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classical studies, is about to be opened to those who may wish to devote themselves exclusively to the study of practical sciences, the daily necessity whereof is particularly felt in this part of the Province. The founders of that Institution intend offering it to the country as a superior Model School, or a High School, resembling those of France; and if the Legislature come to their aid, they also intend giving a Normal Education to those among their more advanced scholars who may be disposed to dedicate themselves to the instruction of youth.

Spacious, commodious, situated in one of the finest parts of our country, and sufficiently near to this city, the College of Chambly is very well adapted for both the objects so proposed by its founders, and it is to be hoped that the Legislature will eagerly seize the opportunity of contributing largely to their attainment.

6. *Unexpended balance of the Grant for 1844.*—As this balance will be small, the number of Schools having considerably increased, and the provisions of the Law having been better complied with during this year, I think it not worth the trouble of apportioning among the cities, parishes, or townships, as an aid towards the building of School Houses, to which object the balances of 1842 and 1843 were appropriated; but that it would be better to leave it in the hands of the Receiver-General, to form part of the School Fund, and to be added to the total amount which is to be apportioned every year among the parishes and townships, according to their population.

7. *Indemnity Clause.*—A law passed in the last Session of the Provincial Legislature holds harmless and indemnified all persons concerned in advising or making, for the years 1842 and 1843, the apportionment and payment of the monies appropriated to the support of the Schools, under certain Orders of the Governor in Council. That law had become necessary, because, the greater part of the Municipal Councils not having acted, the law of 1841 could not be brought into effect, according to the strict letter of the Act. The Municipalities not having done more in 1844, those who have the management of the public monies must wish to see an Indemnity Clause inserted in the proposed Law, so as to remove any uneasiness on that score.

As there are some teachers who, notwithstanding the Indemnity Clause of the 7th Victoria, chap. 9, dispute the power of the School Commissioners to lay out the Government grant for the general good of Education, under the terms of the Act 4th and 5th Victoria, chap. 18, and pretend that the grant should be exclusively appropriated to the remuneration of Teachers, I think it desirable that the Indemnity Clause should be more clear on this subject, and that such Clause, while it should declare legal what has been done in 1842, 1843, and 1844, should also enact that, for the future, the Government grant should be exclusively appropriated to the remuneration of Teachers. This would be the means of obtaining well-qualified Teachers, especially for the Model Schools.

I wish merely to submit to Your Excellency these slight amendments, which do not alter in any way the principles of the Bill adopted almost unanimously by one branch of the Legislature in the last Session. I should not like to suggest more important amendments which might meet with opposition, and perhaps cause a measure so important to the country to be lost.

I would have suggested, among other things, that only one Academy should be established in each

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county, and that the sum of £100, granted for each Academy, should be reduced to £50, so as to allow a greater number of counties to share this bounty. Several of these Academies are very little resorted to, and are purely elementary, instead of being superior Schools, as the Legislature intended.

It would be desirable that all secondary Institutions receiving aid from the Legislature under special Acts, should be incorporated and placed under the control of the authorities having the superintendence of public instruction, in the same manner as Elementary Schools, and that the Government grant should only be allowed to those Institutions which should unite these two conditions which seem essential to the objects for which they were endowed. It would afford a guarantee as to the mode in which the grant would be applied for the support of those institutions, and a means of giving them all a character of uniformity in their constitution and their method of working, which would be more in conformity with the intention of the Legislature and the expectations of the public. It would also be the means of rendering them more useful for the purposes for which they were established.

With reference to the secondary Institutions in the Cities of Montreal and of Quebec, in particular, besides the two preceding conditions to which they ought to be also subject, it seems that it would be more just to distribute among them and the Elementary Schools which are in operation in the said Cities in conformity to the law, the sum apportioned to each City, as its share of the £30,000 appropriated to the support of Elementary Schools, and the sum which the Legislature may be disposed to devote to the instruction of the youth of both these localities; 1st, according to their respective population; 2dly, according to the length of time in which instruction is given during the year in each Institution; 3dly, according to the number of children taught in each Institution; 4thly, on the condition that in every case the sum to which each Institution might lay a claim according to the preceding restrictions, should be added to an equal sum to be raised in the place, in such manner as the Legislature might think proper to point out.

If, after making the distribution according to this method, there remained an unappropriated balance of this common fund (proceeding from the two sources above mentioned), it might be applied to the establishment of an Academy in each County, and of a Model School, and of a Public Library in each Parish or Township, on condition that the inhabitants should be always obliged to furnish a sum equal to that which might thus be offered them, for the one or the other of those establishments, according to circumstances.

It must be granted, that of these three different establishments, that of Public Libraries is not the least important, in order to enable youth to acquire with facility the knowledge necessary to them. These Libraries should, in every case, be under the immediate control of the Commissioners of each locality, who would themselves make choice of the most suitable works on subjects connected with the ordinary branches of science, with morality and religion, and place them within the reach of young persons, to be used as occasion might require.

According to that method of distribution, some monies might, without committing an injustice towards the Cities, and without overburdening the Government, be laid aside in favor of Institutions in those parts of the Country where the wants of the inhabitants are much greater, by reason of their poverty, and of a thousand other particular circum-