

“struction, and from such persons as their parents or pastors may approve or appoint.”

The National Commissioners further explain the right of local Trustees or Patrons on this point: “The Patrons of the several Schools have a right of appointing such religious instruction as they may think proper to be given therein; provided that each School shall be open to all religious communions; that due regard be had to parental right and authority; that accordingly, no child be compelled to receive or be present at any religious instruction to which his or her parents or guardians may object: and that the time for giving it be fixed that no child shall in effect be excluded directly or indirectly from the other advantages which the School affords. Subject to this, religious instruction may be given either during the fixed school-hours or otherwise.”

3. The foregoing quotations (which might be greatly extended) from the Irish Commissioners' Reports, are made, because their system may be considered as the basis of the Canadian system—their Books having been adopted and their methods of instruction being about to be introduced in the Provincial Normal School. That system is Christian, but not sectarian; secures individual right and denominational privileges, and is founded upon *revealed truth*. The *General Lesson* hung up in every School of the Irish National Board, and carefully inculcated upon the Pupils, is recommended for universal adoption in Upper Canada, and is as follows:—

GENERAL LESSON.

“CHRISTIANS should endeavour, as the Apostle Paul commands them, ‘to live peaceably with all men,’ (*Romans c. 12 v. 18*), even with those of a different religious persuasion.

“OUR SAVIOUR CHRIST, commanded His Disciples to ‘Love one another.’ He taught them to love even their enemies, to bless those that cursed them, and pray for those who persecuted them. He himself prayed for His murderers.

“Many men hold erroneous doctrines; but we ought not to hate or persecute them. We ought to seek for the truth and hold fast what we are convinced is the truth: but not to treat harshly those who are in error. JESUS CHRIST did not intend His Religion to be forced on men by violent means. He would not allow His Disciples to fight for Him.

“If any persons treat us unkindly, we must not do the same to them; for CHRIST and His Apostles have taught us not to return evil