

prevent the legitimate operation of that principle, they alone are to blame, and not the School law. Small school sections, together with such resolutions as you enclose, must inevitably have the effect of reducing the allowance to your section from the school fund to a merely nominal sum; while, sections which adopt a more generous system of management for their schools, enjoy that which your own want of enterprise and zeal prevents you from obtaining: but you should be cautious in charging that deficiency upon the School Act, when your section has deliberately done all in its power to defeat its beneficial operation, and to bring about the very result which you as well as this Department must deplore. The law was designed to assist those who educate most and longest, and sustain their school generously and continuously; and not those who pursue an opposite course: in other words, it helps those who help themselves.

"If the number of pupils between the ages of 5 and 21 years, resident in your section, is small, you should endeavor to extend your boundaries, so as to include a larger number, and thus lessen the necessary school tax by increasing your capabilities of obtaining a larger proportion of the school fund than now falls to your share."

#### LORD ELGIN ON PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN PUBLIC MEN.

The following excellent remarks were made by His Excellency the Governor-General, at the conclusion of a lecture delivered by the Rev. Dr. Wilkes, at the Mechanics' Institute in Montreal, a few years since:—

"Just in proportion as men ascend in position and influence, their responsibility to society increases. The higher they stand, the more necessary is it that their principles should be sound, their ground secure, and their affections pure. They must not be ashamed to borrow an example from vegetable life. A few tender roots would support the oak sappling, when it first appeared above ground; but when it became a tall and stately tree, when it threw out its branches and multiplied its leaves, presenting a wider surface to the dews of the morning, and the bright influence of the king of day, in order that it might receive additional nourishment, and be in no danger from the blasting brightness of the noon-day, its roots must be firmly fastened in the soil. Such should be the situation of those, who, while they rise in society, build their advancement upon 'sure and steadfast' principles. When men build upon a false foundation, how far soever they may rise, the greatness of their advancement, would but prove the prelude to their fall."—*P. II. Watchman.*

#### CO-OPERATION OF THE PRESS.

The editor of an excellent paper in the Western part of the Province and a County Superintendent of Schools, thus concludes an official letter to the Chief Superintendent:—"I intend during the present year to make as full reports in my paper, on all educational matters, as possible. I think such a course might conduce much to the success of Common Schools in this county."

#### RESOLUTIONS

PASSED AT THE COUNTY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS LATELY HELD IN THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES OF UPPER CANADA, BY THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

I. RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF THE POWERS OF TRUSTEES IN DECIDING UPON THE MANNER OF RAISING SCHOOL MONEYS.

##### COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

*Meeting at St. Catharines on the 24th of January, 1853.*

E. S. ADAMS, Esq., Mayor of St. Catharines, in the Chair;  
W. F. HUBBARD, Esq., A. M., Secretary.

"Resolved,—That it is desirable that Trustees be empowered to decide the manner in which moneys are to be raised to maintain the schools, free or otherwise."

##### COUNTY OF WELLAND.

*Meeting at Merrittsville on the 25th of January.*

JOHN HELLEMS, Esq., in the Chair; N. L. HOLMES, Esq., Secretary.

"Resolved,—That the Trustees, as representatives of the respective school sections, be authorised to decide upon the manner in which their schools shall be supported, free or otherwise, until such times as other provision shall be made by either the Municipal Council or Provincial Parliament."

##### UNITED COUNTIES OF WENTWORTH AND HALTON.

*Meeting at Hamilton on the 27th of January.*

R. SPENCE, Esq., ex-Warden, in the Chair; S. BREGA, Esq., Secretary.

Moved by JOHN HESLOP, Esq., Warden of the County, and seconded by the Rev. THOS. GREENE, A. B., Local Superintendent, and

"Resolved,—That the powers enjoyed by the City and Town Boards of School Trustees, in reference to the mode of providing for the support of schools, be extended to Township Trustees."

##### UNITED COUNTIES OF WELLINGTON, WATERLOO, AND GREY.

*Meeting at Guelph on the 28th of January.*

JAMES WRIGHT, Esq., ex-Warden, in the Chair; A. D. FERRIER, Esq., Secretary.

Moved by Dr. CLARK, Warden of the County, seconded by J. KIRKLAND, Esq., Local Superintendent, and

"Resolved,—That the power enjoyed by the city and town Trustees, in reference to the mode of providing for the support of schools be extended to Trustees of School Sections in Townships."

##### UNITED COUNTIES OF HURON, PERTH, AND BRUCE.

*Meeting at Goderich on the 31st of January.*

R. GIBBONS, Esq., Mayor of Goderich, in the chair; Mr. NICHOLLS, Secretary.

Moved by T. NICHOLLS, Esq., seconded by JOHN CLARKE, Esq., and

"Resolved,—That as Trustees can be changed at the regular meetings for that purpose, it is desirable that such should in Townships, as now in towns and cities, be allowed to determine the manner in which their schools should be supported."

##### COUNTY OF LAMBTON.

*Meeting at Port Sarnia on the 2d of February.*

Capt. R. E. VIDAL, R. N., in the chair; E. WATSON, Esq., Secretary.

Moved by A. YOUNG, Esq., seconded by Mr. BUCHANAN, and

"Resolved,—That this convention deems it expedient to leave the method of supporting schools to the Trustees, with the understanding that before such provision is introduced, the whole of the Trustees now elected be newly elected."

##### COUNTY OF ESSEX.

*Meeting at Sandwich on the 4th of February.*

JOHN SLOAN, Esq., Warden of the United Counties of Essex and Lambton, in the chair; PAUL JOHN SALTER, Esq., Secretary.

Moved by JAMES DOUGALL, Esq., seconded by Mr. LANGTON, and

"Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this Meeting that Trustees in School Sections in Townships, should be vested with powers similar to those possessed by Trustees in Towns."

[At the Conventions held in the Counties of Kent, Middlesex, Elgin, and Oxford, resolutions were passed in favor of a Provincial system of Free Schools, supported by a public tax. See the second class of resolutions hereto annexed.]