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WHOLE No. 2882.

Extracts from Inspector Meagher's Report.

Now that our columns are relieved of the pressure caused by the report of local legislative proceedings, we embrace the opportunity for which we have been waiting to publish extracts from the report of School Inspector Meagher, which, no doubt, will prove of interest to many of our readers.—We extract as follows:—

The past year has been one of marked activity in the School district as regards the provision of improved school accommodation and appliances, the extent of which may be estimated in some degree by the list of general improvements given in another section of this report.

The signs of improvement too in the teachers' work are clearly evidenced not only in the establishment of school libraries, in the decoration of schoolrooms, and in other external directions, but also in the gradual improvement of teaching methods, and a resulting increase in the efficiency of the Schools.

These remarks are not applicable to all districts nor to all teachers, for I am only speaking now from a general point of view. Too many of the former are still actuated by a mean and niggardly spirit in the conduct of School affairs, and some of the latter still display a lamentable lack of zeal and enthusiasm in the prosecution of their work. In the Schools of such teachers you will generally find listless and poorly informed pupils; the register being often without a cover is dusty and tattered; there is no attempt at decoration of any kind (and that too when decorative material costs little or nothing, and cheap reprints of celebrated drawings can be obtained for a cent apiece); the floors are dusty and often bestrewn with nutshells, fragments of paper, and other miscellaneous articles—in some cases they are only swept two or three times a week—and the evidences of neglect in the oversight of apparatus, outbuildings, etc. are only too plainly apparent.

Teachers of this kind are happily few, but they exist none the less, and I have thought it well to allude to them here so that both sides of the picture may be exhibited, and in the hope also that these remarks may be seen by those whom they most concern and the remedy applied.

While there are numerous indications of a general advance in teaching methods throughout this inspectorate, it is equally true that there still remains great room for improvement in the treatment of nearly all the subjects embraced in the course of instruction. In geography more attention might well be paid to our own country, not only in respect to its physical features and political divisions, but its development, industries, natural resources, etc. More map drill is needed supplemented by intelligent oral instruction. The beaten track of the text-book is too persistently followed, and the teacher questioning a class on the lesson of the day from an open text-book is too frequently in evidence.

Generally speaking the results in grammar are not good, and here again in my opinion the fault lies in too rigid an adherence to the text-book. As soon as possible, analysis and parsing should be taken up in connection with the reading lesson, proceeding gradually from the simple to the more complex work, until the pupil can analyze readily any sentence and parse correctly any word that may be given him.

Canadian history still continues to be the *bête noire* of very many teachers throughout my district. Signs of improvement in its treatment, however, are clearly noticeable; for the necessity of eliminating the salient points of the history from comparatively unimportant details, and of presenting the same to the pupils in a concise and interesting form by means of oral lessons, is beginning to be more generally understood.

The vertical system of writing is producing good results, but in some Schools the pupils are not taught either to sit properly or to hold their pens properly, or else the directions if given, are not enforced. Shipshod work of this kind is responsible for much of the bad writing that is seen in our Schools; for in this subject, more than any other perhaps, it is true that as is the teacher so is the pupil.

Lack of expression is the great fault in reading. The habit of invariably emphasizing the last word in a sentence, or the last word in each line of a verse, is a common one, and it is an almost hopeless task to break the pupils of this habit when it is once fairly acquired. The

best remedy is to guard against its introduction in the primer or first reader where the fault generally begins.

During the year praiseworthy efforts have been made by a number of teachers to provide funds for School improvements by means of concerts and other entertainments. Those who deserve special mention are as follows:—Pauline Balloch, H. C. Fraser, Alice M. Johnston, Susan McGuire, Allan Rideout, Mabel F. Barker, Mammie McNally, Helen L. Page, Bessie M. Fraser, Grace McBean, Mary Stafford, A. Gertrude O'Brien, Lena B. McLeod.

Sloyd work has been introduced in one School in my inspectorate, and is being conducted with much success by the teacher, Miss A. Gertrude O'Brien. The district is Inches' Ridge, No. 24, Canterbury. The general adoption of the Sloyd system in our Schools would add immensely to their usefulness and efficiency, providing as it does such an excellent means of training for the hand, eye and mind; but I fear that the cost of the tools and other appliances will prevent its introduction to any material extent in country districts for some years to come. There is a good opportunity for its establishment at Woodstock.

