

JOURNAL
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

ANNO DECIMO TERTIO
VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

SECOND SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.



CHARLOTTETOWN :

PRINTED BY JAMES DOUGLAS HASZARD, PRINTER TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

1850.





BY HIS EXCELLENCY

SIR DONALD CAMPBELL, BARONET,

Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief in and over Her Majesty's Island Prince Edward, and the Territories thereunto belonging, Chancellor, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

DONALD CAMPBELL, Lieutenant Governor.

A P R O C L A M A T I O N .

WHEREAS the General Assembly of this Island stands prorogued to Thursday the Twenty-fifth day of April instant, and it is expedient, for special reasons, that a Meeting of the General Assembly should be held on that day for the Despatch of business.

I have therefore thought fit to summon the said General Assembly, and the same is hereby summoned to meet on Thursday the Twenty-fifth day of April instant, for the **DESPATCH OF BUSINESS**, of which all Persons concerned are required to take Notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my Hand and the Great Seal of this Island, at Charlottetown, in the said Island, this Ninth day of April, in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Fifty, and in the Thirteenth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By Command,

T. H. HAVILAND, Colonial Secretary.

God Save the Queen !!!

JOURNAL
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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

THURSDAY, 25th April, 1850.

The General Assembly having been, by Proclamation, prorogued to this day, the Legislative Council met.

P R E S E N T :

The Hon. Mr. *Attorney General*, President ;

The Hon. Mr. <i>Dalrymple</i> ,	§	The Hon. Mr. <i>Hensley</i> ,
Mr. <i>Young</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Birnie</i> ,
Mr. <i>Rice</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Haythorne</i> .
Mr. <i>Swabey</i> ,	§	

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor having come to the Council Chamber, and being seated, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, received His Excellency's commands to desire the attendance of the House of Assembly immediately in the Council Chamber.

The House of Assembly, with their Speaker, having attended accordingly, His Excellency was pleased to open the Session with the following Speech :

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :

I have called you together at this time, in order that you may proceed with the despatch of local business, together with the consideration of those important subjects affecting the general interests of the British North American Colonies, to which your attention was directed in the last Session.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :

The Act for raising a Revenue will expire on Wednesday next. It is evident that without a Revenue Act this Island must suffer heavy loss and injury, and as it is in your power to avert these evils I hope you will do so.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :

I shall take an early opportunity of communicating to you several documents relating to the Public Service, and I shall be happy to co-operate with you in all measures tending to promote the welfare of the Colony.

The Speech being ended, and the House of Assembly having withdrawn, His Excellency was pleased to retire.

Prayers were then read.

Mr. President reported His Excellency's Speech, which being read by the Clerk—

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to return the thanks of this House for his Speech delivered this day.

Ordered, That *Mr. Swabey*, *Mr. Hensley* and *Mr. Birnie* be a Committee to prepare a Draft, pursuant to the above Resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to revise the Journals of this House, each day, and that it be an instruction to the Committee to require, that a Printed Copy be laid on the Table daily.

Ordered, That *Mr. Young*, *Mr. Swabey* and *Mr. Hensley* do compose the said Committee.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine into and report upon such Laws as are near expiring.

Ordered, That *Mr. Young* and *Mr. Rice* do compose the said Committee.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine Bills to be engrossed or that have been engrossed.

Ordered, That *Mr. Young*, *Mr. Swabey* and *Mr. Birnie* do compose the said Committee.

Resolved, That the Thirty-seventh Standing Order of this House, be inserted three times in each of the Newspapers published in Charlottetown, for the information of the Public.

Resolved, That *Mr. Henry Douglas Morpeth* be appointed Reporter to this House for the present Session.

Adjourned until to-morrow at One o'clock.

FRIDAY, 26th April, 1850.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

P R E S E N T :

The Honorable Mr. *Attorney General*, President ;

The Hon. Mr. <i>Macdonald</i> ,	§	The Hon. Mr. <i>Rice</i> ,
Mr. <i>Dalrymple</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Swabey</i> ,
Mr. <i>Young</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Hensley</i> .

PRAYERS.

Read the proceedings of yesterday.

Mr. *Swabey*, from the Committee appointed to prepare an Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech, reported a Draft thereof, which he read in his place.

Ordered, That the Report be received, and the said Draft was again read by the Clerk, and it was ordered, that the House be forthwith put into a Committee of the whole to take the same into consideration.

The House was adjourned during pleasure, and put into a Committee on the said Address.—After some time the House was resumed, and Mr. *Swabey* reported, that the Committee had gone through the Address, and that they had agreed to the same without any amendment.

On motion, *Ordered*, that the Report of the Committee be received.

The said Address being read a second time was agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the said Address be engrossed.

On motion, the said Address, as engrossed, was read a third time, and passed, whereupon Mr. *President* signed the same, and which is as followeth :

To His Excellency Sir DONALD CAMPBELL, Baronet, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over Her Majesty's Island Prince Edward, and the Territories thereunto belonging, Chancellor, Vice Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY ;

We, the Members of Her Majesty's Legislative Council, in General Assembly convened, offer to your Excellency our respectful thanks for the Speech with which your Excellency opened the present Session of the Legislature.

We assure your Excellency that the local business of the Colony shall command our mature consideration, as well as such other subjects as may affect the general interests of the British North American Colonies.

All such documents as your Excellency may direct to be laid before us which relate to the Public Service, shall likewise receive our serious deliberation; and we receive with great satisfaction the assurance your Excellency has conveyed to us of your readiness to co-operate in all measures calculated to promote the welfare of the Colony.

On motion, Ordered, that the said Address be presented to His Excellency by the whole House.

Ordered, That the same Committee who prepared the Address, be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency, to know when he will be pleased to receive this House, with their Address, who, returning, reported, that they had waited on His Excellency, and that he had been pleased to say, he would receive the Address on Monday next at Twelve o'clock.

On motion, the House came to the following Resolution.

Resolved, That Mr. *Dalrymple*, Mr. *Young*, and Mr. *Swabey*, the Committee of this House, having charge of the Legislative Library, in conjunction with a Committee of the House of Assembly, be requested to furnish the Honorable the Speaker of the House of Assembly of Canada, with all the Journals of the Legislature of this Colony, and any other Documents, Books and Papers that they may be able to procure, to supply, in part, the loss sustained by the Canadian Legislature, in the destruction of their Parliamentary Library by Fire.

Adjourned until Monday next, at Eleven o'clock.

MONDAY, 29th April, 1850.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

P R E S E N T :

The Honorable Mr. *Attorney General*, President ;

The Hon. Mr. <i>Dalrymple</i> ,	§	The Hon. Mr. <i>Hensley</i> ,
Mr. <i>Rice</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Birnie</i> ,
Mr. <i>Swabey</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Haythorne</i> .

PRAYERS.

Read the proceedings of Friday last.

At Twelve o'clock, the House proceeded to Government House with their Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech, and being returned, the President reported, that His Excellency had been pleased to receive the same, and to give an Answer thereto, which was read by the Clerk, and is as followeth :

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council ;

I beg you to accept my best thanks for your Address, and I receive with much satisfaction the assurance that you will apply yourselves to the local business of the Colony, and such other subjects as may affect the general interests of the British North American Colonies.

A Message from the House of Assembly, by Mr. Haviland—

“ House of Assembly, Thursday, 25th April, 1850.

“ Resolved, That a Committee of Six Members be appointed to keep up a good correspondence between the two branches of the Legislature, and to report their proceedings from time to time, with power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

“ Ordered, That Mr. Haviland, Mr. Yeo, Mr. Longworth, Mr. Jardine, Mr. Lord, and Mr. Warburton do compose the said Committee.

“ Ordered, That the said Resolution be communicated by Message to the Legislative Council.”

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to join the Committee of the House of Assembly, to keep up a good Correspondence between the two Branches of the Legislature, and to report their proceedings from time to time, with power to send for Persons, Papers and Records.

Ordered, That Mr. Swabey, Mr. Hensley and Mr. Haythorne do compose the said Committee.

Ordered, That the said Resolution be communicated by Message to the House of Assembly.

Adjourned until to-morrow at Three o'clock.

TUESDAY, 30th April, 1850.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

P R E S E N T :

The Honorable Mr. *Attorney General*, President ;

The Hon. Mr. <i>Macdonald</i> ,	§	The Hon. Mr. <i>Swabey</i> ,
Mr. <i>Dalrymple</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Hensley</i> ,
Mr. <i>Young</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Birnie</i> .

PRAYERS.

Read the proceedings of yesterday.

Mr. *Dalrymple* laid before the House the Annual Report of the Visiter of District Schools for Prince County, for the past year.

Also, the Annual Report of the Visiter of District Schools for King's County for the past year.

(*Vide Appendices Nos. 1 & 2.*)

Ordered, That the said Report do lie on the Table.

The Honorable Mr. Haviland, Colonial Secretary informed the House, that he was directed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to lay before the House, the following written Message, signed by His Excellency :

DONALD CAMPBELL, Lieut. Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor lays before the Legislative Council, Copies of Communications received by him from Captain Bayfield and Commander Jenner of Her Majesty's Navy, relative to the Light House at Point Prim, and he recommends to the favorable consideration of the Council, the suggestions of those Officers, as to the means of increasing its efficiency.

Government House, April 29, 1850.

(*Vide Appendix No. 3.*)

The said Communications were read and ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. *President*, by Command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor laid before the House the following Despatches and Documents, viz :

Copy of Despatch from the Governor General to His Excellency Sir Donald Campbell, Baronet, dated the 26th of February, 1850, transmitting Copies of two Minutes of the Executive Council of Canada, the one being in reply to a Memorial of the Montreal Board of Trade, and the other founded on a Memorandum of the Inspector General of the Province of Canada.

Copy of Despatch from Sir Edmund Head, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, to His Excellency Sir Donald Campbell Baronet, enclosing Copy of a Joint Address to Her Majesty, on the subject of the Trade between the British North American Provinces, presented by the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of New Brunswick.

(*Vide Appendix No. 4.*)

The said Despatches and Documents were read and ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. *President*, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, also laid before the House, Copy of the Estimates for the Services of the current year.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table.

Mr. *President*, moved for leave to bring in a Bill to repeal and amend a certain part of an Act for the improvement of the Practice of the Court of Chancery of this Island. Leave being granted, the said Bill was brought in and read a first time.

On motion, the said Bill was read a second time.

On motion, the House was adjourned during pleasure, and put into a Committee on the said Bill.—After some time the House was resumed, and Mr. *Young* reported, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and that they had agreed to the same without any amendment.

On motion, *Ordered*, that the Report of the Committee be agreed to.

Ordered, That the said Bill be engrossed, and that the title be “An Act to repeal and amend a certain part of an Act for the improvement of the practice of the Court of Chancery of this Island.

Mr. *Young*, from the Committee appointed to examine into and report upon the expiring Laws, presented to the House, the Report of the Committee, which he read in his place and is as follows :

Your Committee, appointed to examine into and report upon such Laws as are about to expire, report as follows :

That the Act of 9 Victoria, Cap. 17, to prevent the going at large of Swine and Geese at all Seasons and Horses at certain Seasons in the Streets and Square of Georgetown, will expire at the end of the present Session.

