

HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN  
CARLETON COUNTY.

BY D. W. HAMILTON, B. A.

The Madras, Bell, Lancaster, or National System of Schools was introduced into this province in 1818, and for a time its success was phenomenal. It greatly stimulated the cause of education at that time, but experience has developed other and better methods. I shall not attempt in this letter to explain the Madras system. The most perfect of these schools in N. B. was that taught in St. John by Anthony R. Truro, from 1822 to 1835. About 1820, the S. P. G. sent out to Mr. Dibblee, who was then looking after the spiritual as well as the worldly affairs of the settlers in Carleton County a considerable quantity of Bibles, Testaments, Prayer Books, and religious tracts for the use of the settlers; and also voted an allowance of £15 per annum each to two school masters, qualified at the National School, in order to provide for the education of the children living in the near settlements. The two masters appointed were Hugh Mount and John Dunphy. Next year Christopher Walsh and Alfred Moore were appointed additional masters. The military settlers hailed these appointments with delight and provided log school houses at convenient centres. In 1820, Mr. Dibblee found that there were 306 children living between the Presquille and the Tobique. In 1821 there were 287 enrolled in the schools of the four masters named. It was agreed that the people should board the master in each instance and allow him a salary of £30 to which the S. P. G. was to add £15 per annum. Mr. Dibblee agreed to visit the schools in June and September in order to examine the pupils, inspect the conduct of the masters, and perform divine service. The first schools referred to were situated above the Presquille, two on the east side and two on the west side of the River St. John. That part of the Parish of Kent below the Tobique was divided into four districts for school purposes. In the 4th of these districts, John Baird, father of Lt. Col. Baird, of Woodstock, taught for a short time. In 1823 there were 10 Madras schools in Carleton County, with an average attendance of 45 scholars.

In the country schools in early times, the school books used were Delworth's Spelling Book, Delworth's Arithmetic, and the Bible. In those days there were no steel pens; but children brought goose quills (from the goose pastures) and had them made and mended by the teacher. The master also ruled the paper with a lead plummet, and wrote the copies for the children. The slates were in size 5 by 7 inches and 3-16 of an inch in thickness. The brooks were searched for soft stones to be used as slate pencils. After a time Murray's Grammar, Walkingame's Arithmetic and a few copies of the English Readers were introduced into the schools. Some children complain now because the school day is so long—6 hours in length; but in early days, school hours were from 8 to 12 and 1 to 5 in the summer, and from 9 to 12 and 1 to 5 in the winter. No recess was given. In towns, on Saturday afternoons the children were free; and in the country every other Saturday was usually a holiday. There was a vacation of one week at Christmas and three weeks at mid-summer. Neither boys nor girls wore shoes in summer, and coats and waistcoats were usually discarded by the boys in warm weather. The modes of punishment in early days differed somewhat from those now in vogue. The foolscap, dance stool, and whipping with birch rod or ruler, and for minor offences, snapping the head with thumb and finger, were the common punishments. For recreation the boys played tag, I spy, hunk and ball, and base ball or rounders.

In 1816, the first school house in Carleton County built by Mr. Dibblee in 1788, was replaced by a framed building. The people got out the timber and did all the rough work with their own hands. It was plastered and provided with a stove, and was certainly the best and most up-to-date school house in the county at that time. James York and John D. Beardsley were the teachers in the log house—Samuel Kendall, of Houlton, was the first teacher in the new building. He received as salary 10 shillings

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a year for each pupil.

In 1825 the country schools of the province were kept in very miserable school houses; and, even of these, there were not more than half a dozen at that time in this county. Besides these there were about as many schools kept in private houses.

It may be interesting to learn the names of the first school masters who taught in our county—down to the year 1825.

At Woodstock:—James Yorke, 1795-1806; John D. Beardsley, 1806-1816; Samuel Kendall, 1806; John Dibblee, 1817; George Dibblee, 1807; John Gault, 1821; Arthur McGuigan, 1825. These all taught in the school house three miles below Woodstock.

In Lower Woodstock (near Eel River):—Richard Hefferman, 1823; Wm. Flemming, 1824.

In Upper Woodstock:—A. Loban, 1820; Robert Gurney, 1822.

In what is now the Parish of Richmond, at McKenzie Corner, Stephen Blair taught in 1824.

In 1805, Arthur Nicholson taught in Lower Northampton. Lieut. Arthur Nicholson had been a cornet in the 7th Light Dragoons, and during the Revolutionary war was transferred to the Kings American Dragoons, a Loyalist regiment, as Lieut.-Adjutant. He lived for a time in the Parish of Queensbury; taught school in Northampton in 1805, and in 1809 taught the first school in the Parish of Wakefield (which included the Parishes of Wilnot, Simonds, Wakefield, Brighton and Peel). He was succeeded in 1812 by James Yorke. Most of the descendants of Mr. Nicholson now live in Carleton County near the site of the old military fort at the mouth of the Presquille River, of which fort Lieut. Nicholson was at one time in command. Lady Ritchie, widow of the late Chief Justice Sir William Ritchie, of the Supreme Court of Canada, is a grand-daughter of Lieut. Arthur Nicholson.

