

Superintendent might, at the close of the existing law, have handed over his work to a body of officers ready to take it up, without any interval of educational anarchy; and that a powerful impetus would by this great legislative step be given to educational improvement in every other direction—in short, that a nucleus of a sound educational organization had been prepared, and that the exertions of the present year could easily gather around it the other elements necessary to perfect its stability and symmetry. These hopes were disappointed. The Bill, after passing in committee, was lost in the House; and though the vote was afterwards rescinded, the friends of the measure felt that it would be unsafe again to bring it forward.

It is now necessary, without any recrimination as to the past, and leaving the responsibility of the delay to rest with those who caused it, to do the best that can be done to repair the injury that educational improvement has experienced, and to make more certain the passage of a similar Bill in the ensuing session. With this object the plan proposed last winter is now re-printed for the information of the people, that they may understand its nature, and make known to their representatives their wishes in relation to it.

Plan for the Establishment of a Provincial Normal School, in connection with an improved system of Superintendence of Schools, and the appointment of District Inspectors.

1. That in order to secure a constant supply of competent male and female teachers, and to enable the teachers already employed to extend and improve their professional knowledge, a Provincial Normal or Training School for Teachers, should be established in some central and convenient part of the Province.

2. That a building, provided with the necessary furniture, books and apparatus, be erected for the accommodation of the school, at an expense not exceeding £900 in all, including the cost of ground.

3. That the Teachers of the Normal School be, a Principal, appointed by the Governor in Council, with a salary of £300 per annum, and two Assistants, with salaries of 100 each per annum, appointed by the Principal, with the approval of the Governors of the School.

4. That the course of instruction be similar to that in the Normal schools of Upper Canada, New York, and Massachusetts, or as nearly approaching to this as the circumstances will permit.

5. That the necessary arrangements be made with the Trustees and inhabitants of the place in which the school shall be located, to enable its district schools, or some of them, to be connected with the Normal School, as *Model Schools*, in which the pupils of the Normal School may practice the art of teaching.

6. That the annual term of instruction shall be nine months; and that no pupil, not previously a licensed teacher, shall be entitled to apply for examination to graduate as a teacher, without having studied for that period.

7. That all pupils shall be examined by the Principal, after having studied for nine months; and if competent, shall receive certificates as qualified Common School

Teachers. The examinations shall be annual, public, and conducted in a uniform manner; and pupils who, at the close of their term of study, are found to be incompetent to act as teachers, may be dismissed, or receive instruction for a second term, at the discretion of the Principal.

8. That each Board of Commissioners shall have the right of sending to the Normal School, at the commencement of any of its terms, one pupil for each £100 of Provincial aid received by the Board; and if necessary to aid such pupils in paying their travelling expenses, to and from the school, to the extent of not more than £2 for each pupil. Provided that such pupils shall not be less than 17 years of age, and of good moral character; and that they shall give to the principal of the Normal School, written pledges that they will teach for at least three years within the province; and that on being examined by him, they shall prove to have received an ordinary common school education.

9. That the Principal of the School may receive an additional number of pupils, not exceeding twenty, on their applying to him, and giving the necessary pledges. All licensed teachers to have free access to the school at all times, and to be entitled to apply for examination after having studied three months.

10. Instruction, and the use of text books, to be free to all persons admitted in the above ways.

11. That any teacher holding a certificate from the Principal of the Normal School, shall be entitled to receive a common school licence from any Board of Commissioners, unless the holder of such certificate become of bad moral character, in which case the Commissioners shall make known the fact to the Principal, who shall erase his name from the list of graduates.

12. The governors of the Normal School shall be, His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, and the members of the Executive Council, with such other persons as His Excellency may appoint; and the Principal of the school shall, with the consent of the governors, frame the By Laws and Regulations necessary for its management and that of the model schools, and shall carefully watch over the conduct of the pupil teachers in attendance.

13. The Principal of the Normal School shall be the *Provincial Superintendent of Education*. In this capacity he shall receive the Reports of Commissioners of Schools, Trustees of Academies and District Inspectors; supply teachers to districts whose Trustees may apply to him; diffuse educational information; spend at least one month in each year in holding meetings and delivering lectures in the principal places in the Commissioners' Districts; report annually to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on the state of Education; and in general exert himself to improve and extend the education of the Province.

14. In each Commissioners' district there shall be an *Inspector of Schools*, who shall visit each school annually, under the direction of the Superintendent, (by whom he shall be furnished with blank forms of questions,) and shall report on its condi-

tion to the Commissioners and Superintendent; such Inspector to be one of the Commissioners or their clerk, recommended by the Board and appointed by the Superintendent. Each Inspector to receive from the treasury five shillings for each school visited and reported on by him. The sums required for this purpose to be drawn from the treasury by the several Boards of Commissioners, at the close of each school year.

The above plan in all its parts should be ready to go into operation on the first of May, 1852.

Estimate of cost of Normal School, with Superintendence and Inspection, on the above plan.

ORIGINAL OUTLAY.	
Building and Ground,	£750 0 0
Apparatus and Books,	150 0 0
Total,	£900 0 0
ANNUAL EXPENDITURE.	
Salary of Principal,	£300 0 0
Do. two Assistants	200 0 0
Repairs, Fuel, Books, &c.,	100 0 0
District Inspection about	240 0 0
Total,	£840 0 0
Deduct cost of present system of Superintendence,	350 0 0
Total additional expenditure,	£490 0 0

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By the above scheme, about one hundred teachers could be annually trained, which would be about a sufficient number to replace those now annually leaving the profession from various causes; and would therefore gradually introduce improved methods and unity of system, without causing any injurious competition with the teachers previously employed. Unlimited means of improvement are also afforded to teachers already licensed. Provision is made for making the benefits of the school sufficiently accessible to the districts most distant from it, and also for effectual superintendence and inspection. It may require some modifications—more especially since so much delay has occurred in carrying it into execution; but in its general outline, it is believed that it will recommend itself to all who have any acquaintance with the nature of such institutions.

TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

These valuable institutions, so conducive to the establishment and maintenance of mutual good feeling, professional spirit, energy and progress on the part of teachers, have now been established in a number of localities. In 1850 the superintendent found but one in operation, that of Stewiacke. Halifax took the lead in establishing new associations; and other societies of a similar character, centering at Durham, Bridgetown, Digby, Yarmouth, Liverpool, Lunenburg and New Glasgow, have been organized, or are believed to be in process of organization.

The officers of all the Associations that are or may be established, are requested to forward to the superintendent copies of their rules, that a selection from them may be given in the Educational Report of the present year. Arrangements will be made for procuring for each Asso-