

ted the 37th Section of the School Act of 1843 ; but as it did not take effect until 1846, it has been erroneously identified with the present Act in contradistinction to the late Act. Trustees and parents can employ Aliens or whom they please as Teachers ; but both the late and present School Act confine the expenditure of the School Fund to the remuneration of Teachers possessing legal certificates of qualification. Whatever may be thought of the wisdom or expediency of the clause restricting legal certificates of qualification to natural-born or naturalized British subjects in the first instance, I believe the public sentiment is against its repeal, and in favour of having the youth of the country taught by our fellow subjects, as well as out of our own books.

District Councils have experienced embarrassment and disappointment on finding their powers limited, as under the late Act, by the restrictive phrase "within the limits of their powers of imposing taxes," in the eighth section, and a corresponding phrase in the tenth section, in consequence of which they have been unable to impose the requisite assessments for the erection of School-houses. These phrases having been introduced into the Bill while it was before the Legislature, and referring to an Act with the provisions of which I was unacquainted, I had no conception of their effects until the latter part of last year, when I learned that District Councils could not impose assessments exceeding in all, for any one year, two pence in the pound. I have been informed that nearly fifty applications were made to one District Council, at one session, for assessments to aid in the erection of School Houses, when it was found that the Council had not the power of responding practically to such a gratifying and noble spirit on the part of its constituents. The dissatisfaction occasioned by this manifest defect in the School Act was as strong as the disappointment experienced was bitter. I trust it will be remedied during the present Session of the Legislature.

A similar inconvenience has been felt by Trustees in attempting to effect the requisite repairs of School Houses, in consequence of their powers having been limited by the loss of the clause to which I have referred in the former part of this Report. The School House is for the School Section at large, and all the inhabitants of such Section should be liable for its repairs as well as erection. I doubt not the defect of the Act in this respect will also be remedied during the present Session of the Legislature.