That the Act of 10 Victoria Cap. 8, for the better prevention of Smuggling will expire at the end of the present Session.

That the Act 10 Victoria, Cap 9, for the encouragement of Education, will expire at the end of the present Session.

That the Act of 11 Victoria, Cap. 3, to repeal the Laws now in force relating to Emigrants, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof, and the Act 12 Victoria Cap. 27, to repeal and alter certain parts of the Emigrant Act will expire at the end of the present Session.

That the Act of 12 Victoria, Cap. 10, for raising a Revenue will expire on the First day of May, 1850.

Ordered, That the said Report do lie on the Table.

A Message from the House of Assembly, by Mr. Fraser, with a Bill intituled "An Act to continue several Acts which are near expiring, to which they desire the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Read the said Bill a first time.

On motion, the said Bill was read a second time.

On motion, the House was adjourned during pleasure, and put into a Committee on the said Bill.—After some time the House was resumed, and Mr. *Swabey* reported, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and that they had agreed to the same without any amendment.

On motion, *Ordered*, that the Report of the Committee be agreed to.

A Message from the House of Assembly, by Mr. Fraser, with a Bill intituled "An Act for raising a Revenue, and appropriating part of the same," to which they desire the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Read the said Bill a first time.

Adjourned until to-morrow at Eleven o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, 1st May, 1850.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

P R E S E N T :

The Honorable Mr. *Attorney General*, President ;

The Hon. Mr. <i>Macdonald</i> ,	§	The Hon. Mr. <i>Swabey</i> ,
Mr. <i>Dalrymple</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Hensley</i> ,
Mr. <i>Young</i> ,	§	Mr. <i>Birnie</i> .
Mr. <i>Rice</i> ,	§	

PRAYERS.

Read the proceedings of yesterday.

Mr. *Dalrymple*, by leave presented a Petition of Margaret Morrison, of Bonshaw, Township Number Thirty, Widow, in destitute circumstances, praying relief.

The said Petition was read and ordered to lie on the Table.

Read a third time the Bill intituled "An Act to continue several Acts which are near expiring."

Resolved, That the said Bill do pass.

Ordered, That a Message be sent down to the House of Assembly, acquainting them therewith.

Read a third time, as engrossed, the Bill intituled "An Act to repeal and amend a certain part of an Act for the improvement of the practice of the Court of Chancery of this Island.

Resolved, That the said Bill do pass.

Ordered, That the said Bill be sent down to the House of Assembly for their concurrence.

Mr. *Swabey*, by leave, presented a Petition of the Clergy, Magistrates, and other Inhabitants of Charlottetown, setting forth, that Petitioners cannot but view with sorrow and alarm the prospect which the re-opening of the Navigation presents, of the continued violation of the Sabbath, by the employment thereon of the Steamer "Rose," for the transmission of the Mails from Pictou to Charlottetown, and the consequent

opening of the Post Office, for the delivery of Letters—and praying that such measures may be adopted as will tend to remedy the evil complained of.

The said Petition was read and ordered to lie on the Table.

Read a second time, the Bill intituled “ An Act for raising a Revenue, and appropriating part of the same.”

On motion, the House was adjourned during pleasure, and put into a Committee on the said Bill.—After some time the House was resumed, and Mr. *Swabey* reported, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and that they had agreed to the same, and further that the Committee had come to several Resolutions which they recommend to the adoption of the House.

On motion, Ordered, that the Report of the Committee be received.

The said Resolutions were then read, and are as follow :—

Resolved, That the House of Assembly, in appending to the usual annual Revenue Bill now before this House, items of appropriation, distinct and separate in their nature, and one of which is wholly unconnected with the Bill, has departed from the constitutional usage of Parliament, and which usage has always prevailed in such matters in this Colony.

Resolved, That such a mode of procedure would in all probability, if persisted in by the House of Assembly, and submitted to by this House, have the effect of obliging this House to give its assent to appropriations it might disapprove of, rather than to reject the supply which the public exigencies might demand.

Resolved, That in passing the Bill in question, in its present shape, this House is impelled thereto by the consideration, that the general Revenue Act expires this day, and that the rejection of this Bill, which was only sent up to this House at a late hour yesterday afternoon, would leave the Colony without a Revenue for the current year, and thereby inflict an injury to an extent which would require many years of commercial prosperity to repair.

Resolved therefore, That although this House agrees to pass the supply Bill in its present shape, it shall not be held or construed to form a precedent, nor will this House on any future occasion entertain any general Revenue Bill, in which the moneys thereby contemplated to be raised shall be appropriated in the same Bill, for services distinct and separate in their nature.

The question of concurrence having been put on each of the said Resolutions, they were agreed to by the House.

On motion, the said Bill was read a third time.

Resolved, That the said Bill do pass.

Ordered, That the said Bill be sent down to the House of Assembly.

A Message from the House of Assembly by Mr. Whelan, with a Bill intituled "An Act to relieve Members of the House of Assembly from the liability to pay a Fine of Twenty Pounds, in case of refusing to accept the office of High Sheriff," to which they desire the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Read the said Bill a first time.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor having come to the Council Chamber, and being seated, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, received His Excellency's commands to desire the attendance of the House of Assembly immediately in the Council Chamber:

The House of Assembly, with their Speaker, having attended accordingly, His Excellency was pleased in Her Majesty's name to give his assent to the following Bill :

An Act to continue several Acts which are near expiring.

The Speaker of the House of Assembly then addressed His Excellency as followeth :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY ;

On behalf of Her Majesty's faithful Commons of Prince Edward Island, I have now to present a Bill intituled "An Act for raising a Revenue, and appropriating part of the same," to which I have humbly to request your Excellency's assent.

To which His Excellency was pleased in Her Majesty's name to give his assent.

And then His Excellency was pleased to make the following Speech to both Houses:

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :

I regret that it is not in my power to congratulate you on the results of the present Session.

The House of Assembly has declined to proceed with the local business of the Colony, and with the consideration of those important subjects affecting the general interests of the British North American Provinces, to which I directed your attention.

The Legislature has passed a Revenue Bill, to which certain appropriations of the Moneys levied by it, are attached. This is a proceeding of such an unusual character, that under ordinary circumstances I should have hesitated to assent to a Bill coming before me in such a shape. The matter however was urgent—the delay of a few hours

might, and probably would, subject the Colony to a heavy pecuniary loss, and a corresponding increase of the Public Debt. This consideration alone has induced me to assent to a Bill which I think is objectionable both in principle and in practice.

Two of the items of appropriation attached to the Revenue Bill, namely, the produce of the Land Assessment, and a sum sufficient to defray the interest on outstanding Warrants, would, according to law, have been applied to their respective purposes by the Government, even if no such appropriations had taken place. In point of fact then, the only provision which has been made by the Assembly for which their sanction was requisite, is for the payment of the contingent expences of the Legislature, together with Fifty Pounds to the Speaker, and Twenty-five Pounds to each Member of the Assembly.

It is a subject of much regret to me, that no provision has been made for many of the most essential wants of the Colony, including Roads, Bridges; and Wharfs; Crown Prosecutions; the maintenance of Jails and Prisoners; Inland Mails; relief of poor persons; and various items, the want of which will be severely felt by those classes of the people which can least afford to lose them.

These and other Supplies necessary for the due performance of the public service having been refused by the Assembly, I do not see that any useful purpose can be attained by your remaining longer in Session, and I will therefore relieve you from further attendance, and enable you to return to your respective homes and occupations.

After which the President of the Council said—

GENTLEMEN ;

It is the will and pleasure of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that this General Assembly be prorogued until Wednesday the Fifth day of June next, and this General Assembly is accordingly prorogued until Wednesday the Fifth day of June next, to be then here holden.

END OF THE SECOND SESSION.

APPENDIX

TO

THE JOURNAL

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.



FOR THE SESSION COMMENCING THE TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF APRIL, AND
ENDING THE FIRST DAY OF MAY.

1850.

APPENDIX TO THE JOURNAL
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 1.

REPORT
OF THE VISITER OF DISTRICT SCHOOLS FOR
PRINCE COUNTY.

FOR THE YEAR 1849.

To the Gentlemen of the Board of Education;

THE School Visiter for Prince County, in discharge of the duties confided to him, and in compliance with the provisions of the Act for the encouragement of Education, respectfully submits the following Report of the general condition of the Schools, under his supervision, for the past year.

The Reporter, on his appointment, after mature consideration, deemed it advisable to conduct the Examinations, as far as practicable, by *Writing*; for the purpose of exhibiting a Tabular View of their relative efficiency; the questions prescribed for this purpose, were selected from a series of progressive exercises compiled for the junior elementary Classes in the Central Academy; and were as much simplified as was consistent with the preservation of uniformity of requirement, and with the attainment of the object aimed at—a systematised scheme for ascertaining, from year to year, the comparative condition, improvement, or deterioration of the District Schools in Prince County. And, although several pupils in some Schools answered satisfactorily,

when examined on this method, making an allowance for confusion arising from the novelty of the test; the average condition of all the Schools will not, as yet, admit of their comparative classification on this system, as suggested in the last Report.

The efficiency of the District Schools, in the mean time, can be ascertained with greater accuracy, by contrasting them as *they are* with what *they ought* to be, and this exposition has, therefore, been prepared on that principle. However, let it be understood, that, in presenting a representation of these Schools in their worst state, the object has been to establish a criterion which would exhibit how far they answer their end, and in what respects they ought to be improved; also, that the subsequent strictures are not applicable to every School, for general statements are always subject to exceptions. This plan shows the dark side of the picture; be it however remembered, that it is relieved by bright spots. The Teachers in this County, as a body, are faithful and successful, and the Schools, on the whole, in a prosperous condition. The complaints recorded, have been stated on the emergency, with all

freedom, to the parties interested, and are summarily submitted, for the special purpose premised.

The system of instruction in the Schools, in this County, is at present in a state of transition—which is chiefly to be ascribed to the influence of Literary Societies, Debating Clubs, and kindred institutions, in elevating the standard of Education—among the most prominent of the agencies in promoting this progressing improvement, the praiseworthy perseverance of the Association of Teachers in Bedeque, claims distinguished consideration: their serial semi-monthly meetings, for mutual consultation, and the consideration of some studies in common, with a view to improve each other, have been followed by beneficial results on the Schools; and their public lectures and discussions have awakened a relish for intellectual pursuits, and afforded social enjoyment to the inhabitants of the Settlements in which these meetings have been held. Still, our best Schools are susceptible of great improvement, and it is to be regretted that EDUCATION, in proportion to its relative importance, receives far less attention than many other subjects; if the same energies were put forth for the support and improvement of our Schools, that are exerted to promote the success of other favourite schemes, the results would richly repay the sacrifices.

