

at once wrote out his resignation, his *friend* and *companion* in office concurring in the step, and took it to the Chief Superintendent, showing him at the same time the letter which he had received. No sooner, however, was it known in the school, than a petition was drawn up by the students, and signed by them all, praying the Council not to accept the resignation of a Master whom they so highly respected, and under whose instructions they derived so much benefit. What may be the result remains for time to evolve, but such an interference on the part of any individual member of the Council deserves the severest reprobation. It is well known that no one member of the Council has a right to interfere with any appointment made by the whole body, and if the Chief Superintendent, at great expense and upon the highest recommendations, induces teachers of a superior order to take part with him in working out the admirable system which he has laboured so much to perfect, it is indicative of a total absence of gentlemanly feeling for any member of the Council to meddle in his individual capacity with matters which belong alone to the whole governing body.

I have thus given an outline—brief indeed—of the mode in which our City Schools as well as all the Common Schools in Upper Canada are regulated. Our City Board of Trustees is composed of fourteen gentlemen—two from each ward—chosen by the popular vote of the householders in the City and holding office for two years—one half retiring annually. The annual Legislative Grant is now £32,500. This as already stated is apportioned by the Chief Superintendent, according to the school population, each Municipality raising at least an equal amount to that granted by Government. The apportionment for the City of Toronto in 1857 was £1,100, and the sum raised by the Corporation was £6,157 10s. for all school purposes.

In connexion with the Public Schools, a system of public or School Libraries has been established, upon the principle that if it is the duty of the Legislature to provide for the education of the people by the establishment of public schools, it is equally their duty to provide all possible facilities and means for supplying these schools with the maps, apparatus and libraries which render them most instrumental in educating and instructing the people. Lord Elgin, in one of his addresses delivered shortly before leaving the Province, referred to the "Township and County Libraries as the crown and glory of the Institutions of the Province." In 1850 a grant of £3,000 was made by the Legislature for the establishment of Libraries, and arrangements having been made by the Chief Superintendent with the principal publishers in England and in the