

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JULY 28, 1869.

ANOTHER LETTER ON EDUCATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

Dear Sir,—

I am not very desirous of a newspaper controversy, but some statements made in the Messenger of July 14th require a reply. You say that the cost of administering the School Law—including Inspectors of Schools—"does not exceed a tenth of the Government grant"—I said it was more than one-third. Now to decide who is right, let us call a witness and let him decide, we will call the Superintendent of Education.—I have his report before me, and below are the figures given by him:—

Inspectors Salaries.....	\$ 9865 86
Stationery, Printing, Postage, &c.....	693 00
Examination for year.....	1148 50
Printing forms, Reports, &c.....	1995 50
Postage, Telegrams, and Express charges	541 69
School Registers.....	650 00
Miscellaneous.....	521 94
Salary of Superintendent.....	1200 00
Contingent allowance.....	400 00
Salary of Clerk.....	800 00
Colleges and Academies, (County and Special).....	19600 00
Normal and Model Schools.....	4457 71
Books and Apparatus.....	12000 00
	\$53876 50

Here we have fifty-three thousand eight hundred and seventy-six dollars and ninety cents, that is very nearly one-third of the Provincial Grant which is not expended in the Common Schools. Now what is the Provincial Grant? The witness says it is \$164,750 48. One-tenth of it is what the C. M. says it costs to carry out the law. One-tenth is sixteen thousand five hundred and seventy-five dollars. Question? Where is the other thirty-seven thousand four hundred dollars.

The reference made to the Rev. Mr. Saunders I know nothing of. I did not require the Rev. gentleman to reply. The Editor of the C. M. is wrong when he presumes that I write from hearsay. My statements are from the Superintendent's report, (or Educational report,) and for brevity in place of saying \$557,218.75 I wrote \$600,000. The caution given to me by the Editor may well be adopted by himself—for my statement that the people of this Province are taxed the amount I have written above is correct if the witness speaks the truth. Whereas, the C. M. is made to say the only direct tax levied on the people is \$91,762. You are wrong. The witness says it is \$91,958 17. But this is a very small part of what the people are taxed.—The whole amount paid for education is a tax on the people, directly or indirectly. I do not complain of this, or the system of Education, it is the lavish and improper expenditure of the people's money that I complain of. The C. M. says the salary of the Superintendent is but \$2400 dollars instead of \$5000 as stated by Mr. Landers. Now this is a statement that is designed to deceive the people. Let us call on the witness and hear what he will say. Hear him.

The Salary of Superintendent.....	\$1200 00
Contingent allowance.....	400 00
Clerks Salary.....	800 00
Printing forms and Reports.....	1995 50
Postage, telegrams, and express charges.....	541 69
Miscellaneous.....	521 94
Total	\$5458 83

Here we have \$5458.83, these are the figures as given by our Superintendent's Report. This is another misrepresentation. Surely it costs the above amount to keep up a Superintendent, and why mystify?

The C. M. says the Examiners and Deputy Examiners were paid only \$1,148 last year; while the Report says Inspectors and Examiners cost \$11,014.36; and my statement was "nearly twelve thousand dollars." Who is right?

I do not wish to curtail the liberty, or interfere in any way with the christian ministers in their speaking on any subject as the C. M., has represented.

The C. M. says that ministers are taxed. I admit that they are on what they consume—but read the School Law as amended, and see the exemption from taxation for Schools afforded to incumbent clergymen and ministers of religion: "The exemption from taxation under the existing law, is understood to extend to any duly ordained minister, whose distinctive occupation is of a clerical character, whether actually an incumbent or otherwise." Who is right?

I do not wish to trespass further on your time or space. Having explained my position, I am satisfied to let the people judge.

Respectfully yours,
D. C. LANDERS.

Nictaux, July 22nd, 1869.

