

C O N T E N T S.

1. Report: Select Committee on Education of the Poorer Classes in England and Wales (With Minutes of Evidence and Index.) (Chairman: Mr. R.A. Slaney.) (376.) 1838.  
pp.171. T9(Y:434).3.M6t A838
2. Report: Select Committee on the Education of Destitute Children (with Proceedings, Minutes of Evidence and Appendix.) (Chairman: Sir Stafford Northcote.) (460.) pp.234.
3. Index to the above. 1861. pp.38.

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# REPORT

FROM

THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

EDUCATION OF THE POORER CLASSES  
IN ENGLAND AND WALES ;

TOGETHER WITH

THE MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND INDEX,

[COMMUNICATED BY THE COMMONS TO THE LORDS.]

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Ordered to be printed 16th August 1838.

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*Jovis, 30° die Novembris, 1837.*

*Ordered, THAT* a Select Committee be appointed to consider the best means of providing useful Education for the Children of the Poorer Classes in large Towns throughout England and Wales.

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*Veneris, 1° die Decembris, 1837.*

A Committee was nominated of,—

Mr. Slaney.	Mr. Poulett Scrope.
Sir Robert Peel.	Sir Stratford Canning.
Mr. Poulett Thomson.	Mr. George William Wood.
Sir Harry Verney.	Mr. Estcourt.
Lord Viscount Sandon.	Sir George Strickland.
Mr. John Parker.	Mr. Hawes.
Mr. Wyse.	Mr. Vernon Smith.
Lord Ashley.	

*Ordered, THAT* the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

*Ordered, THAT* Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

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*Martis, 12° die Decembris, 1837.*

*Ordered, THAT* Mr. Poulett Thomson and Mr. Hawes be discharged from further attendance, and that Mr. Pusey and Mr. Gladstone be added to the Committee.

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*Jovis, 8° die Martii, 1838.*

*Ordered, That* Mr. John Parker and Mr. Estcourt be discharged from further attendance, and that Mr. Clay and Mr. Acland be added to the Committee.

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*Veneris, 4° die Maii, 1838.*

*Ordered, That* Sir George Strickland be discharged from further attendance, and that Mr. William Owen Stanley be added to the Committee.

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*Veneris, 13° die Junii, 1838.*

*Ordered, THAT* the Committee have power to report their Observations, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before them, to The House.

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# REPORT.

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THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to consider the best means of providing useful EDUCATION for the Children of the POORER CLASSES in large Towns throughout *England and Wales*, and who were empowered to report the MINUTES OF EVIDENCE taken before them, together with their Observations thereupon, to The House;—HAVE examined the Matters to them referred, and have agreed to the following REPORT:—

YOUR Committee are fully sensible of the importance of the subject which they have undertaken to inquire into, and of the great interest which it has excited in the minds of many persons. They now lay before The House, in as simple a form as possible, the result of their labours.

They proceed to give a brief abstract of the present state of School Education in some of the great Towns of England and Wales. In any remarks which they may think it their duty to make on the want of school accommodation, or on the inefficiency in many cases of the methods employed, they beg leave to disclaim any intention of casting reflections on any existing societies\*. They are convinced that, however inadequate the present system of instruction for the humbler classes may be in many districts, it is owing almost entirely to the laudable and persevering efforts throughout the country of benevolent individuals that anything at all worthy the name of Education has been afforded to the children of the working classes in large towns. In some places schools are supported almost entirely by the bounty of one or two persons. In other districts individuals, led by religious or charitable motives, have formed themselves into school societies; have subscribed (often from restricted means); have given their time and attention to the establishment of schools for the poor, and have thereby done much good.

Your Committee have to lament that the materials are so scanty which are afforded them for giving an account of the present state of education of the humbler classes. Until very recently the subject appears to have entirely escaped the attention of Government. There appear to be no Returns to Parliament of any authority on this point, nor indeed are there at present adequate means of making them. The Returns made to Queries sent out by the Committee on Education of 1835, are found to be incorrect as well as defective. And on this matter, important as it is to the welfare of all classes, there seem to exist no sources of information in any department of Government.

