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such township shall be managed by one board of *five* trustees, —one of which trustees shall be chosen in and for each ward, if the township be divided into wards; and if not so divided, then the whole number of such trustees shall be chosen in and for the whole township, and the election of such trustees shall be held at the time and in manner prescribed in the *third, seventh, eighth, and twenty-second* sections of this Act; and such trustees shall be a corporation, under the name of "*The Board of School Trustees of the Township of —, in the County of —,*" and shall be invested with the same powers and be subject to the same obligations as trustees in cities and towns, by the *seventy-ninth* section of this Act.

TOWNSHIP SYSTEM OF SCHOOLS vs. ISOLATED SCHOOL SECTIONS.

As the question of the comparative advantage of the Township System of Schools over the present isolated School Section organization has frequently been brought before the Department of Public Instruction, we purpose giving in this paper the experience of some of the American States in this matter. It will be seen that the testimony of these States is altogether in favour of the abolition of school section boundaries, and the establishment of the townships' system of schools in their place.

The Common School Law of Upper Canada gives every facility for the establishment of the township system; and as the matter is worthy of mature consideration, we direct attention to it thus early in the year so that the alteration, if desired in any particular township, can be made in due time, and take effect near the end of the year, as provided by law.

The provisions of the Upper Canada School Law on this subject are as follows:

All the Sections of a Township may be united, and a Township Board elected.

32. In case a majority of the resident [assessed] freeholders and householders of each section at a public meeting for that purpose separately called by the trustees of each such section, express a desire that local school sections should be abolished, and that all their schools should be conducted under one system and one management, like the schools in cities and towns, the Municipal Council of such township shall comply with the request so expressed, by passing a by-law to give effect thereto;* in which event all the common schools of

TOWNSHIP SYSTEM OF SCHOOLS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

"As a general fact," says Horace Man, in his *Tenth Annual Report* as Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, "the schools of undistricted towns [*i.e.* townships not divided into school sections] are greatly superior to those in districted towns [*i.e.* which are so divided], and for obvious reasons. The first class of towns—the undistricted—provide all the school-houses, and, through the agency of the school committee, employ all the teachers. If one good school-house is provided for any section of the town, all the other sections, having contributed their respective portions of the expense to erect the good house, will demand one equally good for themselves; and the equity of such a demand is so obvious that it cannot be resisted. If, on the other hand, each section were a separate district, and bound for the whole expense of a new house, if it should erect one, it would be tempted to continue an old house long enough after it had ceased to be comfortable; and indeed, as experience has too often and sadly proved, long after it has ceased to be tenantable. So, too, in undistricted towns, we never see the painful contrast of one school in one section kept all the year round by a teacher who receives one hundred dollars a month; while in another section of the same town the school is kept on the minimum principle, both as to time and price, and of course yielding only a minimum amount of benefit, to say nothing of probable and irremediable evils that it may inflict. In regard to supervision, also, if the school committee are responsible for the condition of all the schools, they are constrained to visit all alike, to care

* *i.e.* Being satisfied that due notice has been given to all parties concerned. The alteration does not, however, take effect until the 25th of December next after having been made.