It has been said that "figures cannot lie;" and they will not if put in their proper places, and right operations performed with them. As most of our readers are capable of examining for themselves the figures in Mr. Landers' letter, we might perhaps publish it, without note or comment, and leave them to draw their own conclusions as to the correctness of the statements he makes in relation thereto. But as there may be some who would not care to analyze what he states, we will just remark that we suppose he means well, but certainly he makes some very serious mistakes. We do not care to follow our friend through all the mazes into which he wanders. It will be enough to call attention to one or two of

the points, and the rest, we doubt not, will be sufficiently evident, so that all our readers may understand them.

In his former letter Mr. Landers stated that more than one-third of the government grant is "spent by officials in carrying out the law." We corrected him by showing that the cost of administration including Inspection of Schools does not exceed one-tenth. Mr. L. not only refuses to retract his statement, but now tries to justify it by making a long list of quotations from the Superintendent's Report, charging to administration a number of items that have nothing to do with it, amongst which are the following:

Books and Apparatus (for public schools)	\$12 000 00
School Registers.....	650 00
Colleges and Academies (county & special)	19 600 00
Normal and Model Schools.....	4457 71
	\$36,787 71

Having in this way footed up the prodigious total of \$53,876 90, Mr. L. attempts to escape from the point in hand—the acknowledgment of the error in his former statement—by making another one scarcely less erroneous. He says, "That sum is very nearly one-third of the provincial grant, which is not expended on the Common Schools." Now, it may be easily seen that this statement is incorrect, for the grants for books, apparatus and registers, are certainly "expended on the Common Schools." The grants for the other services named in Mr. Landers' catalogue are expended solely and directly for and in behalf of the Public Schools; the only exception is the sum of \$19,600 for "Colleges and Academies." And we need hardly say that the exception in this case is more apparent than real, for if we were to have no Academies and Colleges our Common Schools would soon become of so inferior a character that they would be comparatively worthless.

But Mr. L. is endeavoring to prove that "more than one-third" of the Government grant is spent "by officials in carrying out the Law." It will take some labour on his part to convince anybody that money paid for books, slates, maps, &c for the children, and registers of attendance for the teachers; grants given towards paying the salaries of Head Teachers for the County Academies; grants towards paying the professors and teachers of the several Colleges and special Academies, &c, ought to be set down as the cost of "carrying out the law." We might as well charge under this head the grant of \$105,633.00 paid towards salaries of Teachers in the Common and Superior schools!

We said that the Annual County assessment for schools is \$91,762. Mr. Landers tells us we are "wrong;" that the Superintendent's report says the amount is \$91,958. A marvellous difference surely for Mr. L. to talk about when by his own confession, he thinks nothing of writing \$600,000 for 537,218! But we were not wrong. Any one turning to the County Fund Table (L) in the last Education Report (1868) will find in the second column this: "Provided by Law to be assessed for 1868—\$91,762." So our figures were exactly right, and Mr. L.'s correction is entirely wrong. He has evidently got matters mixed up in his mind, and does not perceive the position in which he places himself.

Mr. L. gives us credit for making a statement which we did not make viz., that "the salary of the Superintendent of Education is but \$2400 instead of \$5000 as stated by Mr. Landers;" and then he says we design to deceive the people. He attempts to make the people believe that money paid for printing blanks for Trustees and Commissioners of the "Common Schools" to make their returns or school Reports, Postage, &c, &c, ought to be regarded as salary paid to the Superintendent. Who is it then that designs to deceive the people? But the people of this province will not be deceived by such statements as those he makes. They are capable of looking below the "mist" in which Mr. L. tries to envelop the figures. And we greatly mistake the intelligence of the people of Annapolis County if they are misled by such an outrageous combination of figures. It would have been more honorable if Mr. Landers had requested the Free Press to publish our last article with the above letter, to which it professes to be a reply, and which it evidently does not fairly represent. Yet it is not of much consequence. Those persons whose opinion is of any value in this matter will see what is written, and will judge for themselves who it is that misrepresents.

Again, Mr. L. attempts to justify his statement about the cost of Examinations, by adding to the same the cost of Inspection;

and then boastfully asks, "Who is right?" If he really thinks himself right, it shows how little he understands the things of which he is writing.

