

We have a few excellent academies; but they are almost wholly, if not all, incorporated by special act of Parliament, and not under any general law, as a part of a system of public instruction. Will any one undertake to prove that it would have been much more difficult to have established non-sectarian grammar schools among the English speaking population in Lower than in Upper Canada? Yet Dr. Ryerson, in a comparatively short period, brought into effective existence in the Western province (in nearly every city, and other somewhat populous centres) one of the best systems of non-sectarian graded high schools on this continent, and yet here, in Lower Canada, the first step has hardly been taken towards the achievement of a consummation so much to be desired.

In the Upper Province there are about as many "private schools, academies," etc., as all the "model schools, academies," etc., (reported as public schools), in the whole of Lower Canada put together, and yet in the report of the Chief Superintendent of Upper Canada, not one of these is reported under the head of public schools, but they are only mentioned as "other educational institutions in 'Upper Canada,' which ought to be considered, in order to form a correct idea of the state of education in the country."

In the Western Province there are at least ninety-five public grammar schools whose head masters receive, on an average, nearly \$800 salary per annum, and in this Lower Province there is scarcely a high school teacher (out of the large cities) who is engaged for any other salary than the Government "moiety" (growing small by degrees and beautifully less), and what he can save out of tuition "fees" after paying for assistants, firewood, repairs, advertising, etc., etc., which generally leaves him enough to "starve him out" in a year or two at the farthest; and hence many of our best teachers are annually obliged to go to Upper Canada, or to the States to find permanent employment at salaries they can live upon, and many of the ablest men and best citizens of the Eastern Townships are constantly expatriating themselves, oftentimes against their will.

There is a Jesuitical purpose being subserved by encouraging the continued increase of these private educational corporations in Lower Canada, and reckoning them as public schools.

"Something is (very) rotten in the state of Denmark."

Richmond, C. E., 23rd June, 1865.

NUMBER IX.

SCHOOL LAW IN LOWER CANADA.

To the Honorable A. T. GALT:

Sir,—To you, as a distinguished member of the present Government, I beg leave to submit the following for consideration and action:

Cap. 15, Sec. 35, Clause 2, of the Consolidated Statutes for L. Canada