The following extract from an article by Miss O'Brien in connection with the work at Inches' Ridge may be of interest:—

"The first lesson in mechanical drawing and woodworking was given on the 31st day of October 1900, to a class composed of five boys and four girls, the average age of whom was thirteen years. The children are enthusiastic about the work, and their interest in it seems never to flag. There is in consequence a marked improvement in the attendance and an increased amount of attention is being paid to all the school studies. The parents also seem quite pleased with the work, and have frequently remarked on the increased interest exhibited by the pupils in all that relates to their school life. Three hours a week are devoted to this work—from three till four on each Monday, Wednesday and Friday—the young pupils being dismissed at three o'clock on these days. We anticipated some difficulty at first in carrying on the work with only three benches, but by starting two models simultaneously, one which would require bench work—and the other to be done at their own desks with the knife and carved afterwards—we thus overcame the supposed difficulty.

The girls have shown themselves quite as apt as the boys in receiving instruction, and quite as skilful in their handiwork."

The spirit of patriotism called forth throughout this country by the war in South Africa has manifested itself in a practical form in the provision of flags for Schoolhouses. Flag-raising were held in a number of districts, at which speeches were delivered by prominent public men, and patriotic exercises performed by the pupils. In the year 1893 only one district in my inspectorate had a School flag in its possession. To-day there are School flags in the following districts: Avondale, Kirkland, Hartford, McKenzie Corner, Debee, Woodstock, Upper Woodstock, Arrostook Junction, Victoria Corner, Elmwood, Watson Settlement, Peel Station, New Denmark, Bloomfield Corner, Bristol, Richmond Corner, Holmesville, Waterville, Jacksonville, Benton, Lower Woodstock, Cedar Hill, East Florenceville, Grafton, Bedell settlement, Tapley's Mills, Farmers' Grand Falls, Andover, Hartland, Centreville, St. Leonard Station, Baker Brook. This year there will be in all probability a large increase in the number of School flags.

Nearly all the flags in the districts named have been procured through the efforts of the teachers in those sections. Their names are as follows:—Annie Jackson, Mary Flemming, W. L. Tracey, Clara Carson, G. Crawford, Helen Dunham, Mrs. Allison Jensen, Mrs. A. A. Carpenter, Bessie M. Fraser, L. Antoinette Hall, Maud McDonald, Leslie H. Huggard, Clinton H. Gray, H. C. Fraser, Myrtle Harmon, Percy Davis, Jennie M. Kennedy, Norval Britton, C. H. Elliott, B. A. Allan Rideout, Horace G. Perry.

I regret to say that very many schoolhouses in my district are constructed on faulty principles as regards the admission of light. Strong cross lights, between which the pupils are obliged to sit, are very objectionable; but the average trustee knows nothing of this, and while he may have fairly good ideas concerning school building, he is not as a rule competent to draw plans for the construction of a house based on a due recognition of sanitary principles. If such plans were

furnished by the Board of Education to the trustees of districts in which new school houses are to be erected on the stipulation that they be returned within a given period, a great improvement would undoubtedly be brought about in school architecture.

Judgment Supreme Court.

MCLEOD VS GIBSON.

The Supreme Court Saturday morning delivered judgment in the case of Joseph McLeod, petitioner vs. Alexander Gibson, M. P., respondent, refusing with costs the application made on behalf of the defendant for a rule nisi to set aside the order for a substitute service. Justice Gregory in delivering his judgment stated that he concurred with the action of the court in refusing to rescind his (Gregory's) order. He was of opinion that the order was proper and that sufficient facts had been brought out to warrant him in making it. The act limited the time for personal service, and when service could not be effected within the time allowed, a judge could on being satisfied of this by the petitioner, make an order for a substitute service. He had considered the matter very carefully before making the order, and he had heard nothing in the argument of counsel to lead him to the conclusion that the order was not warranted, or of a nature that could not be made under the act. There had been some discussion over the case and comments had been made by members of the bench in which he did not concur. He did not believe that the respondent was a party to or in any way responsible for the so-called trick played upon the officer who was supposed to have served the petition. He believed that Mr. Gibson had stated, and did not think the statements contained in his affidavit, in answer to the affidavits made by the petitioner—the object of which was to charge him with being a party to the trick—as unreasonable or untrue. The point the respondent wished to make was that the efforts put forth to serve him with the petition were not of such a zealous nature as could have been made.