Under these circumstances, Your Committee have had recourse to such means as were within their power, of which they subjoin a brief account.

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\* *Vide* Result of an inquiry into the condition of the labouring classes, &c. in Holland and Belgium, presented to both Houses of Parliament, May 1838.

† Report of Statistical Society as to Manchester. p. 4.

First.—The annual Reports of the National and of the British and Foreign School Societies through whose medium the Parliamentary Grant lately voted in favour of Education has been applied.

Secondly.—The Reports printed by the Statistical Society of Manchester, of the State of Education in the Towns of Manchester, Liverpool, Salford, Bolton, York, Bury, and by the Statistical Society of Birmingham. These Reports have been made from a long and laborious examination of these different towns by an agent of the society, chosen and paid for the purpose\*.

Your Committee have examined this gentleman†, and from all they have been able to collect respecting these Returns, they have every reason to be satisfied of their substantial accuracy.

Thirdly.—Your Committee have availed themselves of Returns of the state of Education in several parishes in Westminster, printed by the Statistical Society of London, whose agent they also have examined. They have likewise made use of such other Returns on the state of Education in large towns as they deemed worthy of credit; particularly, an Account of the State of Education in Bristol, read at a meeting of the British Association; and a Report by the Manchester Statistical Society, on the Condition of the Working Classes, in 1834, 1835, and 1836‡.

In addition to these sources of information, they issued a set of Queries, in a tabular form, in order to find what was the state of Education in several large towns. These forms were sent, generally through the medium respectively of the secretaries of the National and of the British and Foreign School Societies, to each place; and though the answers are not so full as might be desired, they afford much insight into the subject, and give the means of drawing some useful inferences:

Your Committee have also made use of the evidence taken by former Parliamentary Committees, and have condensed the facts derived from the Witnesses now examined.

Before stating the results of their inquiries, Your Committee would observe, on looking to the Population Returns, which have been referred to by the Manchester Statistical Society, it appears that one-fourth the population of any given place may be considered as children, between the ages of five and 15, and this is the class for whom many persons seem to think education should be provided. Your Committee however believe, that as regards the children of the working classes (more especially those residing in large towns), it would be as much as would be desirable, to afford them the means of instruction until the age of 13; but, on the other hand, it would be of the utmost consequence, as respects their future conduct and happiness, and the comfort of their families, that preparatory or infant schools, in populous districts, should be open for the reception of children from the age of three years. The numbers between 3 and 13 would be rather more than between 5 and 15; but may, for the convenience of calculation, be reckoned in round numbers as the same, or one-fourth the population.

\* Reports—Ridgway. *Vide Evidence*—Ashworth; Kay; Riddall Wood.

† Mr. Riddall Wood; *vide Evidence*, 1062—1406.

‡ Ridgway, 1839.

## ON EDUCATION OF THE POORER CLASSES.

From these would remain to be deducted all the children of the richer or middle classes, and the proportion of these it must be evident will vary considerably in different towns and districts\*.

Large allowance must yet be made for those who, from obtaining early employment, or assisting their parents at home, are prevented attending school, and this number will depend in some measure on the poverty or habit of the district.

In the great Lancashire towns, and other manufacturing districts, it is the custom for many children, between the ages of 9 and 13, to work in factories for at least eight hours per day.

After making all these deductions, and reasonable allowances for other causes of absence, Your Committee have come to a general conclusion, that it would be unnecessary to provide Daily School Education for more than one-eighth the population of any large town †.

If the instruction given was in some classes confined to a few hours' attendance morning or evening, the proportion expected to come might be somewhat larger; if extending nearly to the whole day, it would probably be less. As a general, though not invariable rule, Your Committee would conclude that it was desirable to provide efficient Daily School Education in all populous towns for one-eighth the population ‡.

