

in each of the eight Districts into which the Province was at that time divided. From the Districts being thus made the basis of distribution, the term "District School" came soon to be synonymous with "Grammar School," just as subsequently "Township School" became a synonym for "Common School." For the support of the District School Masters the Legislature appropriated £100 Cy. per annum to each School. This sum was in every case supplemented by local contributions, so that, relatively to the cost of living, the average salary of Headmasters fifty years ago would exceed that of our time.

For the superintendence of the Grammar School and of the Common Schools in each District, an Act passed in 1816 (12) constituted District Boards of Education. With the increase in the number of Districts, corresponding additions were made to the District Schools, so that in 1839 they had become thirteen in number. By an Act of Parliament of that year \* the term District School was replaced by the present designation, Grammar School.

#### CLAIMS OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS ON THE PEOPLE OF CANADA.

The old District Schools and their lineal descendants, the Grammar Schools, have well deserved the gratitude of the country. From them have been almost wholly recruited the Canadian Bar and Bench, which for learning and dignity, will compare favourably with those of England herself. The late Sir J. B. Robinson was proud to acknowledge his indebtedness to the District Schools. Of them, on one memorable occasion (13) after gratefully expressing his own obligations to them, he said: "In those Schools alone for more than twenty years the means of obtaining a liberal education were found, Schools which throughout that period and to this moment, [1843,] have conferred on the country advantages beyond our power to estimate." The Chief Superintendent of Education, himself successively a Grammar School boy, and a Grammar School Master, writes thus in 1861, with equal truth and force: "For more than forty years the Grammar Schools were the highest educational institutions of our country; and during that time they produced a class of men that have as yet never had their equals in this country, whether, [not to speak of the pulpit,] at the Bar, in the Legislature, or on the Bench.— Besides many others, Charles and Jonas Jones, John S. Cartwright, Robert Baldwin, Marshal S. Bidwell, Christopher Hagerman, Sir James Macaulay, Sir J. B. Robinson, have had as yet no equal in our day." The President of University College, at the University Dinner of 1864, alluded in his felicitously-eloquent manner to the achievements of the Eastern District School. "That little School," said he, "was like the Trojan Horse spoken of by Cicero, which could give out nothing but chiefs. The Cornwall School had given three Chiefs to the Benches of the Province—the late lamented Chief Justice Robinson, Chief Justice McLean, and Chief Justice Macaulay." Notwithstanding, however, the effective comparison of the learned President, Cornwall Grammar School is, we believe, entitled to add to its list of Chief Justices an able *puime* judge in the person of the late Mr. Justice J. Jones. And among our living representative men, Cornwall Grammar School can claim as her pupils,

12 56 Geo. III, Cap. 36 § 9. \* 2 Vic. Cap. 10 § 1. 13 Opening of King's College for Instruction, June 8, 1843. Proceedings published by M. Rowsell, Toronto, 1843.