As the Legislature of 1849 suggested to the Commissioners of the Board of Education, that the School Returns should be as concise as possible, it has been concluded to dispense with the repetition, in this Report, of the results of the several inspections recorded in the Registers, and to submit only a series of connected remarks on some or all of the most material points in the organization and administration of the Schools in this County.

The Visitors are expected, subject to the control of the Board of Education, to detail suggestions for the attainment of improved methods of instruction; and, if they expose *errors*, they should also propose *remedies*. To afford Teachers and Trustees an opportunity of reference to the directions given for their guidance, as well as to furnish means for the assimilation of the general system of Tuition; the Reporter submits a summary of such of his suggestions, as, in his opinion, will best increase the usefulness of the Schools within his official limits.

Present state of the Schools.

The minimum requirement that can be demanded of any District School is, that it make all its pupils thoroughly proficient in Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and the use of the English Language. And as errors at the commencement of an education are more pernicious than at any subsequent stage, it is indispensably essential that the initiatory steps should be directed by competent teachers; but, unfortunately, the teaching of these branches has been considered a duty that any one might execute. This is a fundamental error. The first educational impressions should be correct, the first lessons taught, exact. To a defective method of teaching the alphabet and syllabication can be traced bad habits, which no after discipline can completely remove.

However, it is not easy to convince Teachers wedded to “the good old way,” that the common method of teaching the alphabet affords no facilities in the acquisition of correct reading, but, on the contrary, is a loss of time, and retards the learner in the attainment of the elementary sounds of the language. The improved mode is, to let children learn words first, and afterwards the letters of which they are made up. Time must of course be taken to learn the letters and their uses; but instruction and amusement ought to be mingled with it. When Reading becomes a pleasure, acquirements are made rapidly, and every new acquisition is a preventive against ennui and disgust. A selection of common significant words, such as *dog*, *cat*, *dear* should be used, and the child asked to look for them in pages where they are to be found: by this process the child has the pleasure of seeing the use of his learning from the beginning, and if he is not allowed to read words without connection—and, consequently, to him, without *meaning*—he will never form the bad habits that cause monotonous Reading. At the risk of incurring blame for digression, I advert to the pleasure I lately enjoyed on a forenoon visit to a Reverend friend, in witnessing his lady busily engaged in teaching, on this principle, an interesting child under four years of age: he read several small words with great ease, and seemed highly interested in his studies.

The absurdity of sounding the names of the letters which compose words, to find out the pronunciation, is strikingly exposed by an eminent teacher, thus:—“In

the elementary syllables, ab, eb, ib; a b, make *aibee*; c b, make *eebee*; and i b, make *cyebec*. What resemblance have the sounds of these syllables to their constituent letters? None. The same discrepancy will be found in comparing the sounds of words with those of their constituents. Before a child is allowed to read the word *cat*, he must say, *see ai tee*; to pronounce *which*, he is directed to say, *doubleyou aitch eye see aitch!*" This inconsistency arises from confounding the names with the powers of the letters.

Letters and syllables must be learned in the new, as well as in the old method; by a change in the time of teaching them they are acquired with less difficulty, and without any danger of acquiring bad habits, which are so difficult to eradicate; many of the first years of study are often worse than lost, through the want of knowledge and skill in the instructor. To say nothing of the importance of beginning on right principles, and the advantages it furnishes in all subsequent progress; the mode here recommended prevents loss of time, and much weariness and vexation of spirit; this consideration should be appreciated by such as have experienced the difficulty and drudgery of teaching the primary elements.

Spelling.

The suggestions in the last Report, on the improved methods of teaching this branch, have been successfully adopted in some Schools; however, the common practices, in this department, are objectionable, and should be avoided. It is customary to spell all the words *put out*, as it is called, from dissyllables to polysyllables, simply by naming all the letters, in their order, without spelling them *syllabically*. The word *examiner*, if spelled in the manner specified, the learner simply says, e x a m i n e r, *examiner*; but if spelled syllabically, the speller says, e x, ex, a m, am—exam, i n, in—examin, e r, er—examiner. To spell words by syllables, instead of spelling by letters, tends to fix the true line between the syllables in pronunciation. Take the word *penalty*, it makes an entire difference in the pronunciation, whether the letter *n* be sounded, as belonging to the first syllable or to the second; and many, from defective knowledge of syllabication, divide their

words in writing successive lines, where there is no division. No rule should be more familiar than this, that if there be not space enough for the whole written word in one line, but a part of it is to be inserted in the next, and that words should be divided between syllables.

Another fault in spelling, which is commonly chargeable to the teacher, consists in departing from the true pronunciation of the words, to indicate the manner in which they are to be spelled. For instance, if the word be *jeopardy*, the teacher will say, *je op ar dy*. Every word, as it is put to a scholar, should be pronounced precisely as it is uttered by a good reader or speaker.

There is a variety of methods recommended for arresting and fixing the attention of scholars, while in classes, spelling orally. One plan is, to put out words successively to different individuals; another, to make the class spell simultaneously, in measured time, but the surest way of arresting the attention of every child in the class, during oral exercises, is, when the teacher puts out a word, and waits just long enough for a scholar to spell it *mentally*, he then names one to spell the word orally. The utility of this plan increases just in proportion to the number belonging to the class. And, in addition to the usual way of giving dictation exercises on the anomalies—the method pursued in the Central Academy, is to give out several words which have the same, or nearly the same sound, but of which the orthography differs—and require the scholars to compose a number of sentences which contain these words in their different senses.

Reading.

Good reading is the key of Knowledge, which, in the hands of him who possesses it, will unlock the vast stores of wisdom and science which have been, for ages, accumulating. Bad reading is entirely an artificial acquirement—resulting from faulty habits, engendered in learning the primary elements. Many of the imperfections in reading are only capable of being properly exemplified *viva voce*. The omission of proper pauses at the stops, and the neglect of a sufficient variety of expression, are prevalent errors.

In many cases there is a want of thoroughness in instruction: the chief object seems to be to master words

rather than things—to accumulate symbols instead of their meaning. There is a great deficiency of explanation, and the illustrations deducible from the lessons, are overlooked. Some teachers—unawares it is presumed—are in the habit of anticipating the words which the reader is unable to pronounce, and enunciating them for him—thus depriving the scholar of that exercise of his faculties by which alone he can obtain proficiency.

The scholar should be taught to prepare his lessons and obtain, by the use of a Dictionary, the pronunciation and definition of every word with which he is not familiar—he should be *trained* to rely on his own requirements.

Teachers are too apt to require a certain number of lessons, without being at the same time impressed with the importance of the rule—that nothing be passed over which the pupil does not clearly understand and fix in his mind. Better read less, and give time for questions and explanations. The most approved way to get a class to read correctly is, to have them correct each other by holding up the hand, when a mistake is discovered, and the teacher's calling upon any one to correct it—when the sentence is read again and again, till it is read correctly: in this way the interest of all is increased in the exercise; all become critics in reading, and improve rapidly.

The use of Etymology, as an auxiliary to the cultivation of intelligence, has been introduced in some schools to a certain extent; and in a few, with considerable effect and success. The benefit of such exercises is sufficiently obvious: a skilful teacher may readily render them both interesting and instructive. Every root that occurs in tracing the *pedigree* of words may be made an introduction to the different vocables derived from it. It needs no commentary to show how important is the aid furnished in this manner, to the intelligence of such as acquire no classical tuition.

This should not be pursued as an isolated department—unconnected with the ordinary lessons. The true use of it will be found in its judicious application to determine the exact sense of words occurring in the reading exercises, and this must be done in subordination to the general scope of the passage—for, it will be a hindrance and not a help, if it seduce the attention from the author's ideas to other and irrelevant matters.

Writing and Grammar.

In respect to Writing—such is the attention paid to this branch generally, that few can be said to write ill. In some Districts, particularly in Wilmot, Tignish Village, Lower Tryon, Western Bedeque, and Searletown, the style of penmanship is remarkably good. A few of the Teachers have a Specimen Book, in which each scholar is required weekly to write some lines as a sample of his skill and progress. This plan furnishes a comparative view of the proficiency of the pupils.

An improvement equally marked has been in progress in teaching the elements of Grammar. This branch has been formerly regarded as a hard and disagreeable study, but this prejudice is giving way, and the utility of grammatical knowledge of the structure of language is beginning to be appreciated. In the Central School, Bedeque, the senior Grammar Class was examined with great vigour, and evinced a good conception of the true mode of teaching that branch with real effect. The young ones in this school are also acquiring Grammar orally, and laying a foundation for a thorough knowledge of its nature and use—the same method is likewise practised in the several schools, in that section of the county, with creditable skill and corresponding success.

This improvement is, attributable to a more just appreciation of the powers of children, and the bestowal of greater pains in adapting the matter and method of instruction to their capacity.

Arithmetic.

The greater part of the hints in the last Report recommending the adoption of the improved methods of initiation and practice in this important branch, have been practically realised. Some scholars in several schools are considerably advanced, and calculate with satisfactory accuracy and expertness.

The degree of dexterity in their calculations, which young people attain, by systematic practice in school, is almost incredible.

The members of the Teachers' Society have adopted for their model in teaching this branch, the course pursued in the second department in the Central Academy. To test the proficiency of scholars, they have weekly examinations in classes, on questions of practical utility.

To enlighten the *understanding* is the point at all times to be kept in view, and this end is to be especially aimed at in teaching Arithmetic: the mode in question, in a great degree accomplishes this primary object. Every pupil, by this process, is thrown upon his own resources; it has also a kind of creative energy, and will put an individual in possession of more real mental capital than can be obtained in any other way.

School Houses.

When a Dwelling-house is to be built, how much forethought and pains are taken to secure an approved plan? The excellencies of several of the best houses, far and near, are combined and adapted with improvements for that purpose. If a house is required for any public purpose, comprehensive views are taken as to what the character of the house should be. Much interest is felt that it should be adequate in size, and adapted in structure to meet the wants of the community. But when a house is to be built for the instruction of youth, what narrow meagre views are taken as to what the character of that structure should be; in such cases, EDIFICATION is disregarded. It might perhaps seem like an insult against the dignity of Districts, to say that in some instances, less regard is had for the comfort and economy of the District School-house, than for the barns of the District.

The interest taken by the proprietors of the School-houses in Birch Hill, and Lot 11, reflects credit on their liberality. They have built convenient, comfortable houses, which they intend to furnish with suitable apparatus. A good beginning has also been made in Tignis: Village.

Means and Plans of Improvement.

I have thus, in a cursory manner, passed in review some of the more prominent facts in the condition of

popular education in Prince County. To my own mind, the conclusion is irresistible, that, with all the good that has been done, and is now doing, there is room for immense improvement; and without recurring minutely to the defects, if we look at the course of instruction in many of the District Schools, we cannot fail to observe its want of completeness, as a preparation for the actual business of life.

Excepting the mechanical processes of reading, writing, and cyphering, youth in general carry with them from school, into society and their various employments, very slender attainments in any department of knowledge.