Having thus stated the amount of Education which it appears important to attain, they now proceed to give what they consider to be a fair calculation of the numbers who now are enabled to attend school in the large towns of England. For the purpose of attaining greater accuracy, Your Committee have endeavoured to calculate,

1st. The numbers of children attending schools in the Metropolis, and their proportion to the population.

2d. The numbers in the large manufacturing towns which have recently much increased in size; and in some second-rate towns, where there are no extensive manufactures, and where the increase of population has been slower.

There being no authentic returns of the number of schools or scholars in the metropolis, Your Committee give an abstract of such information as has been laid before them for particular districts, and a calculation thence resulting for the whole. London.

By an accurate Return, printed by the Statistical Society of London in 1837, it appears that in five parishes of Westminster§, having a population in 1831 of 42,996, there are

Attending

\* The proportion which the working classes bear to the whole population appears to vary as follows, in six towns examined:

Borough of Manchester	-	-	-	-	-	64 per cent.
Salford	-	-	-	-	-	74
Bury	-	-	-	-	-	71
Ashton	-	-	-	-	-	81
Staleybridge	-	-	-	-	-	91
Duckenfield	-	-	-	-	-	94

Report on Working Classes, Manchester, 1838, p. 64

† *Vide* Dr. Kay's Evidence, 183-255.

‡ This is taken independent of instruction in Sunday Schools, which Your Committee do not advert to at length, but which they consider of great advantage to the working classes, though not supplying the want of daily instruction.

§ St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, St. Clement Danes, St. Mary-le-Strand, St. Paul Covent-garden, and the Savoy, in 1837.—*Vide* Return, Caldwell's Evidence, 207.

Attending Sunday Schools only	666
Attending Daily Schools, supported solely by the scholars	2,231
Attending Daily Schools, supported or aided by charity, including Infant Schools	1,789
Attending Evening Schools only	84
	4,104
Daily Scholars	4,104

From this number of 4,104 will be to be deducted 1,035 attending middling or superior schools, and the remainder, 3,069, will be the number of children of the poorer classes receiving any kind of daily instruction in these parishes. Of these 3,069, 1,024 are attending Dame or common Day Schools; of these schools the Report thus speaks:

“The information acquired in these schools cannot be said to amount to Education; it can have but little effect in expanding the minds of the scholars, in teaching them to observe or to reflect, or in giving them a desire for further knowledge; and it can exercise but little influence in forming their moral characters, beyond what may possibly be produced by the restraint consequent upon attendance at school.”—p. 20\*.

In another place the Report says: “None of the schools within this district, with one exception, have any play-grounds or yards for exercising the children.”—p. 15.

The district comprised in these five parishes, situated along the Strand and round Charing-cross, may be considered as holding a mean station between the more opulent parishes of the West, and the poorer and more crowded parishes of the North-east and South-east of London.

It appears, as a general result, that in these five parishes some sort of daily instruction is afforded to about one in 14 of the population, instead of one in eight, as is desirable; and that afforded to one-third the scholars is very indifferent.

#### Bethnal-green.

Your Committee have examined evidence respecting the populous parish of Bethnal-green, situated to the East of London; the population in 1831 was stated at 62,000, and must since have probably increased. It appears from the Report of the Spitalfields' School Society, and other evidence†, that less than 3,000 children are educated. The Bethnal-green Committee state, “that after making allowance for such as must at all times be prevented from attending school, there are at this moment from 8,000 to 10,000 children in Bethnal-green alone, not only without daily instruction, but for whom no means of daily instruction are provided.” They hold it to be an established fact, “that in that one parish thousands are growing up uninstructed in their duty either to God or man.” And when it is added that this “is only one parish out of many, and that the neighbouring parishes are almost as poor and as destitute of the means of education as this, they think they have established a claim to all who are interested in the welfare of London‡.”

It appears, therefore, as a general result, that in this populous parish less than one in 20 of the population have daily Education instead of one in eight.

