

2. EXPLANATORY REMARKS ON THE NEW GRAMMAR SCHOOL ACT.

1. The *1st Section* of this Act is designed to harmonize the Grammar and Common School systems in cities. At present the County Council appoints all the trustees of Grammar Schools in the cities, and otherwise exercises exclusive municipal control over the school—although it is, to all intents and purposes, a city school, and is often aided from city funds. In regard to Common Schools, the city has the entire control of them.

2. The *2nd Section* is designed, also, to give towns and incorporated villages a voice in the management of the Grammar Schools within their respective boundaries; but it is not desirable to give them exclusive control, as the area of a town or village is not sufficient for the support of a school, and as many of the pupils come from outside of the town or village, and it is expedient to encourage such attendance. The town or village, however, should have an equal voice with the county in the appointment of trustees, as the Grammar School is chiefly supported by the smaller municipality, and is within its boundaries.

3. The *3rd Section* is a necessary supplement to the second.

4. The *4th Section* is designed to simplify the system of control over Grammar School property, and to fix the responsibility for its care and management in the trustee corporation. Many of the sites have been given by the Government or by private individuals, and the trustees, frequently, do not feel free to act under such circumstances. This section removes all doubt and uncertainty on this subject.

5. The union of Grammar and Common Schools referred to in the *5th Section*, does not, as a general rule, work well, nor is it desirable to encourage such unions. Experience has proved that the tendency of these unions is to impair the efficiency and lower the standard of both kinds of schools to a uniform level. The old law, passed in 1855, provided for the union of Grammar and Common Schools in rather a loose way, but did not provide for the dissolution of the union, nor for a division of the property, although, in many cases, such a dissolution was desired by the trustees. The old law also provided for the reduction of the number of Common School trustees, after election, from 8 to 6 on the joint Board, while it left the full number of 8 Grammar School trustees appointed by the County Council.

6. The principle embodied in the *6th Section*, is in harmony, though in a modified degree, with that of the Common School law which declares that each municipality receiving a share of the Legislative School Grant shall contribute an amount equal to the aid received. In this Act only one half of the amount granted is required as a condition of receiving aid. The Act does not declare that a municipal rate for this sum shall be levied. The amount may be contributed from the Clergy Reserve Fund, or from any other source, or from the general funds of the municipality. If a rate be imposed, however, it is not required that it shall be levied on the entire county, but it may be levied on the town, village, or township in which the Grammar School is situated.

7. The *7th Section* is intended to remove a gross anomaly in the present system of apportioning the Grammar School fund—a relic of the old law of 1806-8—which gave to the Senior County Grammar School