In order to make our District Schools *good schools*, they must receive the united support of the community, and be made attractive to a superior class of teachers. A spirit of co-operation and liberality must be awakened. The position of teachers should be made more respectable—they should receive that consideration to which they are entitled by the intrinsic dignity of their vocation. It must be felt, that not only better teachers are wanted, but *better employers* also. It should never be forgotten, that the improvement of our Schools must be the *joint work* of the people who employ, the masters who teach, and the Government which superintends.

In conclusion, let me commend, to the Board, and through them to the Legislature, the importance of making adequate arrangements and permanent provision for supplying our District Schools with good teachers and suitable books. These two elements of improvement would eventually adapt our school system to the wants of the country and the age.

All of which is respectfully submitted, by

JOHN ARBUCKLE, S. V.

22d March, 1850.

TABULAR SYNOPSIS.

No.	Districts.	Teachers.	Status.	No. of Children over 4, and under 16.	Males.	Females.	No. in School.	No. not in School.	REMARKS.												
1	Tignish, Lot 1	S. Perry	Acadian	32	17	15	20	12	<p>Several of the Acadian Schools have been suspended in consequence of the difficulty of raising adequate Salaries for the Teachers, which may be attributed to the embarrassments resulting from the failure of the Crops. The Rev. Mr. McIntyre has made praiseworthy efforts, and personal sacrifices, to sustain them in efficient operation.</p> <p>The Rev. J. C. Sinclair, of Argyle Point, lectured in several Settlements on Mental Culture, and urged on the people their obligations to support and improve the District Schools.</p> <p>There are two Schools in this County, on the Glebe Fund, one in St. Eleanor's and the other in Port Hill, both houses are commodious, built after a good model, and well appointed in all respects.</p> <p>Mrs. Muirhead teaches a Primary School in this District.</p> <p>Miss Ellis conducts a respectable preparatory School in Wilnot Cove.</p> <p>In Bedeque and its neighbourhood, several of the Schools have been taught by the same Teachers for years in succession. It is gratifying to notice the interest which is felt in their Schools by the inhabitants in these Districts.</p> <p>To the Clergymen and Magistrates who have favored me with their assistance, the past year, I take this opportunity to acknowledge my obligations.</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>The aggregate attendance, this year,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1089</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do. do. last year,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1002</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Increase,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Average attendance, this year,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">700</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do. do. last year,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">600</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Increase,</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100</td> </tr> </table>	The aggregate attendance, this year,	1089	Do. do. last year,	1002	Increase,	87	Average attendance, this year,	700	Do. do. last year,	600	Increase,	100
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Do. do. last year,	600																				
Increase,	100																				
2	Nail Pond	Vacant	do.	114	54	60	114														
3	Nail Pond, Lot 1	T. O'Brien	Eng. Primary	49	34	15	19	30													
4	Tignish	Vacant	Acadian	47	22	25	47	30													
5	S. Pond, Lot 1	Vacant	do.	30	17	13	30	30													
6	Tignish, Lot 2	F. Buote	do.	97	46	51	35	62													
7	Tignish Village	S. Davidson	1st 7 Vic.	34	19	15	22	12													
8	Kildare Capes	H. Hele	Eng. Primary				19														
9	Cascumpeque	A. Johnson	1st 7 Vic.	27	13	14	16	11													
10	Lot 11	T. Keys	do.	128	66	62	36	92													
11	Trout River	J. Gordon	Eng. Primary	39	20	19	19	20													
12	Birch Hill	D. Macdonald	2d 10 Vic.	87	42	45	30	57													
13	Grand River	A. C. Bickford	1st 7 Vic.	50	24	26	33	17													
14	Kent Village	T. Colfer	Eng. Primary				19														
15	Egmont Bay	J. Chaisson	Acadian				37														
16	Lot 16	R. Macdonald	1st 7 Vic.	98	47	51	35	63													
17	Lot 7	Vacant		122																	
18	Lot 8	E. Blanchard	2d 7 Vic.	100			26	74													
19	Wilnot Creek	M. McNeill	1st 10 Vic.	47	27	20	30	17													
20	Grove School	J. Schurman	do.	78	42	36	43	35													
21	N. Bedeque	J. H. Fitzgerald	do.	74	36	38	32	42													
22	C. Bedeque	A. McKenzie	do.	85	43	42	48	37													
23	W. Bedeque	A. McLeod	do.	69	44	25	33	36													
24	Scarletown	N. McDougal	do.	81	43	38	44	37													
25	Cape Traverse	Vacant		96	43	53	56	40													
26	A. Cove	H. Wadman	1st 7 Vic.	75	38	37	41	34													
27	Traveller's Rest	J. Porteous		88	45	43	38	50													
28	New Annan	D. Smith	1st 7 Vic.	37	21	16	24	13													
29	Barrett's Cross	J. McLachlan	1st 10 Vic.	123	69	54	67	56													
30	Baltic District	J. McKinnon	do.	53	30	23	33	20													
31	Fanning P-Town	A. Fraser	2d 10 Vic.	100	47	53	45	55													
32	South West	J. Matheson	1st 10 Vic.				38														
33	J. Settlement	J. Gallagher	do.	110	57	53	37	73													
34	Freetown	E. McPhee	do.				30														
35	Lower Tryon	A. Macdonald	do.	51	28	23	29	22													
36	Upper Tryon	J. Gillander	1st 7 Vic.	64	38	26	22	42													
37	West Tryon	Geo Parsons		67	45	22	33	34													
				2352	1117	1013	1089	1284													

23d March, 1850.

JOHN ARBUCKLE, S. V.

No. 2.

FOURTH HALF-YEARLY
REPORT
OF THE VISITER OF DISTRICT SCHOOLS FOR
KING'S COUNTY.

AUGUST, 1849.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

The expiration of another six months devolves upon me the task of presenting you with the customary statement of the doings in connexion with the District Schools in this County, together with the degree and efficiency of the instruction communicated in the same.

The Schools reported in February last as closed from the dangerous proximity of disease, were reopened immediately after its disappearance, early last Spring. Others have been successively opened in various localities, until they have attained a numerical superiority over those of any previous year. An augmentation is

also exhibited in the attendance. The maximum number attending the District Schools during the by past year, was Nine hundred and Eighty; at present they amount to Eleven hundred and Thirty-five, evincing an increase of One hundred and Fifty-five, which, when deducted from Two thousand Four hundred, the computed number within the ordinary educational age in the County, leaves over one half of the children unprovided with the means of regular instruction.

The number of Scholars, the daily average attendance, and the number present on the day of examination in each School, are discriminated in the subsequent abstract:

STATIONS.	NAMES.	Number of Children.	Daily average attendance.	Number present at Examination.
Head of St. Peter's Bay,	Sampson Farquharson,	58	34	30
Morell,	Margaret Owen,	32	26	18
Savage Harbour,	William Coffin,	19	16	15
Head of Hillsborough,	Sarah Holland,	31	28	30
St. Peter's (Farms),	Fredericka Holland,	24	20	20
East Point,	Paul Macdonald,	43	30	22
West River,	Amelia Macdonald,	20	18	18
Norris's Pond,	Peter M'Innis,	50	35	40
Bay Fortune,	R. B. Irving,	48	24	35
Little Pond,	John M'Diarmid,	40	35	28
Launching,	John Keenan,	53	35	25
Town Road (Lot 53),	John Stewart,	43	35	40
Brudenel River,	Donald Robertson,	45	22	40
New Perth,	John M'Neil,	43	24	36
Eighteen Mile Brook,	Duncan Campbell,	30	25	27
Pisquid Road,	Malcolm Macaulay,	16	14	14
Town Road (Lot 51),	Edmund Shea,	35	25	30
Sparrow's Road,	William Wallace,	19	14	14
Head of Montague,	Donald Campbell,	53	33	51
Montague River,	Marianne Ross,	23	16	16
Cross Roads (Lot 59),	John Stewart,	47	30	26
Murray Harbour, N. Side,	Neil Stewart,	66	38	42
Sturgeon,	John Parker,	43	30	34
Little Sands,	John Macmillan,	40	30	35
White Sands,	John Brooks,	65	35	28
Murray Harbour, S. Side,	Peter Ross,	40	35	30
Montague Bridge,	Daniel Campbell,	35	23	18
Cardigan River,	Donald Lamont,	32	30	24
Georgetown,	John Ross,	42	30	
		1135	802	772

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

Orthography.

In no other branch is the proficiency of the children more conspicuous than in this, evidently betokening the appropriation of time and attention to its acquisition. The Spelling, when taken in connexion with the Reading Lessons, or from the columns of the Spelling-books in daily use, were generally correct. The chief defect observable in teaching it, is, the almost exclusive restriction of the children to the articulate sound, without using the black board or slate, whence have proceeded two irregularities, viz: an imperfect acquaintance with the varieties and anomalies of monosyllabic words, and

an erroneous orthography when transcribing from dictation, especially in words of similar sound, but different spelling and signification. The number of children getting initiated in the different sounds of the vowels and consonants preparatory to their entering on simple reading lessons, is about three hundred.

Reading

Unequivocally manifests a steady and progressive improvement in its character. Of the principles on which the art of reading with propriety and taste mainly depends, the children are pretty universally made acquainted with the pauses, accent and emphasis. Though instances of indistinct, dissonant, or monotonous arti-

culcation occurred, they were rare. Audible and accurate enunciation characterized the reading of the majority. The most prominent defect in imparting this art, consists in hurrying the children through the elementary stages, which, instead of accelerating their progress, eventually retards it. Preceptors of youth should bear in mind that, in reading, as well as in every thing else, patient and laborious application can alone produce ready skill. The children daily instructed in this art, amount to Eight hundred and Thirty-five. The Books principally used are, the New Testament, Murray's, and the National.

Writing.

Dissatisfaction was expressed respecting the proficiency of the children in this department. It is now my pleasing duty to state, that a marked improvement has taken place in it in most of the schools then alluded to. The excellent custom of writing from dictation, is practised in some, though not so generally as could be desired.

These exercises consist in the transcription of prose and poetical pieces, the ordinary forms of Orders, Receipts, Promissory Notes, &c. Five Hundred and Three are taught this art throughout the District Schools.

Arithmetic

Exhibits most, next to Orthography, the effects of assiduous cultivation. The suggestions regarding a thorough mastery of the elementary rules, have been successfully applied, and conduced to a surer foundation and more rapid progress.

In several schools, all the questions proposed were worked with rapidity and precision.

The manuals from which a knowledge of Arithmetic is conveyed, are Grey's, and a few of the National, in a limited number of the Schools. The number acquiring it is Four hundred and Fourteen.

English Grammar.

Though the number acquiring a knowledge of this branch has augmented, it must be acknowledged that many derive little real advantage from it. Its apprehension is materially retarded, and its utility circum-

scribed by too close an adherence to dogmatical rules for the expression of thought, and limitation to the exercises contained in the grammatical compendiums used. On examination, it often transpired that those pupils that could easily inflect according to etymological principles, and apply the systematic rules, when taken in the exercises appended to these respective parts in their Grammars, were unable to do so satisfactorily, when tried with sentences not contained therein.