Your

\* *Vide* account of such schools, Manchester Return, p. 6, 7; Evidence, Kay, Riddall Wood.

† Mr. Buxton's Evidence; Mr. Althans'. Printed Report of Spitalfields' School Society, 1837.

‡ Report, p. 3.

Your Committee have not been able, from the want of accurate returns, to examine with the same minuteness into the state of other districts of London; but they apprehend that they have ample grounds for stating, throughout this vast metropolis the means of useful daily instruction are lamentably deficient\*.

It must be borne in mind, that in the various valuable Reports made by the Statistical Society of Manchester and London, and in much of the Evidence adduced before Your Committee, the worthless nature of the Education supposed to be given in the common Day and Dame Schools has been dwelt upon †; so that in many places it may be left almost out of account.

If these be entirely omitted, then the amount of instruction given in public schools will stand thus ‡:

PARISH.	Population in 1831.	Scholars, 1838.
Christchurch, Spitalfields - - - - -	17,949	1,338
St. Mary, Whitechapel - - - - -	30,733	845
St. George in the East - - - - -	38,505	1,110
St. John, Wapping, &c. - - - - -	3,564	450
St. Mary, Newington - - - - -	44,526	1,247
St. Mary, Bermondsey - - - - -	29,741	1,055
Christchurch, Surrey - - - - -	13,705	678

Average, one in 27 of the population, without allowing for the deficiency in attendance (calculated at 15 per cent.) or for the increase in numbers since 1831 §.

Your Committee now turn to the state of Education in the large manufacturing and seaport towns, where the population has rapidly increased within the present century; they refer for particulars to the Evidence taken before them, which appears to bear out the following results:

1st. That the kind of education given to the children of the working classes is lamentably deficient.

2d. That it extends (bad as it is) to but a small proportion of those who ought to receive it.

3d. That without some strenuous and persevering efforts be made on the part of Government, the greatest evils to all classes may follow from this neglect.

\* *Vide* Report and Evidence of Committee on Education, 1835.

† Reports on Manchester, Liverpool, &c.; Report on five parishes in Westminster; also evidence of Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Althans.

‡ *Vide* Evidence of Mr. Althans as to details, 1422-1431. These public schools include the National, British and Foreign, charity, infant and all endowed and charity schools.

§ *Vide* Althans' Evidence, 1427, 1428.  
589.



PLACE.	Population.	Children of Working Classes at Daily Schools: vis.		TOTAL.
		Day and Dame Schools, Very indifferent.	Other better Schools.	
1836. Liverpool - - -	230,000	11,336	14,024	25,000*
1834. Manchester - - -	200,000	11,520	5,689	17,100*
1835. Salford - - -	50,810	3,340	2,015	5,350*
- Bury - - -	20,000	1,648	803	2,451*
1835† { Ashton - - - Duckenfield - - - Staley Bridge - - - }	47,800	- - -	- - -	2,496
1837. Birmingham - - -	180,000	8,180	4,697	12,877‡
1837.§ Bristol - - -	112,438	- - not including scholars in private schools	5 to 15 Total - -	4,135 5,254
1838. Brighton - { B. & F. National }	40,634 in 1831	{ 1,367 863	{ 3,033 3,247	4,400   4,110
1837.¶ West Bromwich - - -	- - -	- - of 6,375 children under 14 years old.	- - -	1,554
1838. Leeds - B & F.	123,303 in 1831	- - no return of Dame or Day, but only Public schools	2,971	-
1838. * Sheffield - - -	96,692 in 1831	3,359	5,905	9,314
Northampton { B & F. National }	20,000	{ 1,011 996	{ 1,215 1,202	2,226 2,198
Reading - B. & F.	15,595 in 1831	297	962	1,259
Exeter - - -	28,242 in 1831	2,045	1,830 including evening.	3,875
1836.†† York - - -	25,359 in 1831	1,494	2,697	4,191

*Note.*—The general result of all these towns is, that about one in 12 receive some sort of daily instruction, but only about one in 24 an education likely to be useful. In Leeds, only one in 41; in Birmingham, one in 38; in Manchester, one in 35.

