

The Victoria Warder

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1889.

Inspector Knight's Report.

P. I. Board of Education for the towns of Lindsay, Peterborough, etc.

I beg to report that I examined the various departments of the public schools during the month of December. The rooms were in several cases rather over crowded. But no changes have taken place since, the rooms used by the high school having been made available, this difficulty has been removed. I found the teaching good in every case, and the reading of maps in the various subjects generally satisfactory. I submit & state next the number of pupils on the roll, the teacher present, and the average attendance for the previous month.

At the entrance examination held in December, the number of candidates who wrote was 80, of whom 59 were placed in the Lindsay public schools, and 28 took other schools.

The number who passed was 29, of whom 17 were pupils at the Lindsay public schools, and 12 from other schools.

The conditions are reported to be one-third of the marks in each subject, and one-half of the total. The local examiners read the papers, and pass the candidates, subject to the approval of the High School Inspector. This is necessary as a check on some examiners who would award the high schools with pupils with little reference to their fitness. The high school inspectors have often interfered with the work of the Lindsay examiners either one way or the other; but on this occasion they passed two candidates, a boy and a girl, who had been rejected by the local examiners. The case of the girl was a mere matter of opinion. She had failed by a few marks in history, on a paper that was not a fair test of the candidate's knowledge, and in a subject which can be better taught in the high school. But the boy had made fifteen mistakes in spelling on a very easy dictation paper, and in a subject which is not likely to be taught in the high school. To this case the high school inspectors did not object. They had regulations laid down for their guidance, but they acted very unkindly to the boy.

At the session of the model school in 1887, the number of teachers in training was 16, and third class certificates were awarded to 13. In 1888, there were 19 teachers in training, to all of whom certificates were awarded. Certificates were also granted to two of those who failed in 1887, making 14 in all.

I have to request you to provide the necessary facilities for the examination room of the collegiate institute. There should be at least one hundred desks and seats for candidates, a table for the presiding examiner, a chalk, a blackboard, and a compass for the safe keeping of papers. I have also to request you to consider the propriety of obtaining some simple apparatus for the introduction of Kindergarten methods into the junior divisions of the public school. I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,
J. H. KNIGHT,
P. S. Inspector.
Lindsay, Feb. 6th, 1889.

Our English Letter.

A FREE LIBRARY, NORTH CORNWALL—HICKORY.

Bridgetown with a population of 7000, will be found a town of much antiquity and interest, given an almost entirely to shipping and ship building. Its handsome bridge of many arches and many wonderful superstitions, of which the traveller would do well to enquire further of local historians, spans the浦河, which at spring tides rises 18 feet, and the streets of the town, broad and clean, slope down to the yellow sandy beach of the broad tide river. The farther portion of the town which has also been more graphically described by Kinglake, occupies a considerable elevation on the western side of the river.

Bridgetown has lost much of its maritime glory in later years, but in the reign of Elizabeth, from whom it obtained its Charter of incorporation it was a place of considerable note, furnishing seven ships to fight the Armada, and in a later century sending "more vessels to the Northern trade than any other port in England, saving London and Liverpool" (very unfortunate, must be edition). The town and master remained until 1704 with the Grenville, or Cranmer family, of whom more as we get into proper ground.

Among Bridgetown's men of ancient note was Sir Bevil Grenville of Borought Court, son of Richard's son chief, who colonized Virginia, and in the "Revenge" (August 1602), fought a battle which killed every Englishman's son. Engaging single handed, a Spanish fleet of 60 sail, he did battle with them for three hours, mounting continuously "No Surrender!" Not did he do so until he had sunk two of the enemy's largest ships. Forty of his men were killed, the rest were almost all wounded, and the Revenge being disabled through and through had to flee, the flagging galleon and the powder running short, with the valiant commander mortally wounded, the master on board, notwithstanding Sir Bevil's advice that they should trust to God's mercy rather than to the Spaniard and blow up the magazine.

He died on board the "Revenge," exclaiming in Spanish, so that all his victims might hear him, "Beso die I, Bevil Grenville, with a joyful and quiet mind, for that I ended my life as a true soldier ought to do fighting for my country." Queen, solicited and never, leaving behind the heroism of having behaved as every valiant soldier is in duty bound to do—the conqueror of that brave and loyal Sir Bevil Grenville, who comes out to prominence in our North Cornwall town. The Revenge made good her name by sinking the 800 Spanish on board. Bridgetown too, here behold the stately presence of

Sir Bevil Grenville, whose swordsmen were however, bold roundheads, and the hill opposite the town was erected Cudlley Fort, captured by Colonel Derry.

Silk weaving, introduced by the French fugitives was carried on for many years at Bridgetown, and so many wives were taken by the French of the month of the marriage, that it was named the Bay of Gold. Bridgetown was a notorious place for witchcraft, and on August 26th, 1802, these poor old Devonshire women were burnt here for that offence. Bridgetown was a noted trading post with Spain, and on August 26th, 1802, these poor old Devonshire women were burnt here for that offence.

The river here is beautifully wooded on either side, being one-eighth of a mile wide, while the gauge is 3000 feet long.

But the chief glory of Bridgetown is the bridge, standing on twenty-four arches and being 677 feet long. Kingley has a very elegant passage on this structure, the foundation of the trade of this town as of Waterbridge, which ends the bridge.

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