

credit not only to the section in which it is situated, but to the whole county. At Eastern Harbour, two departments, each finished and furnished up to the times, together with a commodious hall and portico.

From Margaree Harbour to Cape Rouge, a distance of over *twenty-five* miles, all the school-houses—ten in number—are built in the same style—12 feet walls, 5 to 6 windows on each side, 5 to 6 panes high and 2 wide,—in every case elegantly furnished externally, and the most of them internally, and furnished too with all the ordinary school room appendages—books, French and English, maps, black-boards, clocks, &c. All honour to the hardy toilers of the sea.

The school-house at Broad Cove Marsh has been enlarged by the addition of another compartment and wing. The building in its present form reflects much credit upon the whole settlement.

The rate-payers of Chancellersville have also come to the front with a neat and tasty structure.

The Trustees of Red Bridge, River Inhabitants, have displayed much energy and public spirit in erecting and partially finishing a building superior, in many respects, to the school-house lately destroyed by fire in that section.

The new style of architecture, so called, has been adopted in this, as in every other school building erected within the last few years in the County.

Five new school-houses are now in course of erection in the County, and at the last annual meeting the sum of Two Thousand Two Hundred Dollars was voted for building purposes.

From the abstract of B. returns, by the way, a very unreliable source of information, it appears that about \$36000 have been expended in this county since 1864, in school buildings alone, the present value of which is put down at \$33000. In this estimate is included an approximation of the present value of *Furniture and Apparatus*. The supply in this respect may be sufficient, or nearly so, in *quantity*, but in many sections all ideas of *quality* seem to be ignored. Superannuated stoves and pipes, rickety seats and desks, blackboards which are not black, and maps tattered and torn, may all count in tables of statistics, and still be "marvellously insufficient" to fulfill the objects for which they were originally intended. Sooner or later, legislation must step in to remedy this evil. If Trustees' drafts on the county funds were to depend upon the condition and supply of school buildings, furniture, apparatus, books, &c., there would then be a mighty movement among the dry-bones; trustees and rate-payers, now notorious for laxity, would strain every nerve to qualify themselves for the largest possible receipts from the public funds.

3385 square feet black surface, 339 wall maps, 14 terrestrial globes, and a number of clocks, hand-bells and dictionaries for the teachers' desks are reported, and valued at \$1993.

During the year 40 orders for school books were forwarded by Trustees, involving an outlay inclusive of freight and other charges of \$323. In 40 sections the school books are kept as public property. In all the others the books used are private property. In some sections the supply is well kept up. Generally the schools in which the books are kept as public property are well supplied. When the books are the individual property of the pupils the supply is rarely commensurate with the demand. In a number of schools the multiplicity of Text Books in English Reading naturally retards classification. Would it not be a step in the right direction for the Council of Public Instruction to sanction either the "Royal" or the "Maritime Provinces" series, and no other—one would do as well as the other, there being no material difference between them. Either is incomparably superior to any other series for which public patronage is claimed.