

3. Each Board is required to fix a day, which must be at least two days prior to the semi-annual meeting, on or before which the returns of all public schools within the District shall be lodged at a place selected by the Inspector. The returns of all departments of the County Academies are included for the information of the Commissioners, since each department, except the High School, or Academy proper, will, under the Act, participate in the public moneys in charge of the Board. The returns of the several departments of these Academies must be forwarded, immediately after the meeting of the Board, to the Council of Public Instruction.

4. Each Board appoints two members of the "Committee of District Examiners" provided by the act, and the Council one, who is to be the chairman of the committee. The selection by the Board is not confined to its own members, but may be made from the District at large. From whichever source derived, no pains should be spared to select men of high literary and professional attainments. They will be required not only to examine and classify applicants for all grades of the Common Schools, but also to examine all applicants for Head-masterships of Academies. The proper discharge of this duty implies large mathematical and classical knowledge, as well as clear views as to what constitutes an efficient Teacher, together with a thorough knowledge of the organization and management of schools, both mixed and graded. (See "*Of Examiners.*")

5. The distribution of the provincial grant to common schools, as well as the sum raised by County (or District) Assessment, is another important duty of the Commissioners.

Concerning the PROVINCIAL GRANT, the act lays down four *criteria* of decision:—The character of the school-house; the time the school has been in session during the term; the class of the Teacher's license, and the report of the Inspector. These, if honestly applied, will disclose the worthiness of the section, the scholarship of the Teacher, and his ability to educate the young,—and these are sufficient. Some would add the number and average attendance of the pupils. But while this seems proper in awarding the Superior School grant, it might be unjust to reward or punish the great body of Teachers for that over which they have so imperfect control. And further, the fact that all schools are free, taken in connexion with the capabilities of the Teacher, the supervision of the Trustees, and the visitations of the Inspector, causes us to believe that this object will be as fully secured as is possible without resorting to compulsory measures.

In order to aid poor sections, the *minimum* length of term required to entitle them to an allowance according to the class of teachers employed is three months; while in other sections, it is five months. It is further enacted, in order to aid very destitute sections, that a licensed teacher may receive an allowance, according to his class, even though he shall have taught in different poor sections during the term, provided he shall have been thus engaged for at least four months during that time.

In all these cases the Inspector should be prepared to furnish the Board with correct information. Each Board, while it seeks to foster schools in poor sections, should have a zealous care to the putting forth on the part of the people, of suitable efforts, and in the manner provided by law.

Concerning the distribution of the SUM RAISED BY COUNTY ASSESSMENT, the law directs—(1.) that the same teachers, and such only, as receive Provincial aid, shall participate in the funds secured by the county assessment;