

appointing him Professor of Meteorology and placing him in charge of its observatory, was not only acknowledging great public services, but securing the highest experience and ability which the country affords in this department for the benefit of its students.

It is only to be regretted that the limited means of the University permit no more to be done; and it is to be hoped that the public, or some of the more wealthy friends of science and education, will take advantage of the undeserved attack made upon our veteran Meteorologist, by contributing the means to place at the disposal of the University, for his benefit, more ample apparatus, and endowment to secure the services of an assistant to aid him in his declining years, and to continue and extend the work he has so well begun. The Department of Applied Science in the University is now training young men well fitted for entering on this work, could the means be obtained to secure their services; and with such aid, and a large telescope, the utility of the observatory might, no doubt, be greatly increased.

### An Act (36 Victoria, Cap. 38.) Respecting School-Taxes in the City of Montreal.

(Assented to December 24th, 1872.)

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows:

1. The first Section of the Act of this Province, thirty-fourth Victoria, Chapter twelve, is hereby amended, by striking out the words "one-tenth of a cent" in the eleventh line of the said Section and substituting therefor the following words "one-fifth of a cent."

2. The Catholic and Protestant School Commissioners of the City of Montreal, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary contained in the thirty-fifth Section of the Act thirty-second Victoria, Chapter sixteen, and in addition to the amount which they are authorized to set aside by Section three of the Act thirty-fourth Victoria, Chapter twelve, may respectively set aside a portion of their revenues not exceeding the further sum of eight thousand dollars per annum for the purpose of acquiring real estate and constructing school houses in the said city; and all debentures which the said Commissioners may hereafter issue to borrow money in virtue of this Act for the purchase of real estate and the construction of school houses in the said city, may be made redeemable in the twenty years next after the date of their issue and not afterwards; and the said thirty-fifth Section of the Act thirty-fourth Victoria, Chapter twelve, are hereby consequently amended.

3. The said Catholic and Protestant School Commissioners, in addition to the semi-annual return they are bound to make to the Minister of Public Instruction, shall make a yearly report of all their receipts and expenses, which said educational, statistical and financial report shall be addressed to the Minister of Public Instruction for such fiscal year (ending on the first of July), on or before the first of November then next, and published in the next forthcoming number of *The Journal of Education* and of the *Journal de l'Instruction Publique*, and also, at the cost of the said respective Boards, in at least one English and one French newspaper published in the said city of Montreal.

### Annual Report of the Normal, Model, High, and Public Schools in Ontario, for the Year 1872, with Appendices, by the Chief Superintendent of Education.

This volume has been on our table for some time, but owing to the length of the reports (to be found in our

last three numbers) of the visits of their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Dufferin, to the different Educational and Benevolent Institutions of Montreal and vicinity, we were unable to afford space for extracts that would give any adequate idea of the importance of the work. To do the report anything like justice it must be seen, read and studied. For the benefit of our Readers, however, who will not have the advantage of perusing it, we shall endeavour to give such a synopsis of it, as we deem of most importance to them.

Before entering into details it may be stated that the "School Fund" is made up of the Legislative Grant and the County Assessment, and does not include the Trustees' assessments or receipts from other sources. The term "School Moneys" includes the "School Fund" and other moneys.

The increase of the School Fund by local effort, in 1870 over that of '69 was \$116,938, yet the increase of that Fund for 1871, by the same local efforts, over that of 1870 amounts to \$179,594. The "School Fund" for 1871, was \$671,456, and for 1870, \$564,536, the County Assessment, for 1870, being \$385,284, and for 1871, \$492,481. The amount apportioned from the Legislative Grant was \$178,975. The sum apportioned for the purchase of Maps, apparatus, prize and library books was \$15,195 increase \$789. The amount from County Municipal Assessment was \$492,481, an increase of \$107,196, being eight times greater than that of 1869 over 1870. The amount available from Trustees' School Assessment was \$1,027,184,—increase \$76,085. The amount from Clergy Reserves Moneys and from other sources applied to School purposes in 1871, was \$410,633—increase \$3,688. The total receipts for all Public School purposes for the year 1871 amounted to \$2,124,471, being an increase of \$180,106 over the total receipts of the preceding year. The expenditure by Trustees for Teachers' salaries in 1871 was \$1,191,476. This does not represent the total salaries of Teachers, but simply the amount which had been paid up to the date of the Trustees' report. The balances due the teachers were included in the unusually large balance reported in the Trustees' hands—being \$38,872, as against \$29,774 of the previous year. For maps, globes, prize books and libraries \$33,083,—the Legislative grant to Trustees for these objects being \$15,195. For sites and building of school-houses, \$261,833—increase \$54,333. Even this very large increase in the Trustees' expenditure for sites building, &c., does not represent the total expenditure under this head for 1871, owing to the unusual balance in the hands of Trustees at the end of the year. The increased expenditure under this head may be fairly set down at \$75,000 more than 1870. This expenditure of upwards of a quarter of a million dollars for sites and school houses in 1871, is a permanent increase in the value of public school property, and indicates much additional material prosperity in the several neighbourhoods which were benefited by this expenditure. For rents and repairs of school houses, \$63,152. For school books, stationery, fuel and other expenses, \$253,748—increase \$67,620. Total expenditure for all Public School purposes \$1,803,294—increase \$91,233. The total increase in expenditure for Public School purposes in 1871, was nearly \$100,000 over that of 1870, not including the large balance, \$38,872, reported in the Trustees' hands at the date of their reports. Balances of School Moneys not paid at the end of the year when the returns were made, \$321,176—increase \$38,872 a large proportion of which is due for sites and school-houses and to Teachers.

The whole number of pupils in the schools is now 446,326—an increase of 3,808 over last year. The school population reported by Trustees (including only children between the ages of five and sixteen) was 439,615—increase 5,649. The number of children between the ages of five and sixteen attending schools was 423,033—increase 2,545. Number of pupils of other ages attending the schools 23,293.

The number of boys attending the schools, 235,066; girls, 211,260. There are 2,291 under five years of age, (this is the first year the ages of pupils have been reported) 197,293 between five and ten; 198,168, between ten and sixteen; 22,491 between sixteen and twenty-one; 26,083 not reported. Reported not attending any school, 38,535.

In the 4,598 schools reported, 5,806 Teachers have been employed, of whom 2,641 are males—decrease, 112; 2,665, females—increase, 253. Of the Teachers reported 911 belong to the Church of England; 623 to the Catholic Church; 1,583 to the Presby-