

7. That aged and infirm blind persons of good character should be entitled to out-door relief in order to enable them to live with their friends, or be maintained in an asylum or home at the cost of their union, and that there should be no legal disqualification imposed on them in consequence of such out-door relief.
8. That as soon as properly qualified teachers of the deaf for the purpose can be obtained, pupils who have the remains of hearing or speech should be educated apart from those trained on the sign and manual system and in a pure oral school, and that every child who is deaf should have full opportunity of being educated on the pure oral system. We are aware that for this purpose further provision is required for obtaining teachers on this system, and that it will be necessary that trained teachers should be provided by the existing denominational institutions.
9. It must be understood that our suggestions are not intended to be applicable to all children now under instruction, and that the recommendations indicated will, by their very nature, have to be carried out according as circumstances permit.

ISLE OF MAN.

Extract from letter from H.E. Lieut-Governor of Isle of Man, dated 4th July 1888.

834. According to the Census of 1881 there were 66 blind persons in the Isle of Man, six of these only being of school age.

835. Among the adult blind are a pianoforte tuner, a basket maker, and a member of the Insular Legislature (since dead).

836. Some of the adult blind have lost their sight through accidents in mining. Most of these belong to benefit societies.

Payment of for poor, or blind, or deaf and dumb children.

837. Special provision is made for the education of the blind and the deaf by the following section (3.) of the (Isle of Man) Elementary Education Act of 1884:—

3. . . . The school committee may, if they think fit, from time to time, for a renewable period, not exceeding six months, pay the whole or any part of the school fees payable at any public elementary school (whether within their district or not) by any child resident in their district whose parent is, in their opinion, unable from poverty to pay the same; but no such payment shall be made or refused on condition of the child attending any public elementary school other than such as may be selected by the parent; and the school committee may also, if they think fit, from time to time, for a renewable period, not exceeding one year, make a contribution towards the payment, in whole or in part, of the expenses of the education of a child who is blind, or who is a deaf-mute, at a school or institution (whether within this Isle or not) for the instruction of the blind or of deaf-mutes (as the case may be) the parent of which child is resident within their district, and is, in their opinion, unable from poverty to pay such expenses, such school or institution being one to which the parent may wish or consent that the child be sent.

Extract from letter from H.E. Lieut-Governor of the Isle of Man, dated 14th July 1888.

838. There were, according to the Census of 1881, 35 persons in the island deaf and dumb. Of these, 12 were of school age. Nine (or three-fourths of these) were in three families, containing respectively four, three, and two deaf-mutes. These children have all been since sent off the island for training in institutions, 11 by voluntary agency, and one by voluntary agency assisted by the provisions of the Insular Education Act.

839. Among the deaf and dumb adults are an officer of the post office and a carter in regular agricultural employment.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

Letter from Under Secretary of State for Home Affairs (A. 29673), dated 8th April 1889.

840. There were, according to the Census of 1881, 81 blind and 35 deaf and dumb persons in Jersey, and 48 blind and 18 deaf and dumb in Guernsey. In these islands there are neither laws nor public institutions relating to these classes, but in Jersey there exists a small private society for the benefit of the blind, started in 1886 by Professor D'Odiardi. Its objects are to educate the young blind and to assist the adult blind to help themselves by visiting them at their own homes, and by reading to them, and affording them instruction in knitting, sewing, or any branch of industry for which they may show an aptitude. Thirty blind persons were visited by the society at their own homes in 1887. There are four children boarded out with

private families, and receiving, under the auspices of the society, instruction in English, French, German, reading and writing in the Braille system, arithmetic, history, geography, and music.

841. We think that the insular authorities of the Isle of Man and of the Channel Islands should pass such enactments as will carry out (as far as the local circumstances permit) the general recommendations which we make in respect of the classes referred to.

All which we humbly submit to Your Majesty's consideration.

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| (L.S.) | (Signed) | EGERTON OF TATTON, Chairman. |
| (L.S.) | (") | F. LONDIN. |
| (L.S.) | (") | LYON PLAYFAIR. |
| (L.S.) | (") | A. J. MUNDELLA. |
| (L.S.) | (") | HENRY JOHN SELWIN-IBBETSON. |
| (L.S.) | (") | EDWARD SOUTHWELL SOTHEBY. |
| (L.S.) | (") | TINDAL ROBERTSON. |
| (L.S.) | (") | *B. ST. JOHN ACKERS. |
| (L.S.) | (") | *T. R. ARMITAGE. |
| (L.S.) | (") | WM. A. ARROL. |
| (L.S.) | (") | *F. J. CAMPBELL. |
| (L.S.) | (") | *EDMUND C. JOHNSON. |
| (L.S.) | (") | WILLIAM WOODALL. |
| (L.S.) | (") | *W. BLOMEFIELD SLEIGHT. |
| (L.S.) | (") | *CHARLES MANSFIELD OWEN. |
| (L.S.) | (") | *LIONEL VAN OVEN. |

CHARLES EDWARD DRUMMOND BLACK,
Secretary.

* These Commissioners sign, subject to the reservation or reservations which bear their signatures.