

We, the undersigned, Trustees of the Bay Fortune District School, which is at present conducted by Mr. Robert Blake Irving, having this day, Monday, 20th November, 1848, in pursuance of a certain provision of the existing "Act for the encouragement of Education," and assisted by W. Underhay, Esq., examined the Scholars, composing the said School, have great pleasure in making the following Report of the Examination, for the information of the parents and friends of the scholars, and of all who take a friendly interest in the progress of Education in the Settlement of Bay Fortune:

REPORT:

In the first place, we are satisfied, from an observance of the affectionate and respectful department of the scholars towards their Teacher, Mr. Irving; and from the regular and methodical manner in which it is evident they have prosecuted their studies under him, that, whilst, with steady uniformity of practice, he has required, and exacted from them, the due performance of their scholastic duties, he has disciplined them in so kind and paternal a manner, that, generally, they have been ever stimulated to the right discharge of their duties, *not by the dread of corporal punishment*, (which we find it cannot be said he has ever administered to any of them,) but purely by a love of learning and improvement, and a sincere desire to gratify their anxious Teacher, by progress in their studies and practical attention to his admonitions and counsels.

Making due allowance for the general backwardness in learning, and for the untrained and undisciplined educational state of the minds of the youth composing the School, at the time when Mr. Irving undertook their tuition; and also bearing in mind the retardation in their progress since, occasioned in several individual instances by the want of suitable Class Books and Stationary; we feel that we have abundant reason to pronounce that the general and individual improvement of the Scholars is such, as could have been accomplished only by the unremitting, anxious, and well-directed attention and exertions of the Teacher, and the cheerful obedience and docility of the Scholars.

In SPELLING and the *explication of Words*, the Classes acquitted themselves with great and ready correctness.

In READING, the more advanced Scholars performed the exercise with great propriety of pronunciation, with due slowness and clear articulation, and with such attention to emphasis, tones, and pauses, as satisfactorily convinced us, that they are rapidly acquiring a just and accurate mode of delivery.

Mr. Irving's method of teaching WRITING, we believe, peculiarly his own. It imposes a great deal of what may be deemed extra labour upon himself; but for this, we are satisfied, he feels himself sufficiently recompensed by the credit done to his skill by the regular and very visible improvement of his pupils in the art.

In the teaching of English GRAMMAR, we find that Mr. Irving is careful, not only to fix well the grammatical definitions and rules in the memories of such of his Scholars as are studying the art; but also by giving them daily Lessons in Parsing and by the regular exaction from them of *carefully written Grammatical Exercises*, to promote their practical knowledge of the grammatical principles of the language; and we are convinced that, with pupils of good or even only ordinary mental capacities, his method must be productive of very satisfactory results.

In the teaching of ARITHMETIC, we consider Mr. Irving's system of tuition to be equally judicious and satisfactory; and we have been much gratified indeed by the evidences given by the Classes in Arithmetic, of the sure and steady progress which they are making in the art of computation.

Generally speaking, we may further observe, that we strongly incline to attribute the success, which so evidently attends Mr. Irving's exertions as a Teacher, to the example which he systematically sets before his Scholars of doing every thing well and carefully himself; and by his constantly endeavouring effectually to impress upon their minds this valuable precept, "Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well; but it is impossible to do any thing well without attention."

Although the SUNDAY SCHOOL, established and conducted in this Settlement, by Mr. Irving, does not necessarily form one of the direct subjects of this Report, we think we should but very ill discharge our duty on the present occasion, were we to omit to state that, immediately on his coming into the Settlement, he voluntarily proposed to open and gratuitously conduct a Sunday School for the benefit of the youth of the Settlement; and that, his proposal having been cordially and thankfully acquiesced in by the people, he has ever since, assisted by six Superintendents and seven Teachers, conducted a Sunday School, held (by permission of the Elders) in the Presbyterian Church of the Settlement; in which upwards of 60 young persons of both sexes are carefully taught to read and study the Holy Scriptures, according to the usual system of Sunday Schools; and have every Sunday, after the tasks have been repeated and the lessons read and explained, an opportunity (together with such of their Parents and Friends as may choose to attend,) of being still further benefited and instructed by the reading of a well-selected Sermon by Mr. Irving.

