

5. But the complaint is, that the Statute has not been carried into effect in a liberal spirit. That an exclusive system has been adopted, under which, it is stated, that the benefits intended have been enjoyed but in a very partial manner, "except by the followers of one Church, meaning, no doubt, the Church of England.

6. The District (Grammar) Schools, with respect to which the allegation is made, have been established for twenty-two years.

7. Your Committee are aware, that in those Schools most of the youth of the Province have been educated who now fill the several professions in this Province, and of whom many do credit to their respective Teachers. They are also aware, that the opportunities which these Schools have afforded have been ever open equally to the youth of every religious denomination, that the parents of all have appeared equally desirous that their children should profit by those opportunities; and this is the first occasion, within the knowledge of your Committee, in which it has ever been intimated that the inhabitants of this country did not equally participate in the advantages of those Schools without question as to their religious faith, or without a distinction of any kind founded on that principle. It is asserted in the Petition:

"That the Trustees of these Institutions, which ought to be impartially managed, for the benefit of all, have been almost exclusively appointed from one denomination of Christians, and consequently your Petitioners, and their congregations, as well as others in similar circumstances, have been deprived of that benefit which they had a right to expect would have arisen from them."

8. On reference to a list of the Trustees appointed on the 13th of March, 1807, soon after the passing of the Act, it appears that they were selected by the Executive Government from among the most respectable inhabitants of the several Districts, without any regard to their religious opinions, for Roman Catholics and Presbyterians, as well as members of the Church of England are found among the number; and in the District of Newcastle, there was at first, only one out of six Trustees, a member of the Established Church. (See page 61.)

9. But if this assertion of the Petitioners were correct, as it most certainly is not, it could be of little moment as the Trustees have nothing to do with the education of the children, unless it could be shown that, in consequence of such a selection of Trustees, the Teachers have been exclusively taken from this one favoured denomination, and that those opportunities of education have in consequence been either denied to other denominations, or that a system of education has been pursued which might materially render them disinclined to send their children. No complaint of the kind last supposed is even insinuated, and we are convinced that it could not be advanced with any degree of justice.

10. It remains therefore to examine in what spirit the law has been acted upon in the appointment of Teachers.

11. To enable your Honourable House to pronounce upon that point, your Committee submit the following list of Gentlemen who have had charge of the several District (Grammar) Schools from their commencement to the present period; and they have stated to what religious denomination they believe the several Gentlemen to have belonged.

12. In some very few cases their information is not positive, but they are only in doubt with respect to two or three. That a difficulty of this kind should be found in any case arises from the fact in the selecting Teachers no rule such as has been imputed has been observed:

The Reverend Samuel Armour of Toronto and Peterboro'.—An ordained Minister of the Presbyterian Church when appointed, and while he held the school; he has since taken orders in the Church of England.

The Reverend W. D. Baldwyn of Cornwall.—Clergyman of the Church of England. (Page 83.)

Mr. George Baxter of Kingston.—A Presbyterian.

The Reverend John Bethune of Cornwall.—Clergyman of the Church of England.

The Reverend William R. Brown of York.—Clergyman of the Church of England.

Mr. John Burns of Niagara.—Presbyterian.

Mr. Hugh Bushby of Brockville.—Church of England.

Mr. E. Chadwick of London.—Congregational Minister.

Mr. Richard Cockrel of Niagara and Ancaster.—Believed to be a Presbyterian.

The Reverend Thomas Creen of Niagara.—Presbyterian Minister, has since taken orders in the Church of England.

The Reverend Rossington Elms of Toronto and Brockville.—Clergyman of the Church of England.

Mr. James Fulton of Cornwall.—Church of England.