

TORONTO, 18th December, 1861.

SIR,—I have the honour to state, in reply to your letter of yesterday, that the blank forms of returns which have been annually sent out from this Department to Boards of School Trustees contain a column for the return of children who attend no school, as well as columns for the returns of those who attend both private and public schools. The 23rd section of the Common School Act requires Trustees of School Sections to prepare and transmit a report, according to a form prepared by the Chief Superintendent of Education, containing, among other things, "the whole number of children residing in such School Section, over the age of five and under the age of sixteen years; the number of young persons taught in the school," &c. The 17th clause of the 79th section of the same Act requires the Board of Trustees in each city and town, "to prepare and transmit annually, before the 15th of January, to the Chief Superintendent of Education, in the form by him provided for that purpose, a report, signed by a majority of them, *containing all the information required in the reports of Common School Trustees, and any additional information which may be required.*"

I herewith transmit to you two blank reports, the one for School Sections, the other for Cities and Towns. In columns 56 and 57 you will perceive that the very information is required that the Toronto Board of School Trustees desire to procure. My annual reports contain returns from many places

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