

# JOURNAL OF

Upper



# EDUCATION,

Canada.

VOL. XVIII.

TORONTO: APRIL, 1865.

No. 4.

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The Council, after quoting this clause of the Act, defining the duty of Grammar Schools, remarked: "From these provisions of the law, it is clear that the object and function of Grammar Schools, is not to teach the elementary branches of English, but to teach the higher branches alone, and especially to teach the subjects necessary for matriculation into the University."

3. Such is the object of the law, and such was the object of the regulations and programme as adopted by the Council of Public Instruction in 1855, and approved by the Governor General in Council. But from the inefficiency of the common schools at that time the grammar schools were still suffered to do common school work; and the evil to the grammar schools has increased rather than diminished. In the mean time the common schools have so improved in character and efficiency as to be decidedly in advance of most of the grammar schools in teaching all the subjects of an ordinary English education; and to allow the grammar schools still to do common school work is not only at variance with the object of the grammar school fund, but is an infringement on the province of common schools, a very serious injury to them in many cases, is doing poorly work which the common schools do well, and is destroying the efficiency of grammar schools in their own legitimate work. This remark does not, of course, apply to the few grammar schools which strictly observe the Regulations established by law and confine their teaching to the subjects of the prescribed programme of studies. But in a large proportion of the grammar schools, the legitimate work of the grammar school constitutes the smallest part of their teaching—in some instances it is not done at all; while they are chiefly, and in some instances wholly, occupied in teaching the very same subjects that are prescribed and are better taught in the common schools. The Inspectors in their reports from year to year have pointed out these evils both to the Grammar and Common Schools; and the time has now come when the Common Schools should be protected in the work which they are nobly doing, and the Grammar Schools should be made to do the work, and that alone, which is prescribed for them by law, and for which alone the Grammar School Fund was created. And as every Common School is required to perform a certain amount of prescribed work in order to share in the Common School fund, so no Grammar School should be recognized as such, and as such receive public aid, unless it has at least an average attendance of ten classical pupils, and unless it devotes its whole strength to teaching the subjects of a classical educa-

## OFFICIAL CIRCULAR FROM THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OF GRAMMAR SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT UPPER CANADA.

GENTLEMEN,—In February 1855, I had the honour to address you a circular, transmitting to you the Regulations, which, after careful consideration, had then been adopted by the Council of Public Instruction, and approved by the Governor General in Council, for the better organization and government of Grammar Schools in Upper Canada—including rules as to the qualifications for admission of pupils to each Grammar School, the exercises and discipline to be observed, the course of studies to be pursued, and the text books to be used.

2. Those regulations have remained unchanged for ten years up to the present time; but the primary object of them, as stated in the prefatory explanation to them, has been only very partially accomplished. The 12th Section of the Grammar School Act provides as follows: "In each County Grammar School provision shall be made for giving, by a Teacher or Teachers of competent ability and good morals, instruction in all the higher branches of a practical English and Commercial Education, including the Elements of Natural Philosophy and Mechanics, and also in the Latin and Greek Languages, and Mathematics as far as to prepare students for University College or any College affiliated to the University of Toronto,—according to a programme of studies and general rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Council of Public Instruction for Upper Canada, and approved by the Governor in Council, and no Grammar School shall be entitled to receive any part of the Grammar School Fund, which is not conducted according to such programme, rules and regulations."