Your Committee do not propose in this place to enter into more detail on this subject, but refer to the Evidence taken before them; they would especially beg to refer to the Evidence of Dr. Kay, Mr. Riddall Wood, Mr. Corrie, and Mr. Buxton. These gentlemen describe in strong terms the misery and crime likely to arise from the neglected education of the children of the working classes in populous places ††.

Your Committee are fully persuaded that to this cause (embracing the want of religious and moral training) is to be chiefly attributed the great increase of criminals, and consequently of cost to the country §§.

With

\* *Vide* Reports of Statistical Society.

† Report of Manchester Statistical Society on a Manufacturing District, read at British Association, Ridgway, 1837.

‡ *Vide* Evidence, Riddall Wood.

§ Returns to Committee, from Bristol. Report by C. B. Fripp, 1837.

|| Where "B. & F." or "National," are mentioned, it only means the returns came through the secretaries of those societies.

¶ Printed Report from Mr. Corrie; *vide* his evidence.

\*\* Report (B. & F.), excluding superior and middling schools.

†† Report Statistical Society of Manchester, 1837.

‡‡ *Vide* Wilderspin's and other Evidence before Committee of 1834 and 1835.

§§ From Returns to Parliament, the committals for crime in England and Wales, were in

	1805 - -	4,600
	1810 - -	5,100
	1815 - -	7,800
	1821 - -	13,000
	1828 - -	16,500
	1832 - -	20,090
	1836 - -	20,984
	1837 - -	23,612

That is, in 20 years, (from 1810 to 1832) the committals increased fourfold, whilst the population increased only 32 per cent.

There is an increase of criminals in 1837, as compared with 1836, of 2,638, and compared with an average of three years past, of 2,224.—*Vide* Tables from Registers at Home-Office, 1838.

With regard to the numbers of children attending Sunday Schools, Your Committee do not think it necessary to enter into any long details, but refer to the Evidence on this point; they consider the instruction there given as of great advantage, by implanting feelings of religion and giving habits of order; but as imperfect without daily instruction also. They subjoin a short abstract of the numbers of children attending Sunday Schools in some of the larger towns.\*

CHILDREN IN SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

PLACE.	ESTABLISHED CHURCH.	DISSENTERS.	CATHOLICS.
Manchester - - - - -	10,284	19,032	3,812
Salford - - - - -	2,741	6,250	613
Liverpool - - - - -	6,318	8,350	700
Birmingham - - - - -	4,500	11,830	338
Bristol - - - - -	2,631	8,477	
Brighton † - - - - -	870	1,820	
Sheffield, B. & F. - - - - -	2,687	8,705	
Leeds, B. & F. - - - - -	4,130	11,886	
Wakefield, National - - - - -	500	1,384	
Northampton - - - - -	{ 1,091 N <sup>l</sup> Ret <sup>n</sup> 788 B. & F. }	1,288	
Exeter, { National - - - - -	2,470	1,193	
{ B. & F. - - - - -	2,115	1,208	
Reading - - - - -	1,000	509	
Westminster, 5 parishes - - - - -	683	872	
York - - - - -	1,708	1,655	

Your Committee think it right to observe, that no inference with respect to the proportion of children educated in *daily* schools connected with the Established Church, and in those of the British and Foreign Society, or others, can safely be drawn from the above Table. \*A statement accompanying the Return from Exeter exhibits a very different proportion in the case of schools of the latter description. The numbers are given as follow:—

EXETER:

Day Schools:		Sunday Schools:	
Church - - - - -	5,618	Church - - - - -	2,470
Dissenters - - - - -	162	Dissenters; viz.	
No particular system - - - - -	279	Wesleyans - - - - -	409
	441	Baptists - - - - -	344
		Independents - - - - -	328
		Calvinists - - - - -	12
		Unitarians - - - - -	100
	6,059		1,193
			3,663
Weekly Education:		Church to others, 2 to 1.	
Church to all others, 14 to 1.			

