

DEBATABLE CLAUSES IN THE "BOOK DEPOSITORY ACT."

43-4 VICT. CAP. 16.

For the benefit of those who have not access to the volumes of Statutes, we print the following clauses of the Book Depository Act. They were the subject of much discussion in the Convention held in October:—

8. After the coming into force of this act, the Council of Public Instruction, that is to say, the Catholic or the Protestant Committee of such Council, as the case may be, shall, before the first day of May, 1881, revise the list of text books, maps, globes, models or other articles which it has approved up to the present date.

9. Upon such list there shall only be entered one work upon every subject taught, or two in case one is elementary and the other more complete for advanced classes, and no other work or book shall be used in the schools.

10. Such list of approved books shall only be revised once in every four years, and any school book excluded therefrom, shall not be withdrawn as a text-book, until after one year from the revision of such list, and the new books approved shall not be sold until one year from the same date.

11. The superintendent shall retain the grant of any municipality which, after the 1st day of September, 1882, shall allow books not entered on the list so revised, to be used in its schools.

12. Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, all books and all the works, entered on such list, shall become the property of the Council of Public Instruction, in consideration of an indemnity to the proprietors thereof, which shall be fixed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council; and, if there be any contestation as to the amount of such indemnity, such contestation shall be referred to three arbitrators appointed, one by the superintendent, another by the owner of the work, and the third by the two first arbitrators, and the award of each arbitrator shall be final.

13. Every person shall have the right to print, publish and sell the works entered on the said list, by paying, every five years, to the superintendent a sum of ten dollars for each work, which shall be the property of the council of public instruction, under section 12 of this act, and when he has paid such sum, he shall have free access to the work, to copy the same, if necessary, in the Department of Public Instruction, and if the work be printed, the superintendent shall deliver a copy thereof to any person who wishes to print it.

14. The form, paper, type; binding and the mechanical execution of such books shall be determined by the superintendent.

15. The Council of Public Instruction, in case any abuse arises from a combination of booksellers to raise the price of such class-books, may fix a maximum price beyond which such works cannot be sold.

16. This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.

Assented to 24th July, 1880.