

TABLE shewing the Value of Articles sent out from the Education Depository during the years 1851 to 1871, inclusive.

YEAR.	Articles on which the 100 per cent. has been apportioned from the Legislative Grant.		Articles sold at catalogue prices without any apportionment from the Legislative Grant.	Total value of Library, Prize and School Books, Maps and Apparatus despatched.
	Public School Library Books.	Maps, Apparatus and Prize Books.		
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1851.			1414	1414
1852.			2981	2981
1853.			4233	4233
1854.	51376		5514	56890
1855.	9947	4655	4389	18991
1856.	7205	9320	5726	22251
1857.	16200	18118	6452	40770
1858.	3982	11810	6972	22764
1859.	5805	11905	6679	24389
1860.	5289	16832	5416	27537
1861.	4084	16251	4894	25229
1862.	3273	16194	4844	24311
1863.	4022	15887	3461	23370
1864.	1931	17260	4454	23645
1865.	2400	20224	3818	26442
1866.	4375	27114	4172	35661
1867.	3404	28270	7419	39093
1868.	4420	25923	4793	35136
1869.	4655	24475	5678	34808
1870.	3396	28810	6175	38381
1871.	3300	29882	8191	41373

I. The Educational Depository.

1. THE EDUCATIONAL DEPOSITORY.

As Adam, Stevenson, & Co., booksellers, in this city, have at various times, through the "Canada Bookseller," sought to misrepresent the purpose and objects of the Education Depository, we direct the attention of the friends of the Depository to the following facts and inferences which have already been discussed in the JOURNAL OF EDUCATION for May, 1870. It is not necessary to do more in this place to summarize the purport of the JOURNAL article at that time. In the May JOURNAL we have demonstrated most of the following facts and inferences:—

1.—*City and Town Boards of Trustees authorized to establish a Depository for their Schools.*

That the law authorizes (and provides facilities for) each Board of School Trustees, in Cities, Towns, &c., to establish and maintain what is equivalent to a Depository, or School *depôt*, for the supply of its schools with approved books, stationery, &c., of all kinds, and authorizes the charge of a fee for its maintenance.

2.—*Educational Depository, a City and Town one, on a large scale.*

That the Depository connected with the Education Department, is nothing more than such a City or Town School *depôt* on a large scale, and under Provincial control, out of which to supply all the Schools of the Province.

3.—*What is right and proper for a City and Town Board to do is not wrong for the Education Department to do.*

That what is right and proper for a City and Town Board of Trustees to do, (under the sanction of the Legislature) cannot be wrong for the Central Depository of the Education Department to do on a large scale, under the same sanction.

4.—*Educational Depository exists solely for the schools.*

That the Educational Depository exists solely for, and in the interest of the schools alone, and that it has never supplied private parties with books, or interfered with private trade in any way.

5.—*Principle of the Depository acted upon by the Dominion and Provincial Governments, &c.*

That the principle of the Depository is recognized and acted upon without question by the Imperial, Dominion and Provincial Governments, in their Stationery Offices, Queen's Printers, Post Offices, Army and Navy supply, etc.

6.—*To abandon the Depository principle would be to create two evils.*

That to abandon the principle of the Educational Depository would be either to confer a monopoly of high prices upon a few individual booksellers, or to throw wide open the door to the introduction of all kinds of literature, the bad and pernicious as well as the good, as we shall demonstrate by incontrovertible testimony and examples. (See next page.)

7.—*Examples and warnings of others not to be disregarded.*

That the examples in our own country, and the warning of our American neighbours (which we quote below) should not be disregarded by us, but should be carefully pondered.

8.—*Not one of our 5,000 Schools has asked for change in Depository system.*

That after an experience of twenty years, not one of the nearly 5,000 school corporations have asked for any change, in the Depository system, but numbers of them have regarded the Depository as a great boon, and have so expressed themselves. (See page 20.)

9.—*None but interested parties wish to destroy the Depository.*

That none but interested parties have ever petitioned the House of Assembly against the Depository; that even they have not done so for years, and that during the last session several petitions were sent in asking the House to authorize the Department to supply poor schools with maps and apparatus, as part of the grant made to them.

10.—*The gift of books and maps identical in principle with the gift of money, &c.*

That if the Government, under the authority of the Legislature, has a right to give money and provide trained teachers for the schools, it has also a right to give books and maps to them, and that is not a shadow of difference in the principle of the one gift and the other.

11.—*Great success of the Depository for 20 years.*

That the Depository has now been in successful operation for twenty years, has sent out (or, at the end of this year will have sent out) nearly 900,000 volumes of approved books, for libraries and other reading, and (including maps and apparatus) articles, during the same time, to the value of nearly \$600,000.

12.—*No article costs a school more than half a reduced price.*

That all the books and maps for the schools are purchased from wholesale booksellers and others, at the lowest wholesale rates, and are sold (on an average) at currency for sterling rates, or about 25 per cent. less than the usual current retail prices, and that no school has to pay more than one-half of this reduced rate.

13.—*Development of Home Trade by the Depository.*

That the Depository has developed new branches of home manufacture and industry in Ontario, and has largely increased the demand for books, of which the booksellers have reaped the benefit.

14.—*Alleged interference with book trade disproved.*

That the alleged interference of the Depository with the book trade is the reverse of truth, as the "Trade Returns" will show. It has, on the contrary, largely developed this trade, by sending books into every corner of the land. The value of books (not maps and apparatus) imported into the Province of Ontario, in 1859, was \$141,700, and, in 1870, \$351,000, while the average import of books by the Department has not been five per cent. of this latter sum.

15.—*Entire text-book trade in the hands of booksellers.*

That the entire text-book trade is in the hands of the booksellers, as the books are all named and known, and no departure from the list can take place; but that with the large and constant influx of new books no such supervision could take place over the supply by booksellers of prizes and library books.

16.—*Legislative aid to Depository develops local effort.*

That, of the \$398,408 granted by the Legislature to the Depository since 1851, \$153,692 have been returned to the Provincial Treasury, as the proceeds and evidence of local effort to supply the schools with books, maps and apparatus.

17.—*Depository has fully paid its own expenses.*

That the depository has fully paid its own way, and has not cost the Province one penny for its management for twenty years.

2. PRACTICE AND OPINIONS OF AMERICAN EDUCATIONISTS IN REGARD TO A DEPOSITORY.

We make the following extracts from the *Journal* for May, 1870. The Commissioner of Public Schools, in the State of Rhode Island, in discussing the whole question of school libraries, thus remarks:—
"The plan of providing such district school libraries, adopted by the Parliament of Canada West, is undoubtedly the wisest that has yet been acted upon. It is in short this:—The Parliament by vote appropriated a specific sum to purchase a suitable number of books, charts and articles of apparatus for schools and school libraries. This sum was expended under the direction of the Superintendent of Public Education, and a large Depository of excellent and select books for the reading of youth and older persons was made at the Office of Education. Whenever any school district or municipality