He (Gregory) had felt that there had been a bona fide desire to serve the respondent on the part of those acting for the petitioner, but that the respondent was surrounded by a sort of volunteer guard who would give no information, and were even inclined to obstruct any effort to serve Mr. Gibson. Under the circumstances, therefore, he had felt himself justified in granting the order for a substitute service.

His Honor remarked that the case was similar to the Baird case, in which the petition was served upon the wrong person, and afterwards read extracts from judgments delivered in that case by Chief Justice Allen and Judge Palmer. The latter had declared that he could see nothing wrong in a respondent seeking by lawful means to escape from being brought within the jurisdiction of the court, and the late Chief Justice had stated that Mr. Baird had a legal right to evade service of the petition if he thought proper. In the light of the judgment given in the Baird case His Honor declared that Mr. Gibson had the sanction of the court in evading service of the petition if he thought proper. While he (Gregory) concurred in the judgment of the court, he wished to be understood as not concurring in the unfavorable comments on the respondent's action made by members of the bench.

Justice Barker said that, to a large extent, he shared the views expressed by Judge Gregory. He did not, however, concur with the views expressed by other members of the bench that the affidavit of Mr. Gibson should not have been made. He did not propose to go into this question minutely as he did not think it was necessary for the purposes of the case.

After briefly reviewing the case, His Honor remarked that he thought Judge Gregory had been justified in making an order for a substitute service. Several attempts had been made to serve the respondent but without success, the papers on one occasion being handed to Mrs. Gibson, who at once dropped them. He thought that Mrs. Gibson, when she did this, must have been acting under instructions from somebody.

Whether or not the man who had personated Mr. Gibson did so with the latter's knowledge, was, to his mind, immaterial, the fact remains that service was not effected. Mr. Gibson certainly received the benefit of that man's action, and this, he thought, warranted Judge Gregory in making the order.

Chief Justice Tuck said it seemed to him that a reasonable effort had been made to serve the petition. The respondent, in his affidavit, stated that the petitioner ought to have

known that the respondent's duties during the winter season necessitated his absence in the lumber woods a good part of the time. He (the Chief Justice) did not understand how the petitioner would know the respondent's whereabouts when they were not known to the people of Marysville from whom enquiries were made. He would not say that a respondent acted improperly in trying to evade service of a petition, so long as he did not violate the law, and if Mr. Gibson says he did not try to avoid service he would not disbelieve him. He did not think, however, that Mr. Gibson could be personated at his own home without members of his family having some knowledge of it, though he would not say that Mr. Gibson was personally connected with the trick. He believed that Judge Gregory's order had been rightly made, and would therefore discharge the rule with costs.

The Chief Justice announced that the other members of the court with the exception of Judge McLeod, who took no part, concurred in the judgment.

Justice Gregory said that while he concurred in the judgment he dissented against awarding costs to the petitioner in this matter. There was a new point in the case fairly open to debate, and he thought it rather hard on the respondent to visit him with the interlocutory costs.

A. J. Gregory asked if the judgment included the enlargement of the time for filing preliminary objections to five days after the delivery of judgment.

The Chief Justice replied in the affirmative and fixed the time for Saturday of next week.

VANCOUVER LETTER.

Vancouver is steadily growing and will, no doubt, in time become a great city. The estimated value of new buildings erected last year is \$1,500,000. The residential districts have been beautified by the erection of many handsome and costly residences. The population now being taken is estimated between 30,000 and 35,000. The assessed value of property is \$15,210,000. There are 85 miles of graded streets, 5 miles of which is paved with asphalt and concrete, besides some miles of block pavement. The school buildings are valued at \$425,000. In the month of March the school register showed 3200 pupils. The city is supplied with the best of water, brought from a lake on a mountain at the north side of Burrard Inlet, 7 miles distant. There are 55 miles of water main from the lake and through the city. There are said to be more telephone calls, in proportion to the population, than in any city in Canada or U. S. There are piles of sewer pipes on the wharves and in different parts of the city, and a crew of men constantly adding to the 28 miles of sewers already laid, regarding which the *Toronto Mail and Empire* of a recent date has the following: "Vancouver is in advance of every city in Canada in its dealing with the sewerage question. It has adopted the septic treatment. Confined in an air tight basin the sewage generates bacteria, which in turn consumes all the noxious ingredients, so that only clear water is allowed to escape into the harbor. Vancouver will have a clean city front, which is more than we can say of Toronto. Here we deposit all the filth in the front yard."

