

Answer to 2nd Query.—I consider it to be deficient in toto ; but more particularly—1st. The manner of electing Teachers to Common Schools appears to be an insult to common sense. Three individuals as trustees or superintendents, are appointed by the people in the neighbourhood of the school house, without any regard to their education ; these three men thus appointed have the sole power to judge of the qualifications of candidates for the school, and to appoint and eject the Teacher, while they themselves may not have received even the first rudiments of a plain English education. Such men are consequently altogether unfit to judge either of the qualifications of a school master or of the progress of the pupils.

2nd. The power of ejecting school masters vested in three trustees, or superintendents, subjects the teacher to the whim and caprice of every child attending the school ; the teacher is thus left at the mercy of the public, who proverbially have no conscience, and his situation is rendered more precarious and more degraded than that of a shoeblick.

3rd. The emoluments of Common School Teachers are in most cases utterly inadequate to their support.

Answer to 3rd Query.—1st. The number of schools should be adequate to the accommodation of the entire youth of the Province from 6 to 15 years of age.

2nd. The position of the schools should be in the most populous neighbourhoods and if possible within six miles of each other.

3rd. The situation of masters might be left at present to the heads of families in the district where the school house is situated ; and should take place upon a day to be made public in that district, at least ten days previous to the election. But no candidate should be eligible to a school receiving Government Salary until he has undergone the examination which the government directs, and produced a certificate of his qualifications. No alien should be admitted upon trial or receive a certificate of qualification.

4th. In order to secure efficient teachers the salary should be made as ample as circumstances will admit ; from £50 to £70 currency of yearly salary should be given, in the present state of the Province, together with the school fees, a house, school house, and a few acres of land.

5th. The school fees or charges to the pupils should be made as reasonable as possible. The Government might determine a minimum and maximum scale of fees, and leave the electors in the district where the school is situated to fix the particular rate for that school. A copy of these rates to be furnished to the teacher on the day of his election as school master. The electors having the power to increase the scale of fees thus given, provided that was not the maximum, but no power whatever to diminish the scale first given, during the incumbency of the teacher which should always be *ad vitam aut culpam*.

Some such scale as the following might be adopted by the Government.

*Minimum.*

English reading, 3s. 6d. ; do. with writing, 4s. ; do. do. with Arithmetic and English Grammar, 5s. ; do. do. do. with Geography, 6s. ; French, 7s. 6d. ; Latin, 7s. 6d. ; Latin and Greek, 10s. ; Practical Mathematics, 15s. ; Book keeping, 15s. per quarter of 12 weeks.

*Maximum.*

English reading, 5s. ; do. and writing, 5s. 6d. ; do. do. with Arithmetic