Government grants in aid of Education have hitherto been made, during the last five years, under certain regulations stated (together with the amount granted) in a Return to an Order of The House of Commons, dated March 2, 1838 (Pap. 395). The principal rules are there stated (under Treasury Minutes, dated 30th August 1833 and 11th July 1834), and are as follow:—

“ 1. That

\* Sunday scholars in England and Wales were calculated at a million and a half, i. e. about one-eighth the population.—*Vide* W. F. Lloyd's Evidence, Report, 1834. The expense of Sunday school tuition is about 2 s. per head per annum.—*Vide* Althans' Evidence, 1834.

† The two accounts vary a little in numbers, but not much in proportions.

“ 1. That no portion of the sum be applied to any purpose whatever except to the erection of new school-houses, and that in the definition of a school-house the residence of masters or attendants be not included.

“ 2. That no application be entertained unless a sum be raised by private contribution, equal at the least to one-half of the estimated expenditure.

“ 3. That the amount of private subscription be received, expended and accounted for, before any issue of public money for such school be directed.

“ 4. That no application be complied with, unless upon the consideration of such a report, either from the National School Society or from the British and Foreign School Society, as shall satisfy the Board that the case is one deserving of attention, and that there is a reasonable expectation the School may be permanently supported.”

Subsequent rules require such “an audit of accounts as the Board may direct, and periodical reports as to the state of the schools;” also, “that a preference shall be given to such applications as come from large towns and cities, in which the necessity of assisting in the erection of schools is most pressing.”

In a later regulation they state, “they are disposed to give priority to those applications where, by a smaller expenditure, they can forward the education of the largest number of scholars, and are prepared to sanction a grant to all those schools where the number of scholars to be educated is in proportion to two for every 1*l.* applied for.”—Treasury Minute, 11 February 1834.

Under these regulations the following sums have been granted:

	1834.	1835.	1836.	1837.	1838.	TOTAL.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Through the National Society	11,081	13,002	17,130	11,456	17,041	69,710
Ditto British and Foreign Society	9,796	7,168	5,281	5,810	6,090*	35,285

By the same return it appears that “of the sum granted by Parliament for the establishment of schools for teachers, 10,000*l.*, no part of this sum has yet been applied.”—12 May 1838.

On due consideration of all the facts before stated, and the evidence laid before them, Your Committee have agreed to the following Resolutions, which their Chairman has been directed to report, together with the Evidence, to The House.

### RESOLUTIONS.

1. THAT in the Metropolis and the great Towns of England and Wales, there exists a great want of Education among the children of the Working Classes.

2. THAT it is desirable that there should be means of suitable daily Education (within the reach of the Working Classes) for a proportion of not less than about one-eighth part of the population.

3. THAT

\* Sum not stated in Return.

3. THAT the amount of assistance afforded by Government should be regulated as heretofore, subject to modification of their rules in cases where the poverty of the district was proved to require it, the special ground being reported in each case.

4. THAT under existing circumstances, and under the difficulties which beset the question, Your Committee are not prepared to propose any means for meeting the deficiency beyond the continuance and extension of the grants which are at present made by the Treasury for the promotion of Education, through the medium of the National and the British and Foreign School Societies.

13 *July* 1838.

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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.**


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*Lunæ, 19<sup>o</sup> die Februarii, 1838.*

Mr. SLANEY in the Chair.

Sir H. Verney.	Mr. Gladstone.
Lord Ashley.	Sir S. Canning.
Mr. Wood.	Sir G. Strickland.
Mr. Wyse.	Lord Sandon.
Mr. V. Smith.	Mr. P. Scrope.

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*Veneris, 23<sup>o</sup> die Februarii, 1838.*

Mr. SLANEY in the Chair.

