

—MEXICO.—The Mexican Congress has decreed the following basis for the improvement of the schools. *First*, to establish ample liberty of teaching; *second*, to facilitate and propagate as much as possible primary and popular instruction; *third*, to popularize and make more generally known the exact and natural sciences; *fourth*, to conserve and improve special schools for secondary instruction; *fifth*, to reform the school of commerce, in order that it may also serve as a special school for administration; *sixth*, to arrange that the necessary expenses shall not exceed the sum assigned for public instruction in the budget of disbursements. Congress has also voted the appropriation of nationalized church property to the amount of \$50,000 to the Lancasterian Society for the improvement of schools. The State of Zacatecas has passed a law which provides for the establishment of schools for the promotion of popular education. The law requires one public school in every village of five hundred inhabitants; with additional schools for girls in the larger villages. Primary education is declared essential, and made compulsory. The latter provision is not likely to be enforced; yet the passage of such a law shows a progressive earnestness very rare in Mexico. A similar state of the country.

VII. Departmental Notices.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR ONTARIO.

Departmental Notices to Municipal and School Corporations in Ontario.

PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS, MAPS, APPARATUS, AND SCHOOL PRIZE BOOKS.

The Chief Superintendent will add *one hundred per cent*, to any sum or sums, *not less than five dollars*, transmitted to the Department by Municipal and School Corporations, on behalf of Grammar and Common Schools; and forward Public Library Books, Prize Books, Maps, Apparatus, Charts and Diagrams, to the value of the amount thus augmented, upon receiving a list of the articles required. In all cases it will be necessary for any person acting on behalf of the Municipal or Trustee Corporation, to enclose or present a written authority to do so, verified by the corporate seal of the Corporation. A selection of Maps, Apparatus, Library and Prize Books, &c., to be sent can always be made by the Department, when so deserved.

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(Signed)

W. W. OGDEN, M.D.

G. A. BARBER, Secretary, B. S. T. Chairman Com. School Buildings.

Toronto, September 15th, 1868.

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