

various questions propounded to him—and for his assiduous and unwearied efforts to promote the educational interests of the country; and that this Convention has full confidence in his ability and in his patriotism.”

Brockville, 4th of March.—Moved by JOHN CRAWFORD, Esq., Mayor of the Town, seconded by WM. MATTHEW, Esq., and unanimously

“*Resolved*,—That the persons composing this Meeting having listened with much satisfaction to the lucid explanations given by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, the Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada, on the all-important subject of Education, tender to the Rev. Dr. the thanks of this Meeting for the present manifestation of the deep interest which he takes in the education of the youth of Canada—as well as for his untiring efforts in times past to encourage and promote this good cause.”

Bytown, 8th of March.—Moved by Judge ARMSTRONG, seconded by DANIEL O’CONNOR, Esq., and unanimously

“*Resolved*,—That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, for his able and interesting address, and for the untiring zeal in the cause of Popular Education with which he discharges the duties of his important office.”

Matilda, 10th of March.—Moved by WM. ELLIOTT, Esq., seconded by GEORGE BROUSE, Esq., and unanimously

“*Resolved*,—That this Meeting highly approves of the course pursued by the Chief Superintendent of Schools, and the efficient manner in which he has discharged his arduous duties—as also his able and patriotic defence of the cause of a liberal, enlightened, and practical system of education.”

Cornwall, 12th of March.—Moved by Dr. ARCHIBALD, seconded by the Rev. Mr. CLARKE, and unanimously

“*Resolved*,—That the persons attending this Meeting have listened with much pleasure to the very lucid explanations made by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson upon our educational system, as well as upon the subject of education in general, and tender to the Rev. Dr. their thanks for the unwearied efforts he is making for the advancement of the education of the rising generation in this Province.”

[Reported by Mr. Ure.]

PRESENTATION OF PLATE TO THE REV. DR. RYERSON.

On Friday afternoon, the 1st instant, at four o’clock, an interesting scene was presented in the theatre of the Normal School. The gentlemen connected with that Institution and with the Education Office had resolved to present a service of plate to the Chief Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, as a testimonial of their affection and esteem, and the splendid theatre was filled with happy countenances to witness the pleasing ceremony. On the platform were the Members of the Council of Public Instruction; in the area were the teachers and officers of the Institution, with the students of the Normal School and a numerous company of friends; and the gallery was filled by the pupils of the Model School.

The testimonial consisted of a very handsome Tea Service, of eight pieces, on which were the following inscription:

INSCRIPTION ON THE FIRST SALVER.

This Salver and accompanying Tea Service
Presented to

THE REVEREND EGERTON RYERSON, D. D.,
Chief Superintendent of Schools for Upper Canada,

By the
Officers connected with the Department of Public Instruction, as a
TRIBUTE

Of their affectionate esteem, and of their high appreciation of his unceasing efforts to promote popular education in this Province.

Toronto, April, 1853.

The initial letter “R.” is also engraved upon the shield-shaped pattern on each piece of the Tea Service.

INSCRIPTION ON THE SECOND SALVER.

Presented to

THE REVEREND EGERTON RYERSON, D. D.,
Chief Superintendent of Schools for Upper Canada, by

THOS. J. ROBERTSON, H. M.,
A. McCALLUM,
J. SANGSTER,
S. P. ROBINS,
WM. HIND,
D. CLARK,
C. JOHNSON,

*Officers of the Normal and Model
Schools, Upper Canada.*

J. GEORGE HODGINS,
THOMAS HODGINS,
A. J. WILLIAMSON,
*Connected with the Education
Office, Upper Canada.*

The Chief Superintendent having been conducted to the platform with the members of Council, T. J. Robertson, Esq., in the name of his associates, presented the following

ADDRESS.

To the Reverend EGERTON RYERSON, D. D., *Chief Superintendent of Schools for Upper Canada, &c. &c., from the Officers connected with the Department of Public Instruction.*

REVEREND SIR,—The circumstance of your return from your late onerous and successful labours in the public service affords us an opportunity, of which we gladly avail ourselves, of manifesting in strong terms the feelings of respectful esteem and regard which we entertain towards you. As Officers connected with the Department of Public Instruction, to whom all its workings must be familiar, we offer you this expression of our admiration for the ability and energy you have displayed in the management of that department; an ability acknowledged by individuals of all shades of opinions, and of which the present magnificent structure will long remain a monument.

The present state of popular education in Canada, which contrasts so favourably with its condition in other countries, is mainly attributable, under the Divine blessing, to your exertions; the very building in which we are now assembled owes its existence to your unwearied advocacy of the cause of public enlightenment, aided by the valuable co-operation of the Council of Public Instruction, and supported by the sagacious policy which allocated, for that purpose, a generous grant from the public funds. It is universally acknowledged to be one of the most elegant and convenient on this continent; and now that so satisfactory a result has attended your labours in promoting its erection, we cannot forbear congratulating you on their successful issue.

Trusting that the Institution has assumed a still more favourable position in public estimation during this session of the Normal and Model Schools—the first since these buildings were appropriated to their legitimate objects—and viewing this circumstance as an omen of future success under your guidance, equally kind, courteous and judicious, we conceive the present time to be peculiarly favourable to the expression of our sentiments; and while we cannot pass over in silence your public labours in the great cause in which we are all engaged, we respectfully request your acceptance of the accompanying tribute of our personal regard, which we offer with the warmest and most sincere wishes for your health, prosperity, and happiness.

(Signed)

THOMAS J. ROBERTSON,
Head Master;

A. McCALLUM,
JOHN SANGSTER,
S. P. ROBINS,
WM. HIND,
D. CLARK,
C. JOHNSON,

*Officers of the Normal and Model
Schools for Upper Canada.*

Toronto, 1st April, 1853.

J. GEORGE HODGINS,
THOMAS HODGINS,
A. J. WILLIAMSON,
*Connected with the Education
Office for Upper Canada.*

The Rev. Dr. Ryerson replied as follows:—I thankfully accept this handsome expression of your remembrance and affection. It is a touching and unexpected welcome on my return from a two months’ tour, during which I have visited the various County Municipalities of Upper Canada, and conferred with many thousands of persons on the vital question of educating and providing useful knowledge for all the youth of our country. Though during that tour, I have witnessed almost every variety of condition amongst the inhabitants, from the hardships and privations of the new settlers along the shores of Lake Huron to the comforts and advantages of the citizens of our oldest towns and cities—and have experienced equal variety in modes of travelling—at one extremity of the Province making my way through deep mud, and at the other over snow four feet deep; yet I found everywhere a kind appreciation of my humble labours, and a noble and intelligent zeal and co-operation to impart the priceless blessings of education and knowledge to all the children in Upper Canada, and to make Upper Canada worthy of the patriotic pride of all her children. But to the beautiful testimonial which you this day present, there attaches a peculiar interest from the circumstance of its being the spontaneous offering of those whose position and duty it has in so