

PREFATORY NOTE.

My personal intercourse with Dr John Seath began in 1885 after his appointment as High School Inspector. We became pretty well acquainted during the years that followed. We differed on a good many points, but we always remained friends, and he was a good friend to me. Since his death several gentlemen who knew us both have suggested that I might be considered a suitable person to write an account of his life, and I undertook the task.

Upon beginning the work I soon came to the conclusion that, in order to give a clear view of the man, it was necessary to discuss somewhat fully the system in which he was for so long an important factor. So I may have been led, in the opinion of some, to wander far afield. Whether I have succeeded in my enterprise I leave to my readers to judge. At all events I have spent many interesting hours in living over again the days of the past. I have tried to be fair to the subject of my memoir and to all the others of whom I speak. I hope too that I have succeeded in making a slight sketch of our school system, during fifty-seven years, which may have some value for future students of history.

I must express my thanks to Mr John Seath, son of Dr Seath, for his courtesy in lending me certain letters and other documents which have been of great service to me.

J. SQUAIR.

Toronto, March 15, 1920.