Vancouver appears to be quite a harvest field for house breaking thieves, especially last winter, when they commenced operations in November by breaking into the house of F. W. Burpee, on Burnaby St., one Sunday night, while they were away to church, securing \$45.00 in money, and a gold watch and chain, besides some other jewelry. Scarcely a day through the winter that the papers did not report some house or shop being broken into and money or other valuables stolen. Sometimes as much as \$250.00 would be taken.

ARTISTIC EVENT.

A large audience greeted the performers and choir at the recital given in Princess St. Methodist church on the 9th inst. The platform was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and with colored lights formed a picture pretty enough for fairyland. The principal decoration was in the form of an arch in white, entwined with ivy, in the centre of which was placed a large bell, decorated in the same manner. There were 10 incandescent lights in the arch. The musical part of the entertainment was a credit to the choir and their director, Mr. G. S. Forsyth, on whom the heavy part of the work fell, and whose energy made the recital so conspicuous a success. The solos, duets, quartettes and choruses were all well rendered, especially the chorus unaccompanied. There

were about 35 singers on the platform. Miss Kate Burpee presided at the piano.

A great deal of the produce here is handled in bags, such as flour, potatoes, turnips, coal etc. Some one suggests that as the first settlers who came here brought their belongings in bags it has become the force of habit with the people. I noticed a little girl, whose skirts only came down to her knees, in passing over a wet place in the street, took hold of her skirts and pulled them up, whether it was from a force of habit or practising for more mature years I can't say.

Some things are as cheap here and some cheaper than they are in the east:

Flour retails for \$1.34 a bag of 49 lbs	
Bread " " " "	5 cts a loaf
The best of oranges	30 cts a doz
Bananas	20 to 30 " "
Beef	8 to 18 " lb
Fresh pork	10 to 16 " "
Best table butter	25 to 40 " "

according to the season. The same with eggs, strictly fresh, which retail now for 25 cts, but in the winter go up as high as 60 cts a doz. Smoked bacon and ham, 16 to 18 cts a lb. The best potatoes \$1.30 a bog of 100 lbs. Wood, Douglas fir, \$3.50 a cord. There is no hard wood here; this wood gives more heat than the soft wood in the east.

Ready made clothing is as cheap here as it is anywhere, and patent medicines from 10 to 20 per cent. cheaper than in Woodstock. Other prices I may give you later.

I take quite an interest in the "Old Boy's" communication from Georgia, as I was acquainted with him and his father before him, when they lived on the Second Tier, now Rosedale. Why it got this name I don't know. It never had any great reputation for roses when I used to be around there. I have the advantage of the "Old Boy" this time, in knowing him and he not knowing me.

For fear I make you tired with my rambling remarks I'll quit.

RAMBLER.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington, April 19, 1901. A dynamite bomb exploded in the corridors of the War Department would not have caused a greater sensation among the army officers in the building than did the press news from Manila, implicating in the commissary frauds, at that place, regular army officers of such prominence as Col. Woodruff, Major George B. Davis and Capt. Frank H. Lawton. Secretary Root cabled Gen. MacArthur, asking him to reply to the charges at once and to continue and hurry the investigation he had been previously instructed to make into the commissary department at Manila. Army officers on duty at the War Department express the opinion that some petty frauds, such as have always occurred in every country at commissary depots supplying an army as large as the one at Manila does, have been exaggerated, and positively refuse without the most positive evidence to believe that either of the above named officers have been guilty of any dishonesty, although they admit that they may have been victimized by dishonest subordinates. Maj. Davis who is a West Pointer and who has been connected with the commissary department since the beginning of the war with Spain, is now in Washington on sick furlough. He indignantly denies the charge as far as he is concerned and says that unless they are at once cleared up, at Manila, he will return regardless of his health and demand a court of inquiry for his own vindication. Gen. Weston, Chief of Commissary, says he would stake his existence on the honesty and integrity of Col. Woodruff, whom he has known for years, and against whose character he has never heard the slightest imputation. That's the present status of the case. Everybody's waiting to hear from Gen. MacArthur.