Mr. Landers pretends that ministers are exempt from taxation to an extent beyond what we stated; and to make good his assertion he professes to quote from the "School Law as amended." We beg to inform Mr. L. that the clause as given by him is not in the school law; but that the provisions of the law which Mr. L. helped to make—the very clause indeed, which he tells the readers of the Free Press he "penned"—are as given by us. Here is the clause itself, and our readers can compare it with that given by Mr. Landers, and draw their own conclusions as to "who is right?"

"7. Any person making affidavit, if required, that he was sixty years of age or upwards at the time any assessment was authorized, and also any regularly ordained minister occupied in ministerial work, and any unmarried woman or widow, shall be exempt from sectional assessment on all property to the value of one thousand dollars, but shall be liable for any excess of that sum."

The clause appears to be primarily intended to exempt persons over sixty years of age; ordained ministers, unmarried women, &c. are only subsidiary.

We ask Mr. Landers then "Who is right?" The educational welfare of the province is a subject of too much importance to trifle with in the way we think Mr. L. has done. It may be made use of to suit some local purpose, but the permanent welfare of the people will not be served by such jumbling together of figures to sustain inaccurate statements, made at first perhaps without due consideration.

A system of popular education, comprehensive in design and efficiently sustained and worked, is the glory of any country. Any unnecessary or extravagant expenditure in sustaining this, or any other of our social arrangements we cannot defend but are bound to condemn. And any favoritism towards one denomination or party we must oppose at all risks and to the utmost of our power. We fail to find such in the law now under consideration. We challenge Mr. Landers to put his finger upon a country possessing a system of free education, that maintains it as cheaply as Nova Scotia.

"A STANDARD BEARER FALLEN"

is the title of an editorial in our cotemporary the Canadian Baptist giving some account of the death of the Rev. T. F. Caldicott, D. D., for nearly nine years pastor of the Bond Street Baptist Church, Toronto. This event took place on Friday, the 9th Inst:

"For the past six or seven months Dr. Caldicott has been more or less indisposed. On Sabbath, 4th inst., he attended services twice, and had almost the elasticity of youth in his step. On Wednesday evening he conducted the prayer meeting as usual, and, in the course of his remarks adverted to the protracted dying agonies of one of his brothers, stating that for himself he could pray to the Lord for a sudden death. On Friday morning he was in excellent spirit; went down town after breakfast to engage a cab, so that he, and a friend who was visiting him, might make some calls. On returning, and when near the house, at 10 1/2 a.m., he shook hands with a young lady, telling her how well he felt. He reached the house of James F. Lyon Esq., where he lodged; no one was in at the time but the two servant maids, they heard a groan, and hastened to the room where he was seated, and found him bleeding at the mouth, he called for salt and water to staunch the hemorrhage, but ere it could be brought, his head fell forward on his breast, they eased his fall, but it was his last earthly moment: his spirit had fled from its clayey tabernacle, ere it reached the floor.

The post mortem examination revealed that the immediate cause of his death was the rupture of the Aorta, the large blood vessel leading from the heart to the lungs.

The funeral services were held on Sabbath, 11 inst., in the Bond St. Baptist house of worship, at 3 p. m. Dr. Fyfe and brethren King and Lloyd took part in the service, and ten or twelve of the ministers of the city were also present. The building was thronged. The drapery of mourning with which the pulpit and galleries were hung, the tearful countenances which everywhere met our gaze, and especially the face of the dead, placid and easy as if in a sweet, deep sleep where it not for the coffin in which he lay, rendered the scene indescribably solemn and impressive. The children of the Sabbath School were ushered in at the door, and passed one after another to take a last look at the face of him who was their pastor and friend, then retired in order. The concourse of people occupied half an hour in passing by the bier; after which the procession was formed. The hearse, drawn by four coal black steeds, draped and led by four attendants, was preceded by carriages containing the officiating ministers and physicians. A very long cortege of carriages followed, besides the persons on foot, with whom the side-walks

were thronged. Dr. Fyfe and Bro. Carroll conducted the services at the grave.

