachers of a portion of the school too often neglected.

There are twenty-one schools, with 979 scholars on the books.

The usual extracts from correspondence are submitted.

From an experienced Clergyman and Rural Dean:

JANUARY 8TH, 1866.—I have during the past year occasionally visited the school under Mr. Wright's charge, and found it well attended, and the children generally making good progress in the various branches of education usually taught in our District schools. I have every reason to believe that the Society's rules are strictly carried out, and that Mr. W. endeavours to instil into his pupils an early love of truth and a reverence for the author of their being. I may also add that the majority of them are remarked upon for their good manners and the respect for their elders and superiors, which are pleasing features of character, in those days of independence and irreverence.

From an experienced Clergyman in the French parishes:

DECEMBER 14TH, 1865.—Every year strengthens my convictions as to the importance of the work which the Church of England is doing in Lower Canada—not only as a witness for the truth of God, but as the dispenser of the blessing of the Gospel to the scattered members of the Protestant communions. Were it not for her Missionaries and Teachers many a family of British origin would have remained uncared for in spiritual things; many now in the enjoyment of the privileges and comforts of true religion would have lapsed into error or infidelity.

The work of her schools, upon which, in this communication I would now particularly dwell, is indeed one whose value cannot be too highly estimated.

Our people in the sections of country referred to are found, for the most part, in small isolated communities. There is, generally speaking, many worldly inducements to lead them to fall into the ways of the majority by whom they are surrounded; they are constantly exposed to influences which, if unchecked, soon lead them away from the faith of their Fathers. Frequently is the distressing circumstance to be observed of large families, with British names, who have lost not only their language but their religion. Again and again have I been called to visit the dying bed of some aged old country person, who had remained himself in the religion, in which he had been instructed in some parish school, of the mother church, but who, in former years, unassisted by a scriptural school in the locality where he had settled, had found it impossible to retain his children in his own faith; and so, at such a trying season, had not about him a single member of his household holding the same religious views as himself.