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EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION.\*

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AT some risk of being uninteresting and wearisome to the younger members of my audience, who may not feel the same anxiety concerning our educational system that we older teachers feel, I purpose to continue the discussion of the advisability of a change in the administration of the school law, by the appointment of a Chief Superintendent of Education and a Council of Public Instruction in lieu of a Minister of Education.

It is probably known to most of you, that at the late meeting of the Provincial Teachers' Association, held in Toronto, I read a paper upon this subject, and proposed a scheme of administration embodying a Superintendent and Council, which I thought would meet nearly all the objections which are urged against the present system. In the discussion which followed, both at the Convention and in the public press, there

was a great deal of misapprehension, not only in regard to the scheme which I proposed, but also in regard to the powers possessed by the late Dr. Ryerson while Superintendent, and by the present Minister; and it has been taken for true that what I proposed was simply a return to the Ryersonian *régime*. This is far from the fact. I did say that my proposed scheme was that legislated out of existence in February, 1876, with some essential differences.

But, in the first place, the differences are so great as to make the proposed scheme practicable and efficient, while the old scheme was inefficient, and was fast showing itself to be impracticable; and, in the second place, the system which was superseded in 1876 had been in existence but little more than a year; and, moreover, unfortunately for its success, he who was at the head of it—the Chief Superintendent—used as he had been to almost thirty years of

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