In Upper Northampton, a school was taught in 1807 by a Mr. Sharpe. Mrs. Anne Woodland began to teach in the same parish in 1808, and was succeeded by Mrs. Lavinia Carvell in 1816. These two were probably the first female teachers in the county. Each received £10 sterling per annum from the S. P. G.

In the same parish, which at that time included Southampton, there were in addition the following teachers:—In 1807, Robert Payne; 1811, John Willis; 1819, Robert Hefferman; 1823, John S. McBeth; and Patrick McLinchey.

Up to 1830, the Parish of Wakefield included both sides of the river from the upper limits of Woodstock and Northampton as far as Florenceville; and all north of Wakefield was included in the Parish of Kent. Among the teachers in these parishes were:—Arthur Nicholson (at Presquille) in 1809; James Yorke in 1812; A. Loban in 1818; Isaac Dudley in 1820; Thos. Crowe (in Lower District) in 1822; Frederick G. Whitfield (in Lower District) and Thos. McGee (in Lower District) and Thos. J. Whitfield (in Upper District) in 1823; Patrick Whelan in 1824; Asaph Marshall and Samuel F. Yorke in 1826.

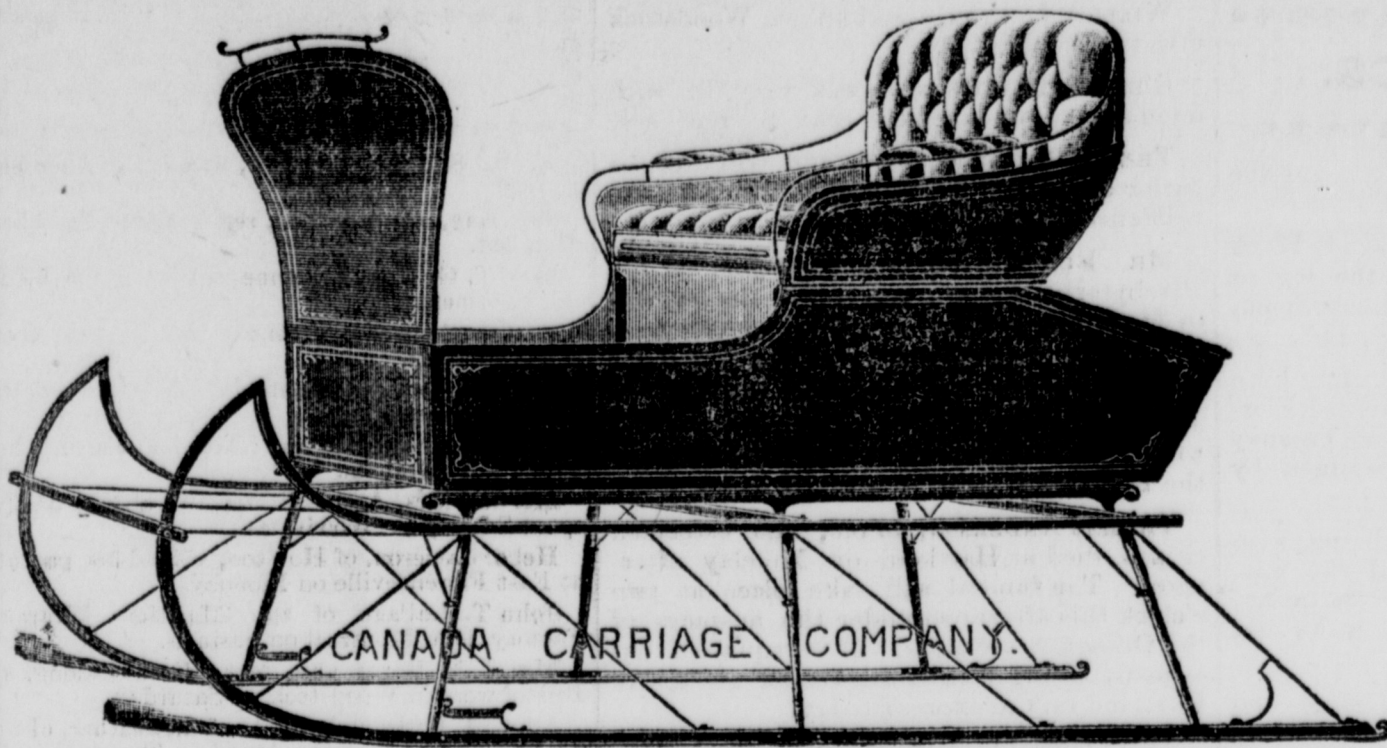
In Kent:—At the military settlements, John Dunphy, Hugh Mount, Christopher Walsh, Alfred Moore and Peter O'Farrell in 1821-22; Sergt. John Baird and Patrick O'Connor in 1823.

