

exertion (and not property or population) appears to be the most equitable basis of apportioning the Library Grant, and that which is likely to give the most general satisfaction and to exert the most beneficial influence. The principle of aiding each School Municipality (whether it be a Township, City, Town, Village, or School Section) in proportion as it exerts and helps itself, is, upon the whole, unobjectionable, and is best calculated to excite and bring into action that kind of interest and public spirit which are the life of any general system of social advancement. This, therefore, is the principle on which the Library Grant will be distributed.

3. As to the amount to be apportioned to each Municipality—whether a School Section or Township—it has been decided to add, in the first apportionment, *seventy-five per cent.* to all sums raised by local exertion—thus apportioning £9 for every £12, and £75 for every £100 raised in a Municipality, and so on, in the same ratio for larger or smaller sums raised by local effort.

(2) *Extract from Circular, dated January, 1854.*

"As I have been able to obtain many of the books on more favourable terms than formerly, you will find a considerable number of your books *charged less than at the prices marked in the printed catalogue*—one object that I have in view being to provide the books at the *least possible expense* to the municipalities."

In February, 1855, the following official circular and notice relating to School Libraries were issued:—

(OFFICIAL CIRCULAR.)

To Municipal Councils and School Corporations in Upper Canada, who have established Public Libraries.

The undersigned, has great pleasure in stating to all those Municipal Councils and School Corporations in Upper Canada, who have established Public Libraries, [upwards of 200 in number,] that he will add *twenty-five per cent.* on the sums heretofore apportioned to them severally for Public Libraries. The apportionment will thus be increased to one hundred per cent. upon all sums of money raised from local sources for the same purpose.

Each Municipal Council and School Corporation concerned can select Books from the Official Catalogue to the amount of twenty-five per cent. upon the sum or sums already contributed by them, and forward their orders to this department; and the books will be packed up and forwarded as fast as the work can be performed. In case any particular book or books requested may not be on hand, or cannot be procured, corresponding books will, as far as possible, be selected from the catalogue and forwarded; and, when desired, the selections of any part, or of the whole of the books to the amount apportioned, will be made by this department.

In each case, please state the person to whom, and conveyance by which, it is desired that the books shall be sent.

E. RYERSON.

EDUCATION OFFICE,
Toronto, February 1st, 1855.

PUBLIC LIBRARY NOTICE.

To Municipal Councils and School Corporations in Upper Canada.

Until further notice, the undersigned will apportion *one hundred per cent.* upon all sums which shall be raised from local sources by Municipal Councils and School Corporations for the establishment or increase of Public Libraries in Upper Canada under the regulations provided according to law.

EDUCATION OFFICE,
Toronto, February 1st, 1855.

The "terms" on which Public School Libraries were supplied by the Education Department in 1855 are more fully stated in the following account of the "Duties of the Department," published in the JOURNAL OF EDUCATION for March of that year, as follows:—

DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
FOR UPPER CANADA.

As much is said, and much inquiry is abroad in regard to the duties of Public Departments, it may not be improper to give some account of the duties of this department.

The several branches into which the department has been divided, are as follow:—

1. *Council of Public Instruction:—*

2. *Map and School Apparatus Depository.*

3. *Public Library Depository:—*This branch includes the procuring and providing books for the Public Libraries, catalogues, regulations and correspondence relating to them. Nearly 4,000 *different works* are contained in the catalogue, the selection and examination of which, for the sanction of the Council of Public Instruction, and arrangements for procuring which, from more than fifty publishers in Great Britain and the United States, have involved an amount of time and labour during more than two years that can hardly be conceived. Not far from 150,000 volumes have been procured, and upwards of 90,000 volumes have been supplied to municipalities and school sections, during little more than twelve months. To obtain and keep up the necessary supply of books, orders for them must be made up and sent off from month to month, the payments made, and the books, when received, must be examined by the invoices, and deposited in their respective places; then when an application is received from a municipal or school corporation, with a list of the books desired, or request that books to a certain amount be selected for them, the books desired or selected are marked on the margin of the printed general Catalogue, one copy of which is used and retained in the department for each library. On the outside of this catalogue are entered the name of the municipal corporation, the number of the library, the amount of the local appropriation and governmental apportionment, the value of the selection made by the local authorities, together with such other entries as may be required, such as the address of the party to whom the library is to be sent, dates and numbers of letters, relating to the library, &c. After having been examined by the Chief or Deputy Superintendent, and such additions made to the selection of books, as will cover the amount of the library desired, the catalogue is sent to the Library Depository, where the books are selected and checked, and carried to the packing room, where they are again called over, checked and packed in boxes, together with the necessary quantity of labels and wrapping paper for covers for the books sent. From this checked catalogue, the invoice is made out and sent to the corporation for whom the library is intended, together with the shipper's or carrier's receipt for the boxes delivered.

The pecuniary advantage of this system of libraries to the country may be conceived, when it is considered not only how great a variety of useful books are introduced and made accessible to all parts of Upper Canada, which were never before brought into the country, but that *these books have been purchased on most favourable terms, and are supplied at cost, and that the entire expense of management, including difference of exchange, transportation, insurance and all contingencies, has not exceeded thirteen per cent. on the sums paid for the books in England and the United States.*

Two months after this statement of the "terms" on which Public Libraries were supplied to the schools, the following Act was passed, in which the Legislature recognized these terms and directed that they should be applied to the supply of maps and apparatus as follows:

AN ACT TO MAKE FURTHER PROVISIONS FOR THE GRAMMAR
AND COMMON SCHOOLS OF UPPER CANADA 18TH VICTORIA
CHAPTER 132.

[Received Royal Assent, 30th May, 1855.]

Whereas it is expedient to make further provision for the promotion of education and the diffusion of useful knowledge in connection with the Grammar and Common Schools of Upper Canada: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intitled, *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. The additional grants which have been made or may be made during the present session of the Legislature, for Grammar and Common School purposes, in Upper Canada, shall be annually disposed off, in the following manner:

3. A sum not exceeding two thousand and five hundred pounds per annum, may be expended in providing the Grammar and Common Schools in Upper Canada, with maps and apparatus, *upon the same terms, and in the same manner* as books are or may be provided for Public School Libraries;

4. A sum not exceeding three thousand five hundred pounds per annum, may be expended as heretofore provided by law, in further aiding in the establishment and extension of Public Libraries in connection with the Grammar and Common Schools in Upper Canada;