

VOLUNTARY SCHOOLS.

3. Any school conducted in a suitable building, provided at the cost of its supporters, and (a) having an average attendance of at least thirty pupils, maintaining a standard of efficiency in secular subjects; and (b) using the Public School text-books; and (c) employing as teachers only those holding Public School certificates; to be entitled, on the written application of at least twenty heads of families resident in the school district, to have such Voluntary School placed on the list of Public Schools; subject to the same inspection, and to share in such "*educational fund*" according to the average attendance as in the case of other Public Schools.

INSTRUCTION IN SPECIAL SUBJECTS.

5. In Voluntary Schools special classical, scientific, commercial, mechanical, religious or other instruction may be imparted to the pupils; provided, however, that it in no way interferes with the efficiency of the work of imparting the elementary instruction required by the State curriculum.

In regard to taxation, it will be seen that all ratepayers contribute in proportion to their means as at present. All unite in supplying common school accommodation to meet the needs of each district. No one who is satisfied with the restricted education of the common school can complain that they have not a suitable building to accommodate their children, while parents desiring a more liberal education for their children are not deprived of their right to share in the public funds expended on the maintenance of a public school education. Our municipalities would expend exactly the same amount of money, per capita, on the children attending Voluntary Public Schools as on those attending the Common Public Schools. The encouragement to parents to supplement the work of the common school must materially advance the educational work carried on under our Provincial system. The State would still secure the education of a public school—the instruction imparted by its own qualified teachers, using the same text-books, and the work submitted to the same inspection. Parents could at the same time secure the special advantages they desire, and are willing to maintain by their *voluntary* contributions to