In conclusion, we now beg leave highly to say to Mr. Irving, that we believe his valuable services, both in

the Sunday School and his regular Day School, are duly and gratefully appreciated by his Subscribers and the people of the Settlement generally; and we trust that, although the sphere of his exertions may be humble and limited, and his pecuniary recompense but small, he will cheerfully persevere in the good work which he has commenced; encouraged by the grateful respect and approbation of those amongst whom he now resides, and fully satisfied that his labours of love and usefulness will finally receive a meet reward.

WILLIAM M'KIE,
JAMES DINGWELL,
WILLIAM M'KENZIE,
ALEXANDER DINGWELL,
W. UNDERHAY, Subscriber.

Trustees,

Bay Fortune, 20th November, 1848.

Colonial and United States News.

The Colonial Mail arrived on Thursday evening last. We give the following items of news from our papers.

APPOINTMENT TO THE BENCH IN HALIFAX.—The Hon. Wm. Frederick DesBarres has been appointed one of the Assistant Justices of the Supreme Court of Judicature, in place of the Hon. Judge Hill deceased; and the Hon. Alexander McDougall, to be a member of the Executive Council and Her Majesty's Solicitor General, in the place of Mr. DesBarres.

EARTHQUAKE IN CANADA.—A correspondent from the parish of Green Island, on the south shore of the St. Lawrence, informs us that a shock of an earthquake was felt there on Monday morning, the 6th instant, at a quarter past five. It lasted about three minutes.

SEIZURES.—Within eight days the Revenue Officers at St. John, N. B. seized 36 cases of rum, illicitly landed in that city.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—A very melancholy accident is reported to have occurred lately on the St. John River, about ten miles above Fredericton. It appears that a man named Darcas was amusing himself by skating, with his sister's son, a child about seven years of age, named O'Hara in his arms, when the ice suddenly gave way, and both were plunged into the river to rise no more! The bodies were found in about an hour after they sunk—that of the child being firmly clasped in his uncle's arms.

A horse and wagon fell over a wharf at Quebec, a depth of probably 20 feet, into the water, and yet both were got out without injury. A boy succeeded in leaping from the vehicle in time to save himself.

The schr. Olive from New Brunswick, bound to Boston, went ashore on Nantucket Beach on the 20th, where all hands perished. Two of the bodies had been washed ashore.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Thursday evening's Mail has furnished us with our regular files of papers from this Colony. The general election was in progress. The Royal Gazette of the 21st instant gives the official announcement of the return of three members for the District of St. John's,—they are: Lawrence O'Brien, John Kent and Robert John Parsons, Esquires. The Courier of the 23rd says, "that enough is now known to leave no doubt of the party commonly called the Liberal party, having a majority."—A fire broke out at St. John's on the 12th instant, but did no damage beyond the house in which it originated.

DEBATING SOCIETIES.—There are three Literary Debating Societies in Halifax—the Catholic, the Young Men's, and the Athenaeum. Why can't a good debating Society be started in Charlottetown?

OPINION OF GENERAL TAYLOR IN CANADA.—The Kingston British Whig thus notices the election of General Taylor to the presidential chair:

"We hardly know whether we should congratulate the country on this elevation of General Taylor or not. He himself is an estimable man, and his party is composed of nearly all the wealth and intelligence of the Union; but on the other hand, that party is, and ever has been opposed to a low tariff and the introduction of British goods. The cry is Protection for native productions. Whereas, General Cass and the Democrats, although opponents in speech to Great Britain and her interests, have always advocated a low Tariff and Free Trade. Thus while the Whigs speak the fairest to Great Britain, and treat her with the utmost courtesy, they close the ports to her merchandise and manufactures; while the Democrats, furious in denunciation, and threatening war every instant, nevertheless freely admit and consume the commodities of the nation they provoke."

THE NEW CABINET.—The Washington correspondent of the True Sun names the following Cabinet as current at Washington:—Secretary of State, Mr. Crittenden; Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew Stewart of Pa.; Secretary of War, Mr. John Bell; Secretary of the Navy, Mr. King of Georgia; Postmaster-General, T. Smith of Conn.; Attorney-General, Reverdy Johnson of Md.

On Monday week snow fell at New Haven to the depth of a foot. The snow was so deep between Hartford and Springfield, that the Rail Cars on that route were four hours accomplishing 28 miles!

