

PREFATORY NOTE.

In compiling the following pages, the editor has endeavoured to meet an obvious want, or rather many obvious wants, in the general economy and management of our public schools.

The subjects upon which he has sought to supply information are the following :

1. School Architecture—including plans for grammar, intermediate, and primary schools.
2. School Sites—the laying out, planting, and care of the school premises.
3. The various methods of warming and ventilating school houses.
4. The interior arrangements of the school-room; furniture, and seating, &c.
5. School Apparatus—with directions for its use and preservation.
6. Physical Training in Schools—with illustrations of gymnastics and calisthenics.
7. The School-room—its internal discipline and management.
8. The Teacher and his duties.
9. The Local Superintendent and his duties.
10. Selections in prose and poetry for public recitation in schools.

School Architecture.—Although a very gratifying improvement has lately taken place in the architecture of the school-houses in Upper Canada, yet much more remains to be effected, in order to render the rural or village school—what it ought ever to be—the most attractive spot in the neighborhood. The local school authorities indeed have sought to avail themselves of such information, in regard to the details of school architecture, as has been accessible to the Department. The people themselves also have evinced an anxiety to profit by the experience of other places in this matter, and applications have been frequently made to the Educational Department for Plans, Specifications, &c., to this end. In complying with these requests, as far as possible, school architectural engravings have been procured and published, from time to time, in the *U. C. Journal of Education*. These plans, with many additional ones (some of which are Canadian) have been collected and classified, and are now published together in the following pages.* Much additional information has also been incorporated in the accompanying letter-press.

School Grounds; Warming, Ventilating, Seating, &c.—The same remarks apply in all respects to the chapters on the laying out of the school-grounds, and on the warming, ventilating, and seating of the school-rooms. The numerous engravings inserted will be of interest and value in the illustration of this important part of the subject.

* For many of the illustrations in this work we are indebted to the courtesy of H. C. Hickok, Esq., Deputy Superintendent of Education, State of Pennsylvania, and to Mr. F. C. Brownell, Hartford, Connecticut.