

extended but little beyond the mere number of children taught and untaught in the several Districts in Upper Canada—the number of Schools, and the average amount of Teacher's salaries. But little or no definite information has yet been obtained as to the relative number of male and female Teachers; the relative number of Teachers of different forms of religious faith; the relative number of male and female children in the Schools; the relative number of children attending Schools in summer and in winter; the subjects taught in the Schools; the attainments of the pupils in each of those subjects; the methods of instruction pursued in the Schools; the Books used; the number and character of the School Houses, their furniture and apparatus; the libraries established, and several other items of information which are absolutely necessary in order to present a full and comprehensive view of the state of Elementary Education in the country, or even to form an adequate and safe opinion as to all the precise measures demanded for its improvement and extension.

Though as much has been done, since the establishment of the present system of Elementary Education in 1841, as could have been expected under the circumstances, it is manifest that it is yet in its infancy, and that much must be accomplished before it can compare with that of almost any other country, in which a system of popular education exists. With a view of attempting to remedy, in some measure, the defects to which I have adverted, I have prepared the Forms of District Superintendents, and Trustees' Reports, and School Registers, and Class Rolls, embracing all the subjects above mentioned and several others. The School Registers and Trustees' Reports will furnish every necessary information respecting each School Section. The District Superintendents' Reports will contain the aggregate of the School Section Reports, (the subjects in each being arranged in the same order,) together with such additional information as may be attainable by the District Superintendents themselves.

With a view of relieving, as far as possible, both the Superintendents and Trustees from inconvenience in preparing these Reports for the year 1847, I will cause Blank Reports for District Superintendents and Trustees to be printed, and I will transmit a sufficient number of copies of them for each District. The School Register and Class Roll can be prepared by each Teacher. A Bookseller in Toronto is now printing Forms of the School Registers and Class Rolls—according to the prescribed form—to supply Teachers who may apply for them. Some stationer in the County Town of each District might easily get printed, or procure a sufficient number of them, to supply the Schools of such District.