

required by law, in connexion with any system of public education. In the first place, the duties of Trustees are fewer in Canada than under the law of any one of the neighbouring States. In the next place, no duty is enjoined upon Trustees by our law which is not essential to the office which they occupy. 1. They must have a school-house in proper repair. To build a school-house, they must either petition their Council for an assessment, or circulate a subscription; and to repair and furnish a school-house, they must do the same, or impose a rate-bill. This requires a form; and such a form is provided in the printed Regulations. 2. Trustees must agree with a Teacher; and to aid them in this essential part of their duty, a form of agreement is provided in the printed Regulations referred to. 3. Trustees must provide for the Teacher's salary; this requires a subscription, or a rate-bill and a warrant for its collection; and a printed form is provided to aid Trustees in this part of their duty also. 4. Trustees are authorised to select, from a list provided, text-books for their schools; and such a list of the best and cheapest books has been prepared according to law. 5. Trustees must give their Teacher orders upon the District Superintendent for the School Fund apportioned to aid them; and a form of orders for their convenience is likewise provided. 6. It is necessary that Trustees should report the state of their school and the school population of their section, in order that it may be known whether they are entitled to continued assistance from the School Fund, and to what amount. This requires an annual report; and a form of such report has been provided; and even a blank report for each set of Trustees throughout Upper Canada; and it has furthermore been provided by law, that the School Teacher shall act as Secretary to each corporation of Trustees in preparing their annual report, if they shall require him to do so, either on the ground of their own incompetence or disinclination to prepare it themselves. Now, it is obvious to every thinking and practical person, that not one of these duties of Trustees can be dispensed with, and a school kept in efficient operation and public moneys duly accounted for. It is true, that the plainest and most necessary provisions of any law, are not always easy to be administered while they are new, even when expounded by learned judges, and argued by learned counsel; and this is especially the case with the School law, which must be administered by, as well as for, the people generally. But, as is the case with learning to walk or read, a little practice will make plain and easy what was at first apparently intricate and difficult.

14. Finally, permit me, gentlemen, to conclude this brief address as I began it, by reminding you of the dignity and responsibility of your office; an office excelled in dignity and importance by no other civil trust in the land. It is the office of the Justice of the Peace to repress crime, to commit offenders, to maintain the authority of law; it is your office to prevent crime, to implant the principles of order and industry, to make virtuous and intelligent men; not to command a company or a regiment, but to develop mind and form character; not to buy and sell articles of merchandise, but to provide clothing, and food and wealth for the intellect and the heart. Of all others, Trustees should, indeed, be the "select men" of the land. The people should, therefore, seek fit and proper Trustees with as much care and solicitude, as they would seek proper representatives in the Legislature; and every man invested with the office of School Trustee should spare no pains to qualify himself for its duties, and to fulfil with faithfulness and public spirit the sacred trust committed to