

re-printing these books, proposing to confine its own privilege of re-printing them to the publisher or publishers who would engage to print them in a style similar to the Dublin Editions, at the lowest prices to the public. Several Tenders were sent in for re-printing single numbers of the Series, in the terms of which there was scarcely a shadow of difference; but no Publishing House was willing to invest the capital and assume the responsibility of reprinting the entire Series at the reduced prices of the imported editions. The Board determined, at length, to extend its own privilege of re-printing the National Books to any publisher in Canada who might choose to avail himself of it, reserving merely the right of expressing its opinion, favourable or otherwise, as to the correctness or quality of any re-prints of them.

The Board adopted a similar course with a view to facilitate and encourage the importation of the National School Books—extending its recommendation to the National Commissioners in Dublin, in behalf of any person in Upper Canada, to be furnished with their books at their proposed reduced prices, who would engage to sell them at the rate of not more than two pence currency for every penny sterling of the cost prices. Several Canadian Booksellers have availed themselves of this offer of the Board; and two Publishing Houses in Toronto have got the first three Readers of the series Stereotyped—*fac similies* of the last Dublin Editions.

Being satisfied in my own mind that furnishing each Municipal Council in Upper Canada with a complete set of the National School Books—as specimens—would tend greatly to facilitate and promote their introduction into our Schools, I determined, if possible, to accomplish that object at my own expense. Accordingly, I wrote to the Secretaries of the National Commissioners in Dublin, explaining the object I had in view, and requesting to be informed as to the lowest terms at which they would furnish me with twenty-three sets of their books for such a purpose. The National Commissioners far exceeded my request and my expectations, by presenting me with twenty-five complete sets, not only of the books published by them, but also of those sanctioned by them, and of their Annual Reports—each set consisting of more than fifty publications.

The following is an extract from the reply directed by the National Commissioners to my application:—