

the proportions of the two countries), the advantage of a perfect order, of an intelligent and methodical classification that presents a sort of tabular synopsis of the resources of Canada in all branches of natural or industrial production. One would say it was a book that one opens, where the matters are arranged chapter by chapter, following a logical chain that goes from the simple to the composite, in such a way that, having reached the end, the reader has his memory stored and his mind edified without effort as without confusion." . . . After referring to the different branches of the Canadian department, which it notices with much commendation, and especially to the display of metallurgic specimens and agricultural machines of all kinds, in which Canada is not surpassed by any other exhibitors, the following allusion is made to the branch of public instruction: "Finally, and of this the Canadians have, above all, the right to be proud, the section of public instruction deserves to be studied with particular care, even by nations who pique themselves on possessing the best methods of teaching." "In short, Canada merits the greatest credit for this exhibition of resources, which is besides, a demonstration of the honest, orderly, patient, and laborious character of its inhabitants."

The *Buffalo Christian Advocate* says the Education Department of Ontario, Canada, makes by far the most extensive display of school apparatus at the Centennial of any nation. Seven large show cases in the Main Building are filled with such articles as a selection of some hundred volumes from the school libraries, showing excellent taste, zoological and botanical coloured charts, the objects on the latter greatly enlarged; philosophical apparatus of large size and elegant finish; object-lesson cards, the picture of the animal or plant being accompanied with specimens of cloth, leather, etc., which the animals furnish; prepared specimens in natural philosophy; models of various educational establishments in bristol-board, coloured; section models of steam engines; large anatomical drawings and models; enlarged geometrical figures in cut glass; wall maps "constructed under the authority of the Educational Department of Ontario;" relief wall maps; specimens of furniture, in fact every thing that could be desired in the equipment of a first class educational establishment. Great praise is due to our neighbours over the northern border for this extensive and costly exhibition and for the zeal in a great cause which it indicates.

The *Wilmington (Del.) Republican* says:—No one visiting the Exhibition can fail to notice the magnificent display made by the Dominion of Canada. Its educational department especially is very attractive, showing conclusively that its schools are of the highest order. Where so much attention is given to education, the Dominion must eventually take high rank in the scale of nations. True, it is a dependency of Britain, but instead of benefiting by this connection, the probability is that Britain will be the gainer, if she give heed to the lessons which the liberal and enlightened Canadians will be likely to give from time to time while husbanding their portion of this Continent.

VII. The Morrisburg Investigation.

1. COUNTY OF DUNDAS BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

MEMORANDUM upon the subject of the conduct and proceedings of the County Board of Examiners in the examination for Public School Teachers in July 1874, and at other times.

BY THE HONOURABLE THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

I. In consequence of the representations made to this Department, the undersigned appointed a Commission composed of J. George Hodgins, Esq., LL.D., Deputy Minister, and W. R. Bigg, Esq., Inspector of Public Schools for the first division of Leeds, to enquire into and report to me upon the subject of certain complaints made by Mr. Archibald Loucks, a Public School Teacher in the County of Dundas, against the conduct and proceedings of the Rev. William Fergusson, M.A., Public School Inspector and Examiner, and of W. A. Whitney, Esq., M.A., also an Examiner in the County of Dundas, during the years from 1871 to 1875.

II. The evidence was taken under oath, under the authority of a statute in that behalf, and has been returned by the Commissioners to the Department.

III. The proceedings before the Commission commenced on the 16th May, 1876, and were taken down in shorthand.

IV. The parties affected are the Rev. William Fergusson, M.A., who holds a certificate as a Public School Inspector for the County of Dundas, and, *ex-officio*, one of the County Board Examiners; W. A. Whitney, M.A., Head Master of the Iroquois High School, who holds a certificate of qualification as an Inspector and Examiner, and W. M. Elliott, M.A., who holds the position of Head Master

of the Kemptville High School, who holds a certificate as an examiner.