Hence their apparent cleverness resulted more from retentive memories, than adequate apprehension. The constant recurrence of the same lessons, prevents the sagacity and judgment of the children being sufficiently called into action. Hence the complaint is often too well founded, that children on leaving school are deficient in practical philological knowledge, being perpetually committing blunders and inaccuracies in speaking and writing. It is submitted, that if teachers, instead of confining the children exclusively to the pages of their manuals, would, as often as practicable, orally inculcate the science of Grammar by copious exercises in familiar and diversified sentences, deducting the general principles from the common usages of speech and writing, it would conduce more to the development of intellect, and the correct utterance of thought, the learner would be more intelligibly initiated in it—and its practical application facilitated when called into requisition. The numerical amount of the children acquiring Grammar, is One hundred and Forty-four, the greater part of whom are not advanced beyond the Etymological part. Lennie's and the National are the compendiums in universal use.

Geography.

The time devoted to instruction in this science is very limited. The children acquitted themselves creditably in the statistical part, but appeared to disadvantage in the topographical. It must be recollected, however, that this defect was perceptible only in those Schools wherein a destitution of Maps existed. From the absence of these, and illustrative diagrams, the preliminary principles are frequently inadequately understood. The knowledge derived from delineations addressed to the eye, is more indelibly impressed, and lastingly re-

tained, than any *viva voce* explanations of the Teacher, however lucidly made. The only Schools supplied with Maps are those mentioned in my Report of August, 1848. Geography is taught to Fifty-five children. Stewart's, Lennie's, and the National, are the works from which it is inculcated.

In the Georgetown Grammar School, superintended by myself, four boys are acquiring the Latin language, two instructed in the Elements of Plane Geometry, and three in Mensuration of Superficies and Solids. The last is also communicated to a few in the Bay Fortune District Schools.

School Houses

Three new ones have been erected since I reported last, viz., those at Georgetown Road, Lots 51 and 53, and the one at the Eighteen Mile Brook. The School-house on Pisquid Road, though built some time ago, had no school taught in it till this Summer. At the time of my visit they were partially unfinished, and destitute of Stoves or Chimneys. When these wants are supplied they will be adequate to the accommodation of the children in their respective localities. A few have been better lighted, and the supervision of the children facilitated in several by a more judicious arrangement of the inside furniture.

Promiscuous.

Of the Eleven hundred and Thirty-five pupils attending the District Schools, Seven hundred and Seventy-two, exclusive of those under my own daily supervision, were pretty fully and impartially examined in the various branches imparted to them, from the result of which the relative degree of proficiency could be distinguished with reasonable accuracy, though many censurable points in the method of tuition, &c., and defective knowledge of some branches, occasionally occurred; the aggregate proficiency and ratio of increase in the more advanced branches, afford evidence of progressive improvement in the administration of instruction throughout the County. But it must be distinctly understood, that this is appropriate only to the permanently taught Schools. The intelligence of the unsatisfactory condition of the others will be an

abatement of this gratification. These are alternately taught and vacant for six or twelve months. Competent Teachers are often dismissed, and incompetent ones employed, because they are satisfied with lower salaries. Many parents consider it supererogatory to send their children to School more than six months in the year. The exhibitions made by the generality of them at their recent inspection were discouraging; very little improvement was perceptible; charges and fluctuations have operated so injuriously in some, that they have deteriorated, instead of advanced; a diminished attendance was likewise observable, and any amelioration of their condition must be despaired of, while the advantages of learning to their children are so unduly appreciated by parents.

No infractions of the Regulations of the Board came under my cognizance, during my recent visit. In conclusion, I have only to state, that I suggested such alterations and amendments, in the supervision of their charge, to the Teachers of those Schools, wherein I considered such necessary, as I deemed might be of salutary effect in the administration of them.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN ROSS.

Certificate Transcripts.

Head of St. Peter's Bay, July 23, 1849.

Many of the children attending this School were absent from this day's inspection. The Teacher is very popular among his employers, and diligent in the tuition of his pupils. All the Classes have progressed satisfactorily during the past six months.

J. Ross.

Morell, July 23, 1849.

This School was established and in operation about a twelve-month. Many of the more advanced children read intelligibly and with ease. In Writing and Arithmetic, reasonable proficiency has been made, for the time the children have been at School. The girls de-

vote a part of each afternoon to Sewing and Fancy work. Good subordination apparently prevails.

Savage Harbor, July 24, 1849.

The pupils of this School were examined this day. The first Reading Class read with tolerable distinctness, but are deficient in giving the meanings of words, and comprehending the import of what they read, which should, therefore, be more carefully inculcated. To those reading in the New Testament the numeral letters and numeration, sufficient to enable them to express the different verses, should be taught. The writers, chiefly tyros, should have their attention directed to the better formation of the letters. The Arithmeticians should be exercised in questions, in connexion with the rules they are acquiring, in order to illustrate them.

Head of Hillsborough, July 24, 1849.

This School was vacant during last winter, and the advancement of the children consequently arrested. The Reading and Writing are satisfactory; but it is desirable that more time be allotted to the acquisition of Arithmetic. A portion of each day is occupied in giving instruction in Fancy and Ornamental Needle Work.

St. Peter's, (Farms,) July 24, 1849.

The pupils belonging to this School display creditable proficiency in the different branches in which they have been getting instruction during the past half-year.

East Point, July 25, 1849.

This School was opened last Winter. The Reading of the various Classes is correct, and their Spelling equally so. Those learning Arithmetic worked the questions proposed with facility. The Copy Books, which are neatly kept, exhibit gradual improvement in the art of Writing. Some written Arithmetical Exercises were particularly well executed.

West River, July 25, 1849.

The elder children in this School read with considerable perspicuity, and spell very well. The juniors are not far advanced, but correctly taught as far as they have gone. Those in Arithmetic are fairly grounded in the elementary rules which they are acquiring.

Norris's Pond, July 26, 1849.

This School has been in operation since February. The appearance and progress of the pupils evince diligence and success on the Teacher's part.

Bay Fortune, July 27, 1849.

The result of this day's examination was gratifying. The children appeared under complete subordination, and manifestly progressing in the branches they are acquiring. The Senior Class in English Grammar, were quite conversant with the Science. The Copies and Written Exercises were neatly and legibly executed.

Little Pond, July 27, 1849.

The improvement of the children in Reading and Spelling is satisfactory. Those learning Arithmetic should be made better acquainted with the Tables of Weights and Measures, and more copiously exercised in the fundamental Rules.

The deméanor of the children during the examination betokens the Master to be a good disciplinarian.

Launching, July 28, 1849.

The proficiency of the children in Reading, Orthography, and English Grammar is respectable. More time and attention should be devoted to Writing.

Those in Arithmetic have a fair knowledge of the Rules they are employed at.

Georgetown Road, (Lot 53,) July 30, 1849.

This School was established in last March. The majority of the pupils are at monosyllabic words, and

getting a knowledge of the various sounds of the letters. A few have commenced in Reading and Writing. Wholesome discipline pervades the School.

Brudeneel River, July 30, 1849.

The proficiency of the children that have regularly attended this School is satisfactory. The more advanced Classes read with great propriety, and by the facility with which they give the signification of words, show that this important branch in the educational process has not been neglected.

The Grammarians have acquired a considerable knowledge of the art; parsing ordinary passages, and correcting sentences involving errors in construction with readiness. Those at Arithmetic worked all the questions proposed with praiseworthy celerity. As the discipline of the School is apparently rather loose, the more stringent enforcement thereof for the future is recommended.

New Perth, July 30, 1849.

The first inspection of this School, under the present Teacher, took place this day. Perspicuity, attention to the pauses, and comprehension of the import of their lessons, were manifested by the Reading Classes.

The Grammar Classes are not far advanced, but thoroughly conversant in the science, according to their standing.

The solutions of varied and somewhat difficult questions were produced with great rapidity. This proceeds from the excellent custom observed by the Master, of daily exercising them in questions in connexion with the rules they are acquiring.

The conduct and deportment of the children evince judicious discipline on the Teacher's part.

Pisquid Road, July 31, 1849.

This School commenced about a fortnight ago. Most of the children in attendance were young, and receiving instruction in the Alphabet and the elementary sounds.

Eighteen Mile Brook, July 31, 1849.

The result of this day's examination was highly satisfactory, being alike creditable to Teacher and children.

Geography and English Grammar are patiently and successfully inculcated. Many of the children read distinctly and accurately, and understand what they read. The more useful rules are understood, and readily applied by those acquiring Arithmetic.

The Copy Books and Written Exercises are neatly and cleanly kept, and show progressive improvement.

Georgetown Road, (Lot 51,) July 31, 1849.

This recently established School was opened about the latter part of June. The progress of the children is consequently very limited. It is suggested, that the readers be more carefully instructed in the meaning of what they read. Some additional stringency in the discipline is requisite to produce better subordination and application to their studies.

Head of Montague, August 1.

From the examination of the children this day, diligent inculcation and consequent improvement in the various branches communicated were evident.

Montage River, August 1.

This School was vacant for a considerable period previous to its commencement under the present teacher. From its being so recently opened, I am unable to say anything definitely concerning it. Apparently a good understanding exists between the teacher and pupils, from which, with the system of tuition pursued, beneficial results to the children may be anticipated.

Cross Roads, (Lot 59) August 1.

The principal classes read with a considerable degree of propriety as regards pronunciation and pauses, but exhibited a deficiency in understanding what they read.

The Writing shows gradual improvement. Those attaining the art of Arithmetic, should be more fre-

quently exercised in the more useful rules, to familiarize them with their application.

Sturgeon, August 2, 1849.

This School is evidently prospering under its present teacher; of late it has become more numerous and regularly attended. All the children have progressed satisfactorily since their last inspection.

Murray Harbour, (N. Side) August 2, 1849.

The inspection of this District School took place this day. Many of the children present at the former examination were absent, and their places occupied by younger ones not far advanced.

Many of the pupils showed great negligence in regard to their studies, which demands more rigid discipline and a closer oversight, in order to promote that application necessary to their profitable attendance at School.

Little Sands, August 3, 1849.

This School was opened in last June under its present teacher. It was vacant for a time prior to this, the injurious effects of which are very visible, the children being relearning what they had acquired and forgotten. The children appear attentive to their studies, and desirous to learn.

White Sands, August 3, 1849.

Many of the best Scholars were absent from this examination. The Reading Classes are progressing

and apprehend the purport of their lessons. The arithmeticians are well versed in the art as far as they have gone.

Murray Harbour, S. Side, August 3, 1849.

This District School has been in continued operation under the same teacher since its establishment two years ago. Diligence and success in his vocation are plainly demonstrated by the rapid improvement and increasing number of the pupils.

Montague Bridge, August 11, 1849.

The attendance has been tolerably regular in this School since its commencement in last March. The children read with tolerable ease and accuracy for the time. The Writing evidences gradual improvement. A knowledge of cyphering would be more efficiently imparted if the learner would be orally exercised in questions of every day occurrence. The government of the School is apparently salutary.

