

any Grammar School; and so can a United Grammar and Common School corporation. It would not be just, or politic, to abolish Grammar Schools thus situated; but no further measures of support could be devised in respect of them.

It has been supposed by some that the Grammar School, which is to be free to the youth of the county is not to be free to the youth of the city, town, or incorporated village in which it is situated. This is a mistake. The Bill proposes to make the Grammar School a free school to the youth of the county as compensation for the county assessment, and as the only means of obtaining it; but it does not interfere with the powers which a Board of Trustees possesses under the existing law; and they can make their school free or not to the youth of their village, town, or city as they please, the same as any Board of Common School Trustees in any city, town, or village.

The sixteenth section of the Bill, relating to the mode of giving certificates to masters of Grammar Schools (not graduates) is prospective, not retrospective, in its application, and is designed to prevent forgeries, which have heretofore occurred, and to secure a proper record of such certificates, but gives the Chief Superintendent no other power in respect to them than that of signing his name and affixing the seal of the Department.

The other sections of the Bill, relating to details, need no remark. Three sections have been added since the Bill was printed—the one authorizing county councils to appoint a Board of nine to perform the duties of the present numerous, cumbersome, and expensive County Boards of Public Instruction—the second to enable teachers of Grammar and Common Schools to

spend four days of the year in visiting each other's schools, on condition of their teaching an equal number of Saturdays—and the third to make the city of Toronto a county for the purposes of the Act.

This Bill is the last measure—so far as I can judge—that I have to submit to the favourable consideration of the Government and Legislature, for the completion, as far as it relates to legislation, of our public school system. It confers upon me no additional powers, and makes little change in respect to my duties. It may be amended and improved. If passed into a law, substantially as it is, I believe it will greatly elevate the character, and double the efficiency and usefulness of the Grammar Schools, and that at a charge almost imperceptible to the people at large.

As a measure of this kind does not come directly home to the feelings of the mass of the people, like one relating to Common Schools, prejudice may be easily excited against it by misrepresentation and hostility to any public educational system. To the calm and patriotic consideration of the members of the Legislature, and to intelligent, candid men, of all parties, is respectfully submitted this final measure for the due efficiency of that class of our public schools which is the most poorly provided for, and which must terminate the educational training of the greater part even of the professional and public men of Upper Canada.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your's very faithfully,

Education Office, 27th March, 1863.

E. RYERSON.

APPENDIX A.

Extracts from the Proceedings (relating to Grammar Schools) of the County School Conventions held in Upper Canada during the months of January, February and March, 1860, by the Chief Superintendent of Education.

[Note.—Of the three topics brought before the consideration of the County School Conventions, one related to Grammar Schools. In bringing the subject before the Conventions, the Chief Superintendent remarked in substance as follows:—

3RD.—THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL LAW.

There was no doubt that the Grammar School Law, as it now stood, was very defective, and that no longer delay should take place in improving it. It seemed perfectly clear to him, that Grammar Schools could not be made better than they are, and in fact, could not be kept in the condition they now are, unless further provision was made for their support than at present existed. It was the best economy to make Grammar Schools efficient. To make them efficient further means must be provided for their support. Two means had been suggested; one was that Grammar Schools should be established in every city and town municipality, and that such municipalities should raise a proportionate sum, in order to receive the legislative grant. The other suggestion was, that the County Grammar School should retain the original character which they had obtained of being County Schools, before the present system of public schools came into operation. He was of opinion that the whole country should be linked together, as it were, for the support of the Grammar Schools, and that the County Councils should be called upon to raise an equal sum with the Boards of School Trustees, a proportionate number of the trustees being now appointed by these Councils. Heretofore, County Councils have declined to impose a special assessment for Grammar School purposes; but as an inducement for them to do so, it was proposed that the Grammar Schools should be made free to the youth of the whole county, so that any farmer who would wish to give his son a superior education, or any young man who should desire to give himself a superior education, and who has the means of boarding himself in the city, should have the door open for his advancement. Young men might be assisted in their own neighborhoods by loans or subscriptions so as to raise a sufficient sum for their board in the city during the school term; and it was known that some of the most distinguished persons of every country have been those who obtained their education under difficulties of this kind. The whole subject would, doubtless, receive the fullest consideration from the meeting.