Four fires occurred in New York on the night of the 18th, by one of which 100 horses, 26 stages, and 25 sleighs, valued in all at about \$70,000, were destroyed. A very great fire lately occurred in Philadelphia.

The City Gas Works were nearly consumed, and several thousand tons of coals were burning when the last mail left.

IMMIGRATION.—During Saturday and Sunday twenty-one ships, nineteen barques, nineteen brigs, and more than fifty schooners, entered the port of New York; and during the same time more than six thousand steerage passengers, chiefly from Ireland and Germany, have landed in the city.

GROWTH OF NEW YORK.—New York city is now second only to London and Paris, of all the cities of Europe. London has a population of 2,000,000; Paris, 1,000,000; New York over 500,000.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

According to announcement, the several Divisions of the Sons of Temperance met at the Division Room and having formed in procession proceeded by a circuitous route to Brother Scott's residence, where the G. W. B. read and presented the following Resolutions:—

RESOLVED,—That the Sons of Temperance do deeply sympathise with Brother Scott and his family for the loss sustained by them at the late calamitous fire, and do earnestly hope that this visitation of Divine Providence may be fully sanctified unto them, by shewing them the uncertainty of all earthly possessions.

RESOLVED,—That the Sons do also condole with Brothers Squires and LePage for their losses, and also with those other members of the community who have suffered so seriously by the late conflagration.

By Order,

JOHN WILLIAMS, G. S.

To which Resolutions, Brother Scott in a most feeling manner expressed his thanks, and said, that he felt happy in belonging to an order, which could so sympathise with him in his misfortunes, and that he firmly believed this serious affliction would be the means of doing himself and family much good in a spiritual point of view.

The procession then moved on to the wharf belonging to W. W. Lord Esq. where a boat being in waiting, the G. W. P. Officers of the Grand Division and other officers and brethren were conveyed on board the brig Douglas, owned by Mr. Lord, lying at a short distance from the wharf, when the FLAG was presented and hoisted to the mast-head, amid the cheers of the Sons, proudly waving over a Teetotal Ship, and triumphantly bearing witness to the onward progress of the Order.

The Officers and brothers having returned to the wharf, the procession was again formed and marched through the town; arriving at the Division Room, the meeting was regularly closed, and the brethren returned to their homes, in love and harmony.—Advertiser.

E. R. HUMPHREYS, Esq., late of this Island, was, on the 25th of September, unanimously elected a Member of the College of Preceptors, of London.

There was no appearance of the Packet with the English Mail when we were going to press.

DIED.

On Wednesday last, Elizabeth Harriet Stukeley, infant daughter of the Honorable Chief Justice Jarvis, aged 1 year and 2 months.

At Covehead, on Wednesday, the 22d ultimo, of Dropsy, after a lingering illness, Mr. Donald McMillan, aged 64 years.

THE ELECTION.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6.—The Election for Charlottetown was decided last evening at 5 o'clock in favour of Mr. Palmer. His majority was a little more than a hundred. We shall notice the matter fully in our next.

BEAUTIFUL HEADSTONE.

During the last week we have been shown a beautiful Head Stone, brought from the United States by Capt. E. J. Feeney, of the American Army, and placed over the remains of his father, who lies buried in the new Cemetery of the Roman Catholic Church. Capt. Feeney, we understand, has been absent from this Island for several years. He formerly served in the British Army, under Capt. Cumberland, in the 96th, and having purchased his release, shortly after entered the United States Service, where he has continued to the present moment, and signalized himself in the late war against Mexico. Capt. Feeney's father, who was for many years an industrious farmer at the North River, died about six year ago; and his son, entertaining a strong filial affection, felt it to be his duty to visit the home of his early days, with the view of paying a proper tribute of respect to the memory of his parent. The Stone is of pure white Italian Marble, and is inscribed with the name, place of birth, and age of the deceased. It is admirably carved and engraved; and is, on the whole, we think, the handsomest headstone we have seen in any of the Grave Yards of this Island.

NOTICE.—All accounts due the Subscriber over six months, will be sued for, if not settled before the first of January, 1849. Oats and Flour taken at cash prices.

DONALD McISAAC.

December 4.

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