

Certificate of registry of districts, how granted, and effect thereof as evidence, &c

Education, or under the hand of the Secretary of the said Board for the time being, shall be *prima facie* evidence of the establishment of such district respectively in all actions, suits or other proceedings in any court of law or equity, or before any court or tribunal whatsoever, in all matters touching or relating to such school district, or the school therein, or where it may be necessary to prove the establishment of any such district.

Mode of proceeding where schools have been established within three miles of each other.

XV. If any school in a district established by laws heretofore in force, and claiming maintenance under this Act, shall be nearer to any other school established, or to be established, than three miles, and it shall appear to the Board of Education, either from the paucity in the number of the scholars attending the same, or either of them, or other local circumstances, that both the said schools should not receive such maintenance at the same time; or if a dispute should arise between the inhabitants of such districts, as to which is entitled to maintenance, or most entitled to receive the same, and an application shall be made in writing to the Board of Education, signed by at least five inhabitants, householders in such district, or either of them, to have the dispute decided and settled, then, and in either of such cases, it shall be lawful for the Board of Education, if it think the circumstances of the case require the same to be done, to nominate and appoint three persons, being Justices of the Peace or Commissioners for the recovery of small debts, resident near to, but not being parties resident or interested in, either of the districts, to examine into the particulars; and such Justices or Commissioners, after notice of their intention so to do, shall have been duly posted for at least six days previous, on each of the school houses, shall attend at such time and place, in either of the said districts, as shall in such notice be specified, and shall personally then and there proceed to make inquiry, in such manner and to such extent as they, or a majority of them shall deem requisite, and shall thereupon fix and determine which of the said schools in the district in dispute is most entitled to maintenance; and if they think that either of the school-houses should be removed to any particular site, so as to form a new district entitled to maintenance, they shall fix upon the same, and report such their opinion and determination, under their hands, or the hands of the majority of them, to the Board of Education, whose decision thereon shall be conclusive; and the said Board of Education shall be, and they are hereby empowered to withhold or suspend the maintenance claimed by such schools, or either of them, and either entirely, or until such time as the school-house shall have been removed, in accordance with the opinion or recommendation contained in the report of the Justices or Commission-

Disputes, how settled.

Schoolhouse may be removed to form a new school district.

Board of Education may suspend maintenance in certain cases.