

## 1870 Report on Half-Timers in School

*'The afternoon set came to school in a state of personal dirt and squalor, which makes association with them disagreeable and offensive in the extreme. The room is pervaded with the nauseous odour of the oil with which flax is impregnated: the children's faces are smeared with the oil and dust which adheres to their fingers after their work, their scanty ragged clothing, with an old shawl thrown over their shoulders to protect them from the rain, distinguishes them painfully from their companions who are apt to shun them as an inferior class.'*



© National Museums Northern Ireland, Collection Ulster Museum