Sir S. Canning.	Sir H. Verney.
Mr. Wood.	Lord Ashley.
Sir G. Strickland.	Mr. V. Smith.
Mr. Pusey.	Lord Sandon.
Mr. Wyse.	Mr. Gladstone.
Mr. P. Scrope.	

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*Jovis, 5<sup>o</sup> die Julii, 1838.*

Mr. SLANEY in the Chair.

Mr. V. Smith.*	Mr. Gladstone.
Mr. Owen Stanley.	Lord Sandon.
Mr. P. Scrope.	Mr. Pusey.
Mr. G. M. Wood.	Mr. Acland.
Mr. Clay.	Sir S. Canning.

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*Martis, 10<sup>o</sup> die Julii, 1838.*

Mr. SLANEY in the Chair.

Sir S. Canning.	Mr. Pusey.
Mr. G. M. Wood.	Mr. Gladstone.
Mr. P. Scrope.	Lord Ashley.
Lord Sandon.	Mr. Acland.

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The following Resolutions were laid before the Committee, being proposed by the Chairman :

1. That in the Metropolis, and the great Towns of England and Wales, there exists a great want of Education among the children of Working Classes.
2. That means of daily Education, within the reach of the Working Classes, ought to be provided for not less than one-eighth of the population.
3. That, under existing circumstances, it is desirable to continue and extend Government assistance to Schools for the Working Classes, established on the principles respectively of the National or British and Foreign School Societies.
4. That where there is any large number of poor Roman-catholics, or other poor persons, who, from religious scruples, are unwilling to send their children to either of these Schools, it is desirable that Government should afford assistance to them, on satisfactory proof that the Holy Scriptures (in any version) are used and taught in their Schools.
5. That the amount of assistance afforded by Government to any place should be chiefly regulated by the numbers of children of the Working Classes (beyond one-eighth of the population) in want of Education, and should not depend altogether on the amount locally raised.
6. That it is desirable a Board or Office of Education should be established under the control of Parliament.

7. That

7. That it should be the duty of such Board to digest inquiries and returns relative to the state of Education among the Working Classes; to receive suggestions, and propose steps for the improvement and extension of such Education; and who, without interfering with existing School Societies, may lay down rules for the future disposal of Government Grants, and the due inspection of Schools aided by the Public Funds.

First Resolution put, and agreed to.

Second Resolution amended, and agreed to.

Third Resolution. Motion made (Lord Sandon), "That all the words after the word 'circumstances' be left out, in order to insert the words, 'And under the difficulties which beset the question, Your Committee are not prepared to propose any means for meeting the deficiency, beyond the continuance and extension of the Grants which are at present made by the Treasury for the promotion of Education through the medium of the National and the British and Foreign Societies.'"

Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question."

Committee divided:

Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Pusey.	Lord Sandon.
Mr. Wood.	Mr. Gladstone.
Mr. Acland.	Sir S. Canning.
Lord Ashley.	Mr. P. Scrope.
	Mr. Slaney.

Amendment put, and agreed to.

The fourth Resolution was put, and negatived.

Fifth Resolution read.

Motion made (Mr. Wood), "That all the words after the word 'That' be left out, in order to insert the words, 'Under existing circumstances it is desirable to continue the Parliamentary Grant for affording assistance towards the enlargement and erection of School-houses for the poorer classes in England and Wales according to the plan hitherto adopted, viz. that of a distribution of the Treasury, on the recommendation of the British and Foreign and the National School Societies. That similar assistance should at the same time be given to promote Education among that portion of the poorer classes who are members of the Roman-catholic Church, and of other religious communions, and are unable, on conscientious grounds, to avail themselves of such assistance through the medium of either of those societies.'"

Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question."

Committee divided:

Ayes.	Noes.
Sir S. Canning.	Mr. Wood.
Mr. Pusey.	
Mr. P. Scrope.	
Lord Sandon.	
Mr. Acland.	
Lord Ashley.	