Cardigan River, August 18, 1849.

This School was opened about a fortnight ago. In reading, the children appeared rather to disadvantage, but spell tolerably well. Only a few of the elder children are instructed in writing. Those in Arithmetic readily worked a number of questions in the fundamental rules, and understand them well. Good regulations prevail in the Schools.

JOHN ROSS, S. V.

**FIFTH HALF-YEARLY
REPORT
OF THE VISITER OF DISTRICT SCHOOLS FOR
KING'S COUNTY.**

MARCH, 1849.

Gentlemen of the Board of Education;

Although I am not enabled to report any thing of a brilliant or extraordinary character in reference to the District Schools in this County, during the past half-year, I am likewise exempted from communicating intelligence of an unsatisfactory or discouraging nature regarding them.

The non-recurrence of a defection in the number of the Schools, which periodically occurred, during the Winter season, since I have had the supervision of them, is the most prominent circumstance relative to education, since I had the honor of reporting last. This is probably chiefly attributable to an improvement in the pecuniary circumstances of the people, and it is to be hoped, may be viewed as an earnest, that, with increased means at their disposal, increased liberality will be manifested towards the establishment and upholding of Seminaries, wherein their children may receive a liberal share of sound and profitable instruction.

The scholastic institutions in active operation at the present time, throughout the County, are Twenty-seven, (exclusive of the Infant School in Georgetown) imparting instruction to about Nine hundred and Seventy children. The decrease of attendance, always observable during the Winter, is principally caused by the state of the roads and the severity of the weather, which prevent many of the junior children from coming during that season. The above number of Schools show an augmentation of Nine Schools and Two hundred and Sixty Scholars over those of the preceding corresponding half-year.

The Districts in which Schools are taught, together with the teachers' names, are enumerated in the following catalogue:

DISTRICTS.	TEACHERS NAMES.	CLASS.
White Sands,	John Brooks,	2d or higher.
Little Sands,	John Macmillan,	1st or lower.
Murray Harbour, S. Side,	Peter Ross,	do.
Cross Roads, Lot 59,	John Parker,	do.
Montague River,	Marianne Ross,	do.
Head of Montague,	Donald Campbell,	do.
Brudnel River,	Donald Robertson,	do.
Geo. Town Road, Lot 53,	John Stewart,	do.
New Perth,	John Macneill,	2d.
Eighteen Mile Brook,	Duncan Campbell,	1st.
Geo. Town Road, Lot 51,	Edmund Shea,	do.
Pisquid Road,	Malcolm Macaulay,	Primary.
Head of Cardigan,	C. A. Alley,	1st.
Cardigan River,	Donald Lamont,	do.
Launching,	John Keenan,	do.
Grand River,	Anthony M'Cormack,	Primary.
Little Pond,	John M'Diarmid,	1st.
Bay Fortune,	Martin Ryan,	do.
Souris,	John Macneill,	do.
Norris's Road,	Peter M'Innis,	do.
West River,	Duncan Robertson,	do.

DISTRICT:	TEACHERS' NAME :	CLASS :
East Point,	Paul Macdonald,	do.
St. Margaret's,	Donald Campbell,	do.
Goose River,	John Sweeney,	do.
Cable Head,	Michael Dinn,	Primary.
Head St. Peter's Bay,	Sampson Farquharson,	1st.
Georgetown,	John Ross,	2d.

System of Tuition.

Of this it may be affirmed, that it is steadily acquiring a greater resemblance to the prescribed method, viz: that pursued in the Central Academy. The system of treating children as mere mocking-birds, is generally repudiated, and that of regarding them as rational beings, possessed of reflecting faculties, adopted and acted upon. While language as an instrument receives a due share of time and attention, the chief aim and solicitude of the teacher is to inculcate and impart a knowledge of things. Almost every lesson, whether in Reading, Geography, or English Grammar, is made the subject of practical exercise. Thus, as the children are seldom compelled to learn what they do not apprehend, education is considerably divested of its repulsive character, and a greater variety of useful information communicated and retained with infinitely less irksomeness and fatigue, both to master and pupils.

The Course of Instruction

Comprises Reading, Writing, Arithmetic and Spelling, which are taught in all the Schools, to all the children [excepting a small proportion in an incipient stage]. English Grammar—taught in Twenty Schools, to One hundred and Forty Scholars; Geography—taught in twelve Schools, to Fifty; and Latin and the Elements of Geometry, in one, to Four pupils.

School Houses.

Three of the five School-houses, announced in my last Report as then recently erected, and destitute of the means of warming them, have been furnished with substantial stoves, the other two with chimneys.

The School-house at Montague River, one of the most commodious and conveniently furnished in the

County, was accidentally burnt during the Winter. The consequent intermission in their studies, and loss of books and other apparatus, have been a drawback on the progress of the pupils. It is, however, satisfactory to state, that the Mistress and children have resumed their labours in a spacious and suitably-furnished apartment procured for the purpose. As the School is in a thriving condition, it is to be hoped that the inhabitants will so far appreciate the interest of their children as to provide for the immediate erection of a building commensurate with the necessity of the locality. The other houses throughout the County are in *statu quo*.

Infant School in Georgetown.

Offering at extremely moderate charges a concentration of useful training and instruction, it is well attended though like the generality of the District Schools, less numerous than during the Summer season. Secular information is sedulously, though not exclusively inculcated. In the intercourse of teacher and pupils, the regulation and development of the moral faculties is aimed at. As might be expected, from the diversity of age, the accomplishments of the children are necessarily varied.

The amount of knowledge in which the senior pupils are proficient, could only be the result of a pretty vigorous application to study.

Regular intervals of cheerful relaxation, while they tend to invigorate the mind, combine to give tone to the physical powers.

Miscellaneous.

From the absence of duplicates of entries, made in their respective Journals, containing remarks on the discipline, management, progress, &c., it will be noticed that three Schools, viz: those at St. Margaret's, Head of Montague and Little Sands, have not been inspected during the recent term.

The two first were vacant, when officially visited, the master of one being absent on business, and the house, in which the other is taught, being in the course of some needful reparations. After proceeding the greater part of the way to inspect the District School at Little Sands, I was compelled to return by the impassable state of the roads. They will, however, be duly examined, whenever the travelling will admit of it.

In the preceding general summary, which is necessarily somewhat monotonous, together with the observations more minutely detailed in the accompanying transcripts of the entries made in the different District School Journals, it is hoped, that a sufficiently clear idea of the condition and working of the various educational seminaries throughout the County is presented.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN ROSS.

Georgetown, March 1850.

Copies of Entries made in the District School Registers at their recent examinations.

Head of St. Peter's Bay School.

Examined Feb. 26th.—No. present 24.—No. on Register, 42.

This School, which is one of the most regularly and efficiently taught in the County, exhibits a deficiency in the attendance during the past month or two, being caused by the prevalence of the hooping-cough in the District, though now daily on the increase. The Reading Classes are progressing in the art, and fairly apprehend the import of their lessons. The Arithmetic Classes, being taken in the more useful rules, wrought the majority of the questions with great readiness. Those studying English Grammar are tolerably versant in the science, considering their tender age. The Writing evidences satisfactory improvement and close oversight by the master.

Cable Head School.

Examined Feb. 26.—No. present, 23.—No. on Register, 26.

This School has been in operation since last April. The principal part of the children are in the elementary branches. Reasonable progress has been made by those that have attended somewhat regularly. The most advanced are reading the New Testament, which they can do fluently.

A few are acquainted with Arithmetic as far as Compound Multiplication, and have been getting instruction in writing for a short time.

Goose River School.

Examined Feb. 27.—No. present, 30.—No. on Register, 40.

This District School was opened in last December, and has been in continued operation since. One class are using the English Reader, which they can read tolerably well, but Murray's Second Spelling Book is the text-book of most of them. A limited number have made some progress in Writing and Arithmetic.

East Point School.

Examined Feb. 27.—No. present, 26.—No. on Register, 45.

It is pleasing to observe the improvement of the pupils belonging to this School in the various branches imparted to them, since the last inspection. The school is apparently properly conducted, and the children attentive to their studies.

West River School.

Examined Feb. 28.—No. present, 26.—No. on Register, 33.

In Reading, Spelling, and adducing the signification of words, the children acquitted themselves creditably.

The Copy-books and written Exercises attest progressive improvement in style and execution.

Norris's Pond School.

Examined Feb. 28.—No. present 27.—No. on Register, 35.

The advanced Reading Classes in this School read audibly and pretty correctly. The arithmeticians can apply the rules as far as they are advanced. Satisfactory progress is visible in writing. As that proficiency which might be expected, was not displayed in giving the meaning of words when requested, it is desirable that such be henceforward more strictly inculcated.

Souris District School.—Examined March 1.

No. present, 22.—No. on Register, 23.

The diversity of elementary text-books that obtains in this School, prevents an advantageous classification. One class read passages in the English Reader with a fair degree of propriety. In Arithmetic and Writing, which are communicated to several, satisfactory progress has been made, more especially in the former.

Little Pond School.—Examined March 2.

No. present, 18.—No. on Register, 26.

Several of the best readers were absent from this day's examination. The reading did not appear above mediocrity. The spelling was remarkably correct. In writing and cyphering the progress is not very great, as those acquiring a knowledge of them but recently commenced.

Cross Roads, Lot 56, School.—Examined March 4.

No. present, 20.—No. on Register, 30.

This seminary was reopened about a week ago, after having been vacant for about six months. The condition of the school is therefore pretty much the same as at that time.

The chief deficiency is an imperfect knowledge of the import of words and inadequate discernment of the purport of their lessons.

It is therefore suggested that this important subject in the educational process be closely and constantly attended to.

The facility displayed in casting up sums, evinced fair proficiency in the art.

Montague River School.—Examined March 4.

No. present, 22.—No. on Register, 30.

The organization and working of this seminary is justly entitled to commendation. The reading of the various classes was clear and intelligible, and the import of what they read is comprehended as well as can be expected. The transcriptions in prose and verse, together with the copies, were neatly executed, denoting care in the performance and increasing beauty in style. The Arithmetic Classes solved the majority of a variety

of questions in the more useful rules with celerity and precision. In Geography and English Grammar their knowledge is likewise creditable.

Altogether, the acquirements of the children for the by-gone half year betoken their Mistress to have been actively useful, and themselves advantaged by such endeavours.

Georgetown Road, Lot 55, School.—Examined March 5.

No. present, 26.—No. on Register, 44.

This school has been very efficiently conducted since its establishment. Several of the pupils that commenced with the Alphabet at different periods from six to twelve months ago, now read the New Testament, Introduction and Reader, with fluency and propriety. In Orthography, their acquirements have been even greater than in reading, very few errors having been committed while examined in that branch.

The Writing exhibits gradual improvement. A few have gone through the fundamental rules of Arithmetic, in which they are well grounded.

New Perth School.—Examined March 5.

No. present, 24.—No. on Register, 40.

