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Butler
Labrador School

Pittsfield, Mass., May 11. /78

Dr J. W. Dawson

My dear sir

I received a letter from Mrs Toller this morning, stating that application was about to be made for a government grant for our Labrador Mission school; that you had kindly offered to ~~do~~ use your influence to procure this for us; and that you would like some statistics relative to ^{the} school as it has been carried on.

These I will endeavor to give you, although, writing as I do at a hotel while waiting for a train, I may not give all the necessary information.

Our school has been in operation ever since the establishment of the Mission in 1860, with the exception of two winters when no missionary was on the ground. It is intended to supply the ^{children} ~~inhabitants~~ of the neighborhood with a knowledge of the common branches: Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, & Geography are taught, ^{also singing} & at times there has been a grammar class. There is also a sewing class for the girls. The school is open to both Protestants & Roman Catholics, - both attending: the Bible is read, & the simplest moral & religious teachings inculcated, but nothing sectarian. The number of on the rolls is at present about 30. It has been larger & probably will be.

Miss Warren has been the teacher during the past two winters. In addition to the day-school, there is also an evening school for the young men taught by Miss Hampton a graduate of the Normal School, Vermont. The schools are ~~open~~ in session from the first of November to the first of May, with a week's holiday at Christmas. The hours are from 9 to 12 & from 1 to 4 daily, ^{Saturdays to} ~~Sundays~~ 4 o'clock.

The people here, the past year completed a new frame school-house at their own expense, & show a commendable degree of interest in the work. There is no school of the kind that I am aware of between this & Pine Grove on the Lower St.

Lawrence. One was in existence of last
year in connection with the Co. of
Sigs. Assist at Mutton Bay, 100
miles from our station at Esqui-
maux River: this has been suc-
ceeded since the return of their
missg.

I write in great haste. I
may write again giving further
information, but must close as my
train is soon to leave. My ad-
dress is, Antwerp, Mass. I
leave for Newburyport about May
20th, to sail 25th

With kindest regards

Yours truly

S. R. Butler