Rev. Wm. Stewart, the pastor elect, who enters upon his labors next Sabbath, will (D.V.) preach the funeral sermon at 11 a.m., on that day.

The Boston Watchman & Reflector gives the following highly commendatory notice of the departed:

"Dr. Caldicott, after first coming from England to this country, was settled in Lockport, N. Y., but in 1840, or thereabout, became pastor of the first Baptist church in Roxbury, serving them, with marked fidelity and success, for some seven or eight years, when he became actively identified for a season as the Secretary of the Northern Baptist Education Society, giving his whole energies to the cause of our rising ministry. Subsequently he was pastor in Charlestown, and Baldwin Place, this city, afterward was settled at Williamsburg, N. Y., and for nine years or so past, has been an honored, influential pastor in Toronto. Few men were better known, and few more truly loved, for his large heart and generous nature drew to him a host of friends. He will be greatly missed and mourned."

H. THANE MILLER, Esq. Principal of the Mount Auburn Baptist Institution at Cincinnati, arrived in Halifax on Wednesday last, on the invitation of the delegates from Halifax to the Young Men's Christian Association Convention at Portland, Maine. Mr. Miller had been the President of the Convention for three years in succession, and previous to the former convention had entirely lost the use of his eyes. Notwithstanding his blindness he performed the duties of presiding over that large convention with marked ability and success. Much of the activity which has been infused into the Y. M. C. Associations throughout the world may be attributed to Mr. Miller's active piety and influence. On Saturday evening Mr. Miller met the H. Y. M. C. A. at their rooms in Hollis Street and gave an address of much pathos and power. On Lord's Day afternoon Mr. M. addressed three large gatherings of Sabbath Schools in Halifax—1st, in St. Matthew's Church, of the Schools in the South part of the city; 2nd, in Brunswick Street Church, of those living in the northern part, and 3rd, in Salem Chapel, of those living in the centre of the city. Each of the addresses was a fine specimen of what a Sabbath School address should be—full of liveliness and fervour, and abounding with the most appropriate illustrations, given with all the graphness of life. He made no reference to his own hopeless state of blindness, and his animation would lead any one to suppose he had no such terrible affliction; but his most pathetic and touching stories it might be observed were of persons who had similar visitations, and one who knew of his deprivation could not suppress the tear of sympathy. He is complete master of the pantomimic art, possesses a fine tenor voice and is capable of teaching a large congregation to sing a hymn in a very few minutes, and of leading them to modulate their tones so as to bring out the sentiment of the hymn with most beautiful effect. Mr. Miller was to address a meeting last evening at St. Matthews, and on Thursday evening at Brunswick Street Church. We doubt not each occasion will be as rich a treat, as were those of Sunday afternoon.

The recent Baptist Association held at Jemseg, N. B., adopted a congratulatory Address to the Hon. L. A. Wilnot, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, on his appointment to that office. The Rev. C. Spurden, D. D., Asa Coy, Esq., and A. D. Yerxa, Esq., were the deputation appointed to present the Address. Our space will not permit our copying the address, but the reply contains sentiments on the subject of education which are so much to our mind that we cannot forbear giving it a place in our columns.

GENTLEMEN.—It is especially gratifying to me to receive the truly fraternal congratulations of your "Association," and I thank you for them.

My heart responds to your claim of a higher relationship than that which is merely denominational. Divisional lines and marks may serve the purpose of a more complete sectional organization but they give no material strength in the hour of conflict.

Glorious have been the victories won by your church in the various parts of the world, but they were won by you as a part of "the militant embodied Host," not by might nor by power, but by the aid of the Holy Spirit.

I have some very agreeable memories of happy seasons, when in my early youth I attended with my honored father the ministrations of Harding, and Harris, and Dunbar, in the old Baptist church of this city; and from that time to the present I have numbered among my most sincere friends many members of your communion.

We all have reason to be thankful for our civil and religious liberty. It was not without a struggle that the present state of religious equality was established in this Province, and I thank you for your very favorable notice of the part which I bore in assisting to bring about the pre-