

I would propose that a scheme should be adopted for forming a "Common School Fund" upon the following basis, viz.

1. A large appropriation of the waste lands of the Crown, from which to create a permanent revenue for the support of Common Schools in all time to come.

2. A fund to be provided for permanently from the Provincial Revenue.

3. An equal sum to that afforded from the Provincial Revenue, to be permanently provided for, and raised by annual assessments from the people of the several Districts, by order of the Justices of the Peace in General Quarter Sessions. Each District furnishing its proper quota of that sum in proportion to its population.

A law framed upon such a scheme as I have mentioned would, in my humble opinion be productive of much good to the rising youth of the Province.

I proceed to answer the queries in the order you have put them :

1. The number of Common Schools must be governed by the convenience and wants of the population.

2. Their position should be fixed by the same rule.

3. The selection of the masters is a difficult matter in the present destitute state of the country, in respect to proper material. They should, in all cases, pass an examination before the District Board of Education, and be approved of before they are permitted to teach.

4. & 5. The remuneration of masters should be by salary, apportioned by District Boards of Education, from the "Common School Fund" before mentioned, and by charges of tuition fees to the pupils, which, in my opinion, are absolutely necessary, to arrest and keep enduring the attention of parents to the true interests and well working of Common Schools, and should never be dispensed with; but in such cases of indigent parents as the trustees of Common Schools might on account of indigence alone, direct that their children should be taught gratuitously.

6. The course of study and the books used should be regulated by the District Boards to whom the trustees of the township or common schools should make half yearly reports, giving in detail all the information that might be required of them by the District Boards, whose duty it should be to return a half yearly synopsis of the state of the common schools to the general Board at Toronto, by which means valuable information would be gained as to the practical working of all the common schools.

7. The supervision requisite to ensure the efficient working of the Common Schools would be best attained by an irregular visitation of all the schools, by a well qualified member of the District Board. In this way a constant anxiety would be kept up in the minds of the pupils to improve as much as in their power.

If the scheme I have mentioned were adopted, a bill might be drawn up embracing many of the valuable hints contained in the essay of Dr. Chalmers on the Parochial Schools of Scotland, published in 1819; and of the yet more valuable information contained in the system of Education as explained by Mrs. Austin's translation of M. Cousin's report to the Government of France on the subject of the Common Schools of Prussia. I annex for the notice of the Commission of Investigation a printed copy of the