

Local masters have been appointed at the following places:—

At Bracebridge, for the district of Muskoka; at Parry Sound, for the district of Parry Sound; at Sault Ste. Marie, for Algoma; at Port Arthur, for Thunder Bay; at North Bay, for Nipissing.

All patents in these districts are now transmitted by the Crown Lands Department to the local masters, and certificates under the Act issued by them to the patentees.

In Toronto the parties who have chiefly taken advantage of the Act are the owners of lands in the neighbourhood of the city, who are cutting them up into lots for the purpose of sale, and the value of mere farming land, or other land which has been fully improved by building, brought under the Act is comparatively small. The present value of land under the Act is between five and six million dollars. The transactions with reference to this land have been numerous, the number of registrations being over 2,000.

Possibly the amount required to be contributed to the Assurance Fund, one-quarter per cent. on the value, may stand in the way of the early extension of the Act to improved property, as this charge is a pretty heavy tax where expensive buildings have been erected, and the owners do not contemplate selling. It might be advisable for the Government to consider whether it would not be expedient to permit this to remain as a lien upon the property until the owner desires to deal with it. On the other hand it may be urged that it is absolutely necessary that the assurance fund should attain at an early period a considerable sum so that there may be funds on hand to make good any losses which may occur; undoubtedly losses will occur sooner or later even under the most careful supervision.

PROPOSAL FOR A LAW SCHOOL.

ONE of the most important matters which have come before the profession for many years is that connected with the scheme recently propounded for the establishment and maintenance of a law school. We have before us the proposal of the Joint Committee appointed by the Law Society and the Senate of the University of Toronto, for the advancement of legal education and the establishment and maintenance of a law faculty. It reads as follows:—

1. There shall be a Faculty of Law, under the joint management of the Law Society of Upper Canada and the University of Toronto.

2. In order to entitle a candidate to enter this faculty, he shall pass such a preliminary examination as may be prescribed by the Joint Committee hereinafter mentioned, subject to the approval of the Law Society and the Senate of the University.

3. The course of study shall extend over four years.

4. The University shall, at its own expense, make provision for the delivery of lectures and the holding of examinations, including preliminary examination, during the first and second years, and the Law Society shall make the like provision for the third and fourth years of the course.