It would be impossible in this paper to give a detailed account of the scholars and teachers in our county from 1825 to the present year.

In 1854, G. Marshall d'Avray, at one time Professor at the U. N. B. (the wife of Dr. Bailey of the U. N. B. is his daughter), was Chief Superintendent of Education in N. B. In his report for that year, I learn that there were at that time in Carleton County 47 teachers (30 males and 17 females); 72 school districts; 49 schools, of which 47 were in operation at various times; and 1,775 pupils. The census for 1851 showed a population of 11,108, of which 3,088 were between the ages of 6 and 16. From these figures we learn that about 85% of the number of children attended school in 1854. In 1900, nearly fifty years later, there were in Carleton County 155 schools, 158 teachers and assistants, and 5,169 pupils attending school at different times during the year, or about 25% of the total population. In 1854 the government expended £1118, 13s., 1d., or \$5440.10 for school purposes in our county; in 1900, about \$15,000 was spent. The average salary per teacher in 1854 was £25, 4s., 2d., or \$122.70; in 1900 it was \$293.12, or over double that of fifty years ago.

A few extracts from the report of the Chief Superintendent for the year 1854 will convey a good idea of what the teacher's life in N. B. at that time, was like:—I have now before me a letter from a first class teacher, whom I know to be a most worthy and excellent man; he says that when he entered upon the engagement for twelve months, which has just terminated, the inhabitants subscribed the sum of £35 towards his support; that is they signed their names to a paper, each providing a certain sum in consideration of his sending so many children to the school. . . . During the twelve months he got 2s., 6d., in cash, the balance was paid in potatoes, buckwheat, socks,

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Kidneys.

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The lead, of course, is bad too.

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will fix them up—take out the inflammation and congestion, give ease to the aching back.

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He said the trouble was due to a stone passing from the kidney to the bladder. My water was loaded with a brick dust deposit and scalded on passing.

While in this condition I heard of Doan's Kidney Pills and started taking them.

It was not long before I got relief from pain and have been improving in health ever since. My urine is now clear and does not smart me, and I feel better than in years.

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TO BE CONTINUED.

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## Why Eyes are Light and Dark.

An interesting point is the cause of the different shades of color we see in the eyes. On a certain membrane in the interior are numerous cells called "pigment" cells. When these are present in very great numbers, they produce that deep black color of some eyes and in proportion to their numbers decrease almost the depth of color till finally a light blue is reached. In certain eyes these pigment cells do not exist at all, being wanting, indeed, all through the system, hair and skin. A person of this description is called an Albino, and among animals we find a parallel in the case of the white rabbit.—Chambers' Journal.

Not only around our infancy  
Doth heaven with all its splendours lie,  
Daily, with souls that cringe and plot,  
We Sinas climb, and know it not.

Over our manhood bend the skies;  
Against our fallen, traitor lives  
The great wind utters prophecies;  
With our faint heart the mountain strives;  
Its arms outstretched, the druid wood  
Waits with its benedict;  
And to our ages drowsy blood,  
Still shouts the inspiring sea.

Earth gets its price for what earth gives us;  
The beggar is taxed for a corner to die in,  
The priest has his fee who comes and shrives us,  
We bargain for the grave we lie in;  
At the devil's booth are all things sold,  
Each ounce of dross costs its ounce of gold;  
For a cap and bells our lives we pay,  
Bubbles we buy with a whole soul's tasking;  
'Tis heaven alone that is given away,  
'Tis only God may be had for the asking;  
No price is set on the lavish summer,  
June may be had by the poorest corner—  
From "The Vision of Sir Launfal"

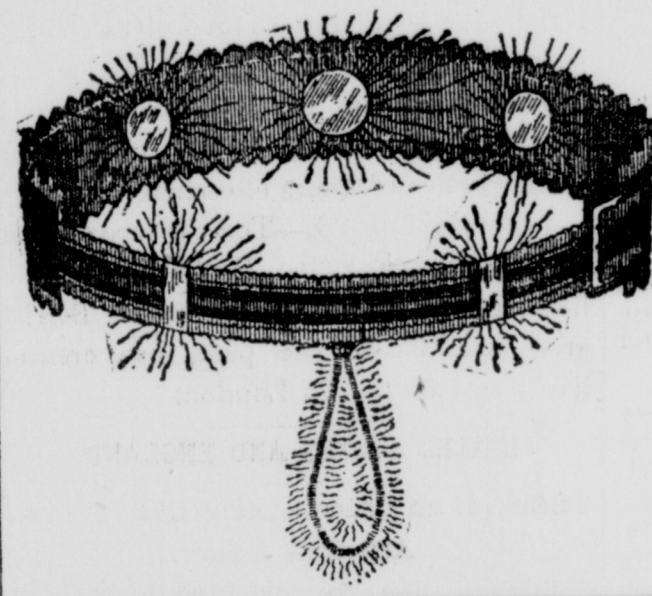
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