SCHEDULE OF COUNTY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS, HELD BY THE CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, 1860.

County or Union of Counties.	Place of Convention.	Chairman.	Secretary.	Date 1860.
Lincoln	St. Catharines	D. P. Haynes, Esq.	C. P. Camp, Esq.	Jan. 14
Welland	Welland	Robt. Hobson, Esq.	Alex. Reid, Esq.	" 17
Haldimand	Cayuga	Judge Stevenson	A. Wuirant, Esq.	" 18
Brant	Brantford	C. Hedges, Esq.	H. A. Hardy, Esq.	" 19
Norfolk	Sincoe	S. McColl, Esq.	Rev. Mr. Mulholland	" 20
Wellington	Guelph	Judge Macdonald	Rev. Mr. May	" 23
Waterloo	Berlin	I. Clemeus, Esq.	Wm. Davidson, Esq.	" 21
Perth	Stratford	The Mayor of Stratford.		" 27
Huron & Bruce	Goderich		D. H. Ritchie, Esq.	" 28
Lambton	Sarnia	Hon. M. Cameron, M.P.	John Cowen, Esq.	" 28
Essex	Sandwich	S. S. Macdonel, Esq.		" 30
Kent	Chatham	Walter McCrea, Esq.	A. S. Holmes, Esq.	" 31
Middlesex	London	John Wilson, Esq., Q. C.	J. B. Boyle, Esq.	Feb. 1
Elgin	St. Thomas	Jas. Armstrong, Esq.	Wm. McKay, Esq.	" 2
Oxford	Woodstock	John Harrington, Esq.	A. McClenaghan, Esq.	" 3
Wellington	Hamilton	Alex. Brown, Esq.	A. McCallum, Esq.	" 6
Henton	Milton	L. Wilson, Esq. (ex-Sheriff)	John Dewar, Esq.	" 7
Peel	Brampton	John G. Watson, Esq.		" 8
Grey	Owen Sound	George Jackson, Esq.		" 10
York	Newmarket	Reeve of Whitechurch.	Robt. Alexander, Esq.	" 13
Simcoe	Barrie	F. D. McConkey, Esq.	R. J. Oliver, Esq.	" 14
Ontario	Whitby	John Ratchiff, Esq.	D. Beach, Esq., M.A.	" 20
Northumberland and Durham	Cobourg	J. B. Fortune, Esq.	Dr. N. W. Powell	" 21
Victoria and Peterboro'	Peterboro'	Wm. Cottingham, Esq.	Thos. White, Jr., Esq.	" 23
Hastings	Belleville	Rev. John Grier, M. A.	Thos. White, Esq.	" 23
Prince Edward	Pictou	W. A. Richardson, Esq.	Thos. Bog, Esq.	" 24
Lennox and Addington	Napanee	A. F. Hooper, Esq.	E. A. Dunham, Esq.	" 25
Frontenac	Kingston	Thos. Kirkpatrick, Esq.		" 27
Leeds	Brockville	Jas. Breckenridge, Esq.	Rev. Mr. Johnson	" 28
Lennox and Carleton	Perth	D. Galbraith, Esq.	W. R. R. Bedford, Esq.	" 29
Prescott and Russell	Ottawa	Joseph Hinton, Esq.	J. J. Bell, Esq.	Mar. 1
Grenville	Il/Original	John Hamilton, Esq.	S. F. A. Evans, Esq.	" 2
Dundas	Kemptville	Reeve of Kemptville	Jas. Porter, Esq.	" 5
Stornont and Glengary	Iroquois	Jacob Brouse, Esq.	Editor, Iroquois Chief	" 6
	Cornwall	D. A. McIntyre, Esq.	Charles Pool, Esq.	" 7

(*) (Warden) † Name not reported. ‡ (Sheriff) § (ex-Warden)