

Trustees may, if they prefer, allow every Saturday as a holiday, and the Council strongly recommends this course.

*In Towns*, Boards of Trustees may allow a half-holiday on Wednesdays and Saturdays, if preferred.

The anniversary of the Queen's birthday shall be a holiday in all the public schools of Nova Scotia.

4. There shall be three vacations during the year, viz., eight days at Christmas, a week at Seed time, and a fortnight at Harvest. As the exact time when the vacations at seed time and harvest would be most desirable must vary in different parts of the Province, and in different years, each Board of Trustees is free to select such periods as may best accommodate the section over which they preside.

5. All engagements between Trustees and Teachers shall be subject to the foregoing regulations; and no Teacher shall be deprived of any part of his or her salary, or portion of public moneys, on account of observing allowed holidays and vacations.

## XII. OF TRUSTEES.

1. At the first annual meeting (on the third Monday in October, 1865), three Trustees must be elected in each section. At the annual meetings in 1866 and in 1867, one of the Trustees elected (or appointed) in 1865 goes out of office by *ballot*; and at each annual meeting thereafter the first on the list, i. e., he who has served the longest, retires. These vacancies must be filled by the appointment of new Trustees. Those who have just gone out of office are eligible for re-election, if willing to serve,—their term of office to date from their re-election. In case of vacancies caused by death or other extraordinary circumstances, the Act provides for a special meeting to elect a new Trustee or Trustees. A special meeting may also be called for other necessary purposes. In the event of no annual meeting being held, or no election of Trustees being made, the Act provides for the appointment of Trustees by the Board of Commissioners.

2. These Trustees represent the inhabitants of the section, and transact all school business in their name and on their behalf. The interests of Education cannot thrive in any section unless these officers efficiently discharge their duties. Formerly, Trustees justly complained that their work was in a great measure undefined. As a consequence, it remained unperformed. Hence much of the past weakness and imperfection is remedied by enlarging the powers of these officers, and defining more specifically their important duties. *Sound judgment must be exercised by the various sections in choosing fit men for this work—men of intelligence, of business habits, and of educational zeal.*

3. The time intervening between the annual meeting and the first of November—the beginning of the school year—will enable the Trustees elect to make adequate preparations for the new school term or year; while the business of the closing school year can be completed by those under whose charge the schools have been conducted during the season.