6th Resolution.

Question put, "That this Resolution be adopted."

Committee divided:

Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Pusey.	Lord Ashley.
Mr. Slaney.	Lord Sandon.
Mr. Wood.	Mr. Acland.
Mr. Scrope.	Sir S. Canning.
	Mr. Gladstone.

Resolution negatived.

7th Resolution put, and negatived.

Motion made and question proposed, "That the four Resolutions agreed upon be reported to the House."

Amendment proposed (Mr. Wood), "To leave out all the words after the word 'That' in order to insert the words 'Owing to the approaching termination of the Session, it is proper to report forthwith the Evidence which has been taken to The House; and that

the Evidence be so reported accordingly, accompanied by a declaration, that in the opinion of this Committee it is highly desirable that further measures should be taken in the ensuing Session for inquiring into the existing state of education among the people, with a view to their improvement in intellectual, moral, and religious culture."

Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question."

Committee divided :

Ayes.

Sir S. Canning.  
Lord Sandon.  
Mr. Slaney.  
Mr. Pusey.  
Mr. Scrope.

Noes.

Lord Ashley.  
Mr. Wood.

Motion made (Mr. Gladstone), "That the Resolutions be preceded with a short statement of facts."

Question put.

Committee divided :

Ayes.

Mr. Slaney.  
Mr. Pusey.  
Mr. Scrope.  
Mr. Gladstone.

Noes.

Mr. Acland.  
Lord Ashley.

*Jovis 12<sup>o</sup> die Julii, 1838.*

Mr. SLANEY in the Chair.

Mr. Pusey.  
Mr. Acland.  
Sir S. Canning.  
Mr. G. M. Wood.

Mr. Clay.  
Mr. Gladstone.  
Mr. Wyse.

Motion made (Mr. Wyse), "That Mr. W. Martin should be summoned for the purpose of giving evidence on the character and results of the system of education pursued in the British and Foreign schools."

Amendment proposed (Mr. Pusey), "That all the words after the word 'That' be left out in order to add the words, 'Many weeks having passed, during which no witness has been offered to be summoned, and the Committee having determined on resolutions to be reported to The House, the Committee do now proceed to consider a Report of the facts which result from the evidence taken.'"

Question put "That the words proposed to be left out stand part."

Ayes.

Mr. Clay.  
Mr. Wyse.

Noes.

Mr. Gladstone.  
Mr. Pusey.  
Sir S. Canning.  
Mr. Slaney.

Words added. "Question as amended put and agreed to."

Motion made (Mr. Wyse), "That not having taken sufficient evidence on the character and results of the course of Education pursued in the schools conducted by the National and British and Foreign Societies, we do not feel warranted in offering an opinion on their efficiency to The House."

Question put.

Committee divided :

Ayes.

Mr. Clay.  
Mr. Wood.  
Mr. Wyse.

Noes.

Mr. Slaney.  
Sir S. Canning.  
Mr. Pusey.  
Mr. Gladstone.  
Mr. Acland.

Motion

Motion made (Mr. Wyse), "That your Committee do not however believe that the difficulties attendant on the framing a general system of Education for the children of the humbler classes (difficulties almost wholly arising from differences of religious opinion) are such as the well-directed efforts of the Executive Government, under the sanction of the Legislature, might not successfully remove."

Question put.

Committee divided :

Ayes.  
Mr. Wyse.  
Mr. Wood.

Noes.  
Mr. Slaney.  
Mr. Acland.  
Mr. Pusey.  
Sir S. Canning.

The Report was then read and agreed to, and the Chairman was directed to submit the same for the consideration of the House.

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LIST OF WITNESSES.

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I N D E X

TO THE

R E P O R T

FROM THE

S E L E C T C O M M I T T E E

O N T H E

E D U C A T I O N O F D E S T I T U T E  
C H I L D R E N .

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
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*Under 8 oz.*