

JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

MONTREAL (LOWER CANADA), JULY, 1864.

Report on Education.

In another part of this number will be found the report of the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada, for 1863, which we publish to the exclusion of other matter. The Press complains every year of the delay in the printing of the reports on Education, both for the Upper and Lower sections of the Province; yet, were editors to cast a glance at our columns, or at those of *le Journal de l'Instruction Publique*, they would in every case perceive that the Department is not to blame in the matter, as, long before the distribution of the document printed by order of the Legislative Assembly, these journals publish the Report of the Superintendent proper which contains a synopsis of the year's statistics and of all the other important information to be found in the documents accompanying the Report.

It is not our intention to throw blame on the officers or printers of the House of Assembly, by whom, we believe, the business of publishing these papers is conducted with all possible despatch. We merely desire to establish the fact that the heads of both Departments of Education are placed in a less advantageous position in this respect than are the Ministers of Crown Lands and of Public Works, to whom is accorded the privilege of publishing their reports under their own immediate control, and of having them printed as they are being prepared. Both Superintendents of Education have at different times suggested that the same arrangement be extended so as to include their respective Departments; but it would appear that the existing contract with the printers of the House does not allow of this being done. The translation which we give of the Report has been made expressly for our journal.

Legal Decision.

In a suit brought by the School Commissioners of Repentigny against one of the ratepayers of that municipality, it was decided by Hon. Justice Laberge that the Statute 27th Victoria, Chapt. 11, which confers upon school commissioners the same powers for the summary collection of assessments

as those enjoyed by municipal councils, does not abrogate the right of proceeding as before the passage of this act, if deemed preferable. Thus the statute of 1863 does not annul any preëxisting right, but simply confers new powers.

Report on Public Instruction for 1863.

(Translation.)

EDUCATION OFFICE,
Montreal, 15th May, 1864.

Hon. Provincial Secretary,

Quebec.

SIR,

I have the honor to transmit my report on the state of public instruction in Lower Canada, for 1863.

The Committee of the Legislative Assembly charged with the direction of the printing of the public documents having decided that the tables of statistics and the extracts from the School Inspectors' reports should be published in full only every three years, I can but transmit a synopsis of the statistics, and a few documents which do not come under the rule established by the Committee.

I shall not repeat the observations which I have made in all my previous reports, on the insufficiency of the sums appropriated to several branches of the service of Public Instruction, but shall be content to refer to my last, particularly for what concerns the request I have made at different times for an augmentation in the grant to the Teachers' Saving Fund. The reasons on which this request is grounded are therein very fully set forth. The short table showing the state of the Fund given last year, is completed for this year as below, and confirms the observations already submitted.

Years.	Number of teachers who subscribed each year.	Number of pensioners each year.	Rate of pension for each year of teaching.	Total paid in pensions.
1857....	150	63	\$ cts. 4 00	\$ cts. 886 90
1858....	74	91	4 00	2211 74
1859....	18	128	4 00	3115 36
1860....	9	130	3 00	2821 57
1861....	9	160	3 00	3603 58
1862....	10	164	1 75	2522 09
1863....	13	171	2 25	3237 00

The sum total of the progress of public instruction during the last ten years is distributed as follows:

TABLE showing the progress of Public Instruction in Lower Canada since 1853.

	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	Increase since 1853.	Increase since 1858.	Increase since 1862.
Institutions of learning.....	2352	2795	2868	2919	2946	2985	3199	3264	3345	3501	3552	1200	567	51
Pupils.....	108284	119733	127058	143141	148798	156872	168148	172155	180845	188635	193131	84847	36259	4496
Contributions.....	165848	236032	249136	406764	424208	459396	498436	503859	526219	542728	564810	398962	105414	22082