At the annual meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, held in Washington this week, the Draper Medal, the highest honor in the gift of the academy, was awarded to Sir William Huggins, of London, who is a foreign member of the academy, for his researches in astrophysics. This medal has in the past been conferred upon Samuel P. Langley, Edward C. Pickering, the late Henry A. Rowland, H. G. Vogel, and James E. Keeler.

Washington will soon have a hotel that in the elegance of its fittings and furnishings, and, of course, in the altitude of its prices, will surpass the famous Waldorf-Astoria, of New York, and other hostleries which cater exclusively to the patronage of the wealthy. Said the manager of the new hotel: "The

furniture and fittings will be the finest that can be bought. Such a policy pays, and that is the reason it is adopted. There is a very large class of American travellers who are willing to pay almost any price for their hotel accommodations, provided they are given the best of everything to be had." This hotel and others of its class are standing monuments to one of the most notable tendencies of the wealthy Americans of to-day—extravagance in personal expenditures. There is another thing that they are, too—standing temptations to the snobbishly inclined to spend money, sometimes not their own, in order to be thought richer than they are.

Mr. P. W. Waterlow, who is the head of London's largest printing establishment, which employs 5,000 hands, accompanied by his wife and daughters on an American tour, reached Washington this week. He said of the publications concerning industrial and commercial depression in England: "There is depression in England, but the stories of our country's industrial decline are to a considerable extent exaggerated. We have had a long war in South Africa, our consols have depreciated, and there are some grounds, under such circumstances, for the gloomy statements that are current. But business is not decidedly bad."

JOTTINGS.

Thanks to E. G. Milbury for a package of New York papers.

September 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th are the dates fixed for the Fredericton Exhibition.

At St. Stephen, on the 17th inst., Frank Cumberland of St. Stephen, and Miss Lillian Hickey, of Woodstock, were united in marriage.

Miss L. E. Fitzgerald respectfully invites you all to her Grand Millinery Opening, Friday and Saturday, 26 and 27th inst. Usual good time expected. Everybody come.

Notice in another column records the dissolution of the partnership of J. E. Barter & Co., of Avondale, and of the formation of a new company under the name of Barter Bros.

Frank B. Carvell was in St. John and Sussex last week. While in the latter town he attended a meeting with Hon. A. S. White and R. A. Lawlor, to arrange for the work of consolidating the statutes.

Zera Semon, the magician, who has for many years visited Woodstock, and delighted its people by his wizard tricks and sleight-of-hand performances, died in the Southern States about a week ago.

The South African fund contingent committee, finding they had \$646 on hand, decided to divide the balance remaining, after paying \$146 for necessary printing, \$500 as follows: \$79 to each first and \$61 to each second contingent man; our George Glew will therefore obtain \$61 of the fund.

Application has been made by Senator G. T. Baird, Messrs. Judson C. Manzer, Chas. LeB. Miles, J. Allen Perley, M. Stanley Sutton, John H. Peat and Titus T. Carter, all of Andover, and Mr. Benj. Kilburn, of Perth, for incorporation as "The Andover Cream Co., Ltd.," with a capital of \$10,000 in \$10 shares.

The steamer Aberdeen reached here, for the first time this season, on Thursday of last week. She brought quite a lot of freight and some passengers. She is now making her regular trips, leaving Fredericton every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, and Woodstock on the alternate days of the week.

Francis Kelly and Thomas McCafferty, of St. Thomas, have purchased the livery stable, on Connell Street, formerly owned by William Lee. The stable will be brought up to a first-class standard, and, as the purchasers are popular young men, no doubt they will obtain their share of the business in that line.

The death of Rev. George S. Currie took place at Boston on the 15th inst. The deceased was a native of York Co.; was pastor of the F. B. Church, Chegoggin, N. S., and was visiting Boston to recover his health, where he contracted a cold which developed into consumption, and after six week's illness, he passed away. Rev. A. W. Currie, of Waterville this county, is a brother of the deceased.

G. W. Williams, who for a long period filled a position in the Royal Bank here, has gone to Pictou, N. S., to fill a position in the same bank there. Mr. Williams was very popular among social circles here, and while his friends are sorry to part with him, they rejoice at his promotion; before leaving, they presented him with a handsome golf bag. The vacancy thus created in the bank here is filled by Mr. Thomas Aitkin, of Fredericton.