The first class in Geography was absent from this inspection. The class present passed and construed some passages with creditable correctness, and are well acquainted with the first principles. Progressive improvement is visible in the Writing department. Perspicuity, attention to the stops, and distinct enunciation, characterize the Reading.

The purport of the lessons is sedulously and successfully inculcated. The rules and principles of Arithmetic are well understood. The answer to various questions were cast up with great rapidity and precision.

Eighteen Mile Brook School.—Examined March 6.

No. present, 16.—No. on Register, 23.

The pupils attending this school have progressed satisfactorily during the past half year in the various branches of instruction communicated to them.

The demeanour of the children indicates regular discipline in the administration of the school.

Georgetown Road, Lot 51, School.—Examined March 6.
No. present, 26.—No. on Register, 48.

A considerable intermission in this school occurred last Autumn, while a chimney was in course of erection, and other necessary appendages supplied by the inhabitants. Though the progress of the scholars was impeded by this vacation, a fair improvement has taken place in Reading and Writing. Several of the elder ones have recently begun at Arithmetic, and a few are getting instruction in Grammar.

Pisquid Road School.—Examined March 6.
No. present 16.—No. on Register 30.

As no school existed in this District previous to the establishment of the present one about a year ago, the children at that time were comparatively destitute of any learning. Although an aptitude to acquire information, and a desire to obtain it, are very visible on the scholar's part, it is to be regretted that their acquirements and progress are not what might be expected.

This partly proceeds from a scarcity of text-books, and even those in use are of an irregular and unsuitable nature, and partly from a more intellectual mode of tuition.

The improvement in Writing is pretty good for the times. Arithmetic is taught to a few.

Head of Cardigan School.—Examined March 7.
No. present, 25.—No. on Register, 27.

The result of this day's examination proved satisfactory. A marked proficiency is apparent in Reading and Spelling. Correct utterance and a due degree of slowness are conspicuous in the former.

The Copy Books, which are kept unusually clean, are regularly written, and display gradual improvement. Those at Arithmetic are in the primary rules.

Brudenel River School.—Examined March 8.
No. present. 15.—No. on Register, 23.

The Reading Classes in this School have made commendable progress since my last visit.

Their knowledge of the import of what they read, tends much to discernment and taste in it. The Grammarians readily parsed some ordinary pieces, and adduced syntactic rules for the correction of errors in construction in numerous sentences.

A class in Geography are well versed in the first principles of the science, and bid fair for future improvement.

White Sands School.—Examined March 21.
No. present, 20.—No. on Register, 35.

This institution maintains its former useful character. The unfavorable state of the weather prevented many from being present. The Register exhibits increasing regularity of attendance. This is as it should be. Parents, too often, permit their children to stray from school, and then unreasonably tax the master with inattention, because they have not progressed equally with others that have constantly attended. As might be expected, the recent more regular attendance has produced a corresponding increase in the rate of improvement. Several have made marked proficiency. On the whole, the school is well conducted, and the pupils steadily progressing in the various branches imparted to them.

Murray Harbour, S. Side, School: Examined March 21.
No. present, 16.—No. on Register, 43.

The Journal in this School shows an increase of scholars since the last inspection. The proficiency in all the branches taught in the school is very satisfactory, evidencing uniform and unceasing efforts on the Teacher's part to benefit those entrusted to his care. The younger children, in an incipient stage of learning, are correctly grounded as far as they have advanced.]

Bay Fortune School.—Examined April 5.

No. present, 25.—No. on Register, 39.

This seminary appears to be efficiently superintended. In general, the attainments of the scholars manifest a pretty close application to their studies.

The orderly demeanor of the children during the examination did them credit, evidently showing that the moral faculties are appealed to, to produce subordination.

Grand River School.—Examined April 6.

No. present, 22.—No. on Register, 25.

After having been closed for a considerable time, this school was reopened in January last, under its former teacher.

Many of the elder children displayed creditable proficiency in calculation, reading and spelling. They appear apt to learn, and the younger pupils that began with the Alphabet at the commencement of the term, are rapidly advancing. The Master appears to have them under complete control, and seldom has occasion to have recourse to corporal chastisement.

Cardigan River School.—Examined April 6.

No. present, 25.—No. on Register, 38.

The improvement in this School for the by-gone half year, in reading and spelling, is very good. The Grammar class is well acquainted with the elementary principles, but have not made much progress in the syntactic part. Their knowledge of Arithmetic is satisfactory as far as they have progressed in it. In general, the Writing attests improvement.

Launching School.—Examined April 20.

No. present, 20.—No. on Register, 54.

The general amount of learning gone over, since my last official visit, is as great as could be looked for. Besides ordinary improvement in Reading, Writing, and Spelling, the children have acquired a considerable amount of elementary instruction in English Grammar and Geography.

Salutary discipline is discernible throughout the management of the school, and a judicious intercourse exists between the master and children.

No. 3.

[COPY.]

Her Majesty's Ship VIXEN,
Charlottetown, 21st July, 1849.

I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency with reference to the Light House on Point Prim, that on the morning of Saturday the 14th July, when about 9 or 10 miles distant from the light, the weather being quite clear from fog or haze, the light was lost sight of for two hours. At 4 a. m. I again saw the light showing with a very faint glimmer, and shortly afterwards opened it, burning well.

On my return from Pictou, in compliance with my instructions from the Earl of Dundonald, I landed, and ascended to the Lantern of this Light House.

I found everything about the establishment in excellent order; the oil vessels and lamps perfect; and am quite satisfied that the light not being seen at the time I mentioned was caused by no neglect on the part of the Light House Keeper.

But as it is evident that a Light House not efficient for the purpose intended, and which being understood, to show light over a certain portion of the horizon, fails to accomplish its object, is more dangerous than useful; as likely to mislead rather than to guide vessels, I consider it my duty to make this representation to your Excellency as well as to suggest what I consider is required to render the Light House on Prim Point perfectly efficient.

As far as I have had the opportunity of judging, from the extent of horizon required to be lighted the number of lamps are insufficient; the reflected rays from the Parabolic Reflectors, not meeting within a long distance from the light.

It is clear that within that circle where the rays from all the Reflectors meet, there must be certain spaces left in total darkness, therefore the Lamps should be at such a distance as to bring this circle as close as possible to a safe distance for passing the Point.

The Lamps as now placed, being far apart, this circle of continuous light is very far distant, and ships sailing

down (in an obscure space) might easily run on shore on the Point, should they not see the land.

It is true that this defect, might be remedied by altering the several foci of the Parabolic Reflectors, but then, from the divergence of the rays, the light would lose a considerable portion of its intensity which is at present unexceptionable. I would therefore venture to suggest, that an addition of three Lights, to the four already in place, with reflectors of the same construction as those in use at present, would remedy this serious defect in the otherwise very useful Light House on Prim Point.

I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's
obedient servant,
ROBERT JENNER,
Commander.

To His Excellency
The Lieutenant Governor
of Prince Edward Island.

[COPY.]

CHARLOTTETOWN, 6th February, 1850.

Sir ;

I have the honor to submit to your Excellency the copy of a Report of the Hydrographer, Sir Francis Beaufort, which I have been desired to make on Commander Jenner's communication to you, dated 21st July last; and also on another letter from the same officer, respecting the "Leading Marks" for entering the harbor of Charlottetown.

I beg leave respectfully to refer your Excellency to my accompanying Report for the reasons which induce me to recommend three additional Lamps with Reflectors for the Light House on Prim Point, and an Assistant to the Light House Keeper.

Also, that a conspicuous "White Ball," be painted on, or affixed to Mackinnon's hut, or erected near it, (as a second Beacon) and placed exactly in the line from its centre to the "White Beacon" on Canseau Point.

And, lastly, that the "Red Beacon," at the Western extremity of the Town, be kept well painted of a bright red color, in order to insure its being readily recognized in Vessels entering the Harbor.

I have the honor to remain,

Your Excellency's

Humble and obedient servant,

HENRY W. BAYFIELD, Captain, R. N.,
Surveying the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

To His Excellency

Sir DONALD CAMPBELL, Bart.,
Lieutenant Governor,
&c., &c., &c.

[COPY.]

CHARLOTTETOWN,
Prince Edward Island,
February 5, 1850.

SIR;

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a Copy of Commander Jenner's Letter to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, respecting the Light on Point Prim; and also of part of another Letter respecting the marks for entering the Harbor of Charlottetown.

According to your desire, signified through Commander Becher on the 11th ultimo, I have the honor to remark as follows:—

1. Respecting the Light on Prim Point, we have rounded it repeatedly in the *Gulnare*, and in her boats, without noticing the defect mentioned by Commander Jenner; and, upon enquiry of the Masters of the Schooner, and of the Steamer *Rose*, who at different times have been employed in carrying the Mails to and from Pictou twice a week, they also appear to have noticed nothing of the kind. The utmost that I can find to have been observed by any one is, that the Light has appeared dim occasionally; but whether that should be accounted for in the way suggested by Commander Jenner, or merely by supposing the Light to have been burning more brightly at one time than another, I cannot determine.

I can, however, have no hesitation in dissenting from Commander Jenner's inference, that "there must be certain spaces left *in total darkness*," whilst yet I concur with him in opinion, that the Light would be very much improved by the addition of the three Lamps and Reflectors which he has recommended. The additional Lamps would not only add to the power of the light, but they would also remove all ground for excuse, in the event of the Light becoming dim or disappearing again, as in the instance related by Commander Jenner.

The Light House Keeper on Prim Point has no Assistant, and his Salary is not such that he can reasonably be expected to provide one.

It is impossible that he, or any one, can always be sure of avoiding sleep during the thirteen or fourteen consecutive hours of a November or December night, and I, therefore, strongly recommend that he should be allowed the requisite assistance, to insure a constant and wakeful attendance.

The remark of Commander Jenner, (in which I quite concur,) that a Light which "fails to accomplish its object, is more dangerous than useful,"—endangering the safety of Vessels and the lives of those on board of them,—points clearly to the serious nature of the charge assumed by the Keeper of a Light House; and I am therefore of opinion, that every thing that could in any way be made to appear to lessen his responsibility, or excuse any neglect, should be entirely removed.

2. With respect to the marks for entering the Harbor of Charlottetown, M'Kinnon's Log Hut and Barn are the only two buildings in rear of the White Beacon on Canseau Point, and as the line for leading up the Harbor is drawn on the Admiralty Chart through the White Beacon to the Hut, shown to be the Southmost, or most to the left of the two buildings, it would seem that there cannot be much difficulty in distinguishing the one from the other; nevertheless, it would be a manifest improvement, as tending to render future mistakes scarcely possible, if a large white Ball were painted on, or affixed to the Hut.

3. I cannot perceive that there is any difficulty in distinguishing the "Presbyterian from the churches of other forms of worship," in a Vessel entering the Harbor, for, on her arriving near the Buoy off Battery

Point, and referring to the Admiralty Chart, the line for leading in will be seen drawn through the Red Beacon and Presbyterian Church near the Western or left extreme of the Town; thus clearly pointing out that Church, and distinguishing it from the others in the centre of the Town, by its situation alone. But it is moreover represented as without a Spire on the plan, and mentioned as having a *square tower*, on the Chart of Hillsborough Bay, which may fairly be supposed to have been consulted before arriving at the entrance of the Harbor. And, lastly, the *square tower* of the Presbyterian Church is mentioned in the Saint Lawrence Directions, Vol. II, page 105, and its situation pointed out on page 107.