The following witnesses were examined in the presence of these parties, and were subjected to cross-examination by them:

1. Archibald Loucks, who formerly held a third class certificate as a Public School Teacher, but which has expired. He has been teaching under a permit from the Inspector granted last year, but since suspended.
2. James Mallen, Public School Teacher, Morrisburg.
3. James Flannigan, Public School Teacher, No. 11, Matilda.
4. Thomas McNulty, late Public School Teacher, but now insurance agent, Dixon's Corners.
5. Arthur Brown, M.A., Examiner.
6. Dr. Hickey, Examiner.
7. W. Elliott, Teacher, High School, Morrisburg.
8. Irwin Stuart, M.A., Head Master.
9. Jacob Hanes, School Trustee.
10. W. A. Whitney, Examiner.
11. Rev. Wm. Fergusson, M.A., Inspector.
12. Rev. Mr. Robson, Methodist Minister.
13. Allan Weogant, candidate for examination in 1874.

The evidence chiefly refers to the examination which took place at Winchester Springs in July, 1874, and its purport will be concisely stated as given by the different witnesses.

1. James Mallen, a candidate for a third-class certificate, states that he saw the paper on arithmetic on Tuesday evening, being the day next preceding the examination on that subject; he is positive he saw that paper the night before it was examined upon, at his boarding house and in the hands of Mr. Wm. Elliott, one of the County Examiners. It was the same paper as was given the next morning to himself and the other candidates; he had the paper in his own hands and looked over it in the presence of Mr. Elliott; he asked Mr. McNulty (also a witness) to solve one of its problems for him; he also states that Mr. Fergusson opened all the packages containing the examination papers, and assumed to open the arithmetic package, also on the Wednesday of its examination.

2. William Elliott, also a candidate, but not connected with Mr. W. M. Elliott, the Examiner, states that he heard from James L. Holmes, who lives in Winchester, the day after the examination in Arithmetic, that one of the papers had been seen by a candidate.

3. Thomas McNulty, formerly a teacher, states that he was present at Winchester Springs for most of the week during the examination in July, 1874; he worked an example for James Mallen on the evening previous to the examination, and he saw the example the next day in the examination paper.

4. James Flannigan, a candidate at this examination, states that Dr. Hickey was an examiner, in addition to the other three; he saw two papers containing the examination questions, before they were examined upon, in the Victoria House, a boarding-house at the Springs; these papers referred to the second-class examinations, and were upon Arithmetic and Algebra; he saw them in a room, which the evidence shows was Mr. Whitney's, on a trunk or on a bed; he went to the room for the express purpose of finding these papers, upon information furnished by Mr. Whitney to himself and another candidate, Mr. McEwen; this information was given by Mr. Whitney in a conversation away from the house, and Flannigan states positively that it was solely in consequence of what fell from Mr. Whitney in this conversation that induced him to go to the room for the very purpose of finding these examination papers; Mr. Whitney also gave him to understand that the papers had been opened, and that they were to be found in the room in which he sought them; he saw these papers the evening before the examination, and is positive that he was examined upon these same papers; he looked over them, and the next day was examined upon them; he found the papers not in an envelope but lying loose; he did not require this aid so much for himself as for Mr. McEwen and some other candidates, although he admits he derived some advantage from seeing them; he states there were ten questions on the papers, and that he saw eight of them; he asked Mr. McPherson to solve a problem for him, but he did not communicate to Mr. McPherson where he had got the problem; he brought the principal part of the problem written down by him to Mr. McPherson; a conversation with Mr. Whitney took place after tea time, and was on the bank of a stream which runs along by the Spring; Mr. McPherson was the presiding examiner, and five candidates presented themselves.

5. W. A. Whitney, one of the Board of Examiners, and Secretary to the Board states, that at the close of the afternoon of this examination, he was standing near Mr. Fergusson at the table while the second-class candidates were in the room, Mr. Elliott being also in the room engaged in collecting the answers of those candidates who had finished; he then made a suggestion to Mr. Fergusson about opening the Mathematical papers, avowing as his object, that it would expedite business if they could see the questions, and