

Common Schools the Schools of the whole community by common access, common obligation, and common interest. This principle of Common School Education which has long been settled by the practice and intelligence of the New-England States, and of the Cities and Towns in other States, is engaging much public attention in Counties and rural Districts. The *N. Y. District School Journal* contains the following statement in respect to the proceedings of the Legislature of Indiana on the subject of Free Schools :—

“The Legislature of Indiana, at its recent session, passed an act submitting the question of free schools to the people at the election in August next. There are in Indiana upwards of 320,000 persons between the ages of 5 and 21, and of the entire adult population of the

State, it is estimated, that at least 38,000 are unable to read and write. The State Education Society has appointed Judge Kinney, of Terre Haute, a special agent, to travel throughout the State, and deliver addresses, and endeavour to awaken an interest in behalf of free common schools.”

---

SCHOOL PROCEEDINGS IN THE TOWN OF LONDON, U. C.—The following account, which we abridge from the *Western Canadian* of the 6th instant, exhibits a very noble spirit on the part of the Corporate Authorities of London—a gratifying contrast to what has occurred, under the same law, in the City of Toronto. The London Corporation seems to be in advance of the “highest municipal body” in Upper Canada :—

“Most gladly do we notice that the Board of Trustees seem to enter so practically upon their various duties in the improvement of the Common Schools in this town; and with no less satisfaction do we recognize the good example, and efficient services of the Town Superintendent, John Wilson, Esq., M. P. P.

“In connection with the recent establishment in this town of the new system, as taught in the Normal School, conducted by a gentleman who had been qualified at Toronto, the necessity of a system of Common School Education on a suitably large scale, has pressed itself on the Board of Trustees. A principal feature in the system which they have determined to adopt, is to have one school-house for the whole town, and to place it under the new methods of teaching with a sufficient number of competent teachers. The decided advantages of this plan being so evident to the Board of Trustees, that they petitioned the Council for a large appropriation. The petition was presented nearly a month ago, but was laid aside until

the Town Superintendent should be present to explain the whole of the projected system more fully. The opportunity for doing so having occurred on Monday last, the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent waited upon the Mayor and Council. Mr. John Wilson entered then into the subject at great length, and in a manner which seemed to give satisfaction. Mr. Wilson pointed out that now there were four school-houses, ill adapted for the purpose, without sufficient room, unventilated, and at a rent of £50 per annum, the rental of which would more than pay the interest for the cost of a suitable school, which would accommodate all the children in the town. With regard to the system, Mr. Wilson advocated a union of all the children in the town for several reasons, and a systematic classification of the pupils, which would allow every youth of capacity to receive all the instruction he was capable of, by being promoted from class to class. He did not mean that all should be taught in the one room, but in several rooms, according to the advance they had