The only improvement, therefore, that I can suggest in this case, is more care to keep the Red Beacon fresh painted.

As the improvements herein mentioned are matters for the consideration of the local Legislature, I have enclosed a Copy of this Report to His Excellency Sir Donald Campbell, the Lieutenant Governor of the Colony.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

And humble Servant,

HENRY W. BAYFIELD, Captain, R. N.,
Surveying the Gulf of Saint Lawrence.

To Rear Admiral

Sir FRANCIS BEAUFORT, K. C. B.,
Hydrographer,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 4.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, TORONTO,
February 26, 1850.

SIR;

In order to place your Excellency in possession of the views of this Government, on various matters of Policy arising out of the operation of the Imperial Navigation Act, 12 and 13 Vic., cap. 29, I have the honor to transmit herewith Copies of two Minutes of the Executive Council, the one being in reply to a Memorial of the Montreal Board of Trade, and the other founded on a Memorandum of the Inspector General of the Province.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's

most obedient

humble servant,

ELGIN & KINCARDINE.

His Excellency

Sir DONALD CAMPBELL,

&c., &c., &c.

[COPY.]

Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Executive Council, dated 29th January, 1850, and approved by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, on 1st February, 1850.

The Committee of the Executive Council have had under consideration on your Excellency's reference, a Memorial from the Montreal Board of Trade, praying that your Excellency may be graciously pleased to convene, at the earliest possible day, the Provincial Parliament, in order that the necessary action may be taken, to establish the footing upon which our Coasting and Inter-Colonial Trade are to be permanently placed.

The Memorial of the Board of Trade has reference to several clauses of the Imperial Act 12 and 13 Vic., cap. 29, and its object is to pray your Excellency to call the Provincial Parliament together, with the view of exercising the powers with which it is invested by the Imperial Act.

The Committee of Council, after mature consideration of the subject, are of opinion, that there is no immediate necessity for the intervention of the Provincial

Parliament. It would not be expedient, in the opinion of the Committee of Council, to throw open the Internal Coasting Trade to the Americans, unless there were some certainty that the Americans would act on the principle of Reciprocity. The Committee of Council hope that your Excellency will be able to obtain some information as to the views of the United States on the subject, prior to the meeting of Parliament. The Committee of Council are not prepared at present in view of pending negotiation with the Government of the United States, to recommend to Parliament to adopt any measure with the view of placing the Inter-Colonial Trade on the footing of a Coasting Trade. With regard to the employment of Foreign Ships, the Committee of Council concur in the opinion of the Board of Trade, that no statutory impediment exists to the employment of such Shipping, in the conveyance of Goods or Passengers between any Port of Canada and all parts of the World. The Committee of Council are however of opinion, that irrespective altogether of the Navigation Laws, the Prerogative of the Crown is sufficient to place restrictions on the Navigation, by Foreign Vessels, of a river flowing through the Territory of Her Majesty, and the Committee of Council cannot advise your Excellency, as the Representative of Her Majesty, to extend any privileges to American Citizens, pending the decision of the Congress of the United States, on the Bill for establishing Reciprocal Free Trade between the two Countries.

Certified,

[Signed] J. JOSEPH, C. E. C.

[COPY.]

Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Executive Council, dated the 19th February, 1850, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the same day.

The Committee of the Executive Council have had under consideration, on your Excellency's reference, a Memorandum from the Inspector-General, on the subject of the Coasting Trade between the United States

and the North American Provinces, as well as on the internal waters which separate Canada from the United States.

The Committee of Council concur in the opinion expressed by the Inspector-General, that in the event of the Congress of the United States throwing open the Coasting Trade to the North American Provinces, the Canadian Parliament would be prepared to act on the principle of Reciprocity. The Committee of Council are likewise of opinion, that it is of great importance that the Government of the United States should be pressed to concede the privilege of Registry to Vessels built in the North American Provinces, and purchased by the Citizens of the United States.

Certified,

[Signed] J. JOSEPH, C. E. C.

[COPY.]

The undersigned has the honor to submit to the Governor-General, that it is important to ascertain if possible, prior to the meeting of the Canadian Parliament, what course the American Congress is disposed to take with reference to Canada, and the other North American Colonies, with regard to the Coasting Trade. Although it is possible that the forwarding and Shipping interests in this Province might be averse to competition on equal terms with the Citizens of the United States, yet there can be little doubt, that the Parliament would be prepared to act on the principle of Reciprocity. There are two branches of the Coasting Trade, that in the internal waters which divide the Territories of Her Majesty from the United States, and that between the various British Provinces and the Atlantic Coast of the United States. Canada would be disposed to establish perfect freedom with regard to both those Trades. Under the late Act of the Imperial Parliament, repealing the Navigation Laws, it is provided, that the Queen in Council, on the Address of any two of the Legislatures of the British Provinces, may place the Trade between each on the footing of a Coasting Trade. Should such restrictions be imposed,

the United States would be the only Foreign Power that would suffer materially from them, as it is not probable that the Vessels of other Nations would be engaged in a Coasting Trade in North America.

The undersigned has no doubt that, if the Congress of the United States should resolve on throwing open the Atlantic Coasting Trade to the North American Colonies, the Legislatures of the Provinces would be ready to reciprocate; and, if this proposition should be unacceptable, the more restricted one might be entertained, of throwing open the Internal Coasting Trade between Canada and the United States.

The undersigned would further represent the importance of pressing on the attention of the American Government, the expediency of admitting to the privilege of Registry in the United States, Vessels built in the North American Provinces, which may be purchased by the Citizens of the United States.

Humbly submitted for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor-General.

[Signed] F. HINCKS,
Inspector General.

Inspector General's Office,
19th February, 1850.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
Fredericton, N. B.,
March 28, 1850.

SIR;

I have the honor to enclose, for your Excellency's information, a Copy of a Joint Address to Her most gracious Majesty, on the subject of the Trade between the British North American Provinces, presented by the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of this Province.

I am, Sir,
Your Excellency's
obedient Servant,
[Signed] EDMUND HEAD.

His Excellency

Sir D. CAMPBELL, Bart.,
&c., &c., &c.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The humble and dutiful Address of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick.

May it please Your Majesty;

The Legislative Council and Assembly of your Majesty's Province of New Brunswick beg leave to approach your Majesty with renewed assurances of attachment to your Majesty's Person and Government.

The occasion of this, our Address, is one of vital importance to the interests of your Majesty's devoted Subjects in these Colonies.

The recent modification of the British Navigation Laws, having admitted Foreign built Ships to British Registry, we would earnestly and respectfully press upon your Majesty's consideration, the absolute necessity of obtaining, in return from the United States, such a relaxation of their Navigation Laws as will admit British Colonial built Ships to Registry in that country, on their becoming the property of Citizens thereof.

Such a Reciprocity as this, would greatly encourage the exertions of your Majesty's Subjects in these Colonies, by opening up to them a wide field for Industrial competition in Naval Architecture, and thereby conduce to the profitable extension of a most valuable branch of domestic manufactures.

Believing, as we do, that the United States will readily avail themselves of all the advantages, thus conceded by the Imperial Parliament, without admitting British Ships to Reciprocal privileges; we are desirous of having the Trade between this Province and the other British Possessions of Canada, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, placed on the footing of a Coasting Trade, if, by such arrangement, no Foreign Vessel will be allowed to carry Freight or Passengers from one part to another of such Possessions; and as we are induced to believe, from the provisions of the Fifth Section of the 29th Chapter of the Acts passed in the last Session of the Imperial Parliament, that, if the Legislatures of any two or more Possessions, which, for the purposes of that Act, your Majesty in Council shall declare to be neighboring Possessions, shall present Addresses to your Majesty, praying that the Trade between them may be placed on the footing of a Coasting Trade, or

of otherwise regulating the same, so far as relate to the Vessel in which it is to be carried on, your Majesty in Council may by Order so authorize the conveyance of such Goods or Passengers, or so regulate the Trade between them, on such terms and under such conditions in either case, as to your Majesty may seem good.

We, therefore, most humbly and respectfully pray your Majesty to order and allow that the Trade between this Province and Canada, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, may be placed on the footing of a Coasting Trade, so that the conveyance

of Goods and Passengers from place to place therein may be confined wholly to British Vessels, until such time as the Government of the United States shall admit the Vessels of the said Possessions to a free participation in the Coasting Trade of that country.

And as in duty bound will ever pray.

[Signed] WILLIAM BLACK,
President Legislative Council.

[Signed] J. W. WELDON,
Speaker of the Assembly.

I N D E X

TO THE

J O U R N A L S .

SECOND SESSION—1850.

ADDRESS, to Lieutenant Governor—
In answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, Committee appointed to prepare, 6. Reported and agreed to, 7. Read a third time and passed, *ib.* Presented by the whole House, 8. His Excellency's Reply, 9.

Appendix to Journals—Documents contained in, viz :

- No. 1. Annual Report of the Visiter of District Schools for Prince County.
- No. 2. Annual Report of the Visiter of District Schools for King's County.
- No. 3. Communications from Captain Bayfield and Commander Jenner of Her Majesty's Navy, relative to the Light House at Point Prim.
- No. 4. Copies of Despatches, &c., from the Governor General, and Sir Edmund Head, on the subject of the Trade between the British North American Possessions.

BAYFIELD, Captain, communication from, to Lieutenant Governor, relative

to the Light House at Point Prim, laid before the House, 10. (See Appendix No. 3.)

Bills, from House of Assembly :

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For raising a Revenue and for appropriating part of the same—Brought up from Assembly and read a first time 12. Read a second time, committed and agreed to, with certain Resolutions, 14. Read a third time and passed, *ib.* Lieutenant Governor's assent, 15.

To relieve Members of the Assembly from liability to fine when appointed to the office of Sheriff—Brought up from Assembly and read a first time, 15.

Bill, originated in Council :

To amend a certain part of the Act for the improvement of the Practice of the Court of Chancery—Brought in by the

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DESPATCHES :

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JOURNALS, Committee appointed to revise, 6. Ordered to be printed daily, *ibid.*

Jenner, Commander, communication from relative to Point Prim Light House, laid before the House, 10. (See Appendix No. 3.)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR comes to Council Chamber, and demands the attendance of the House of Assembly, 5. Speech of, at the opening of the Session, *ib.* Reply of, to the Address of Council, 9. Speech of, at the close of the Session, *ib.*

Messages from—With copies of communications from Captain Bayfield and Commander Jenner, relative to the Light House at Point Prim, 10.

MORPETH, Mr. H. D., appointed Reporter to Council, 6.

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2. Of the Clergy, Magistrates, and others, on the violation of the Sabbath by the employment of the Steamer "Rose," on that day, 13.

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