

such removal, however, being subject to the approval of the Board of Education. The same are authorized to make rules for the government of the schools, which, however, may be rescinded by the District Board of Education, to whom a quarterly report is directed to be made, stating the books used and the rules and regulations.

Provision also was made regarding the teacher, that he should be a British subject by birth, naturalization or conquest, or should have taken the oaths of allegiance. This act further directs that an annual report should be rendered to the District Board of Education, which Board was to be composed of five fit persons appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. Authority was given to this board to proportion the money for the schools, provided always, that no allowance shall exceed the sum of £25 annually. The treasurer of the district was authorized to pay this allowance on these conditions; receiving a certificate signed by the trustees, of the good conduct of the teacher during six months, and the number of the scholars not being less than twenty.

In the year 1819 the act for the establishment of Public Schools again engaged the attention of the Legislature. It was then deemed expedient to make further provisions for the efficiency of these schools. It was directed that an annual examination should be held, at which the teachers or a majority of them should assist; that annual reports should be rendered by the trustees; that free education should be given in each school to ten children of the poorer inhabitants, elected by ballot; that teachers, hereafter should not receive more than £50 a year, unless the average number of scholars exceed ten. It was further directed that certificates should be given at a public meeting of the trustees, upon due notice given for that purpose.

In the year 1820 the clause of the act regarding common schools, granting £6000 for their establishment, was repealed, and it was enacted that the sum of £2500 be paid annually, dividing the grant equally amongst the ten Districts, and fixing the maximum allowance of the teacher at £12 10s. per annum; permission was also given to the Board of Education to appoint a clerk who might be paid £5 per annum.

The necessity for making some provision for books to be used in the schools, produced an act of the Legislature in 1824. £150 per annum was granted, to be at the disposal of the General Board of Education, to be laid out in the purchase of books, tracts, &c., which were to be distributed by the General Board amongst the several District Boards of Education, to be by them distributed at their discretion. It was also enacted that every teacher of a common school must be examined by the Board of Education in the District in which he shall have

taught, or obtain a certificate from at least one member of such Board, certifying his ability, before receiving any public money.

In the year 1838 an act was passed increasing the grant for common schools, and improving the distribution of it amongst the districts.—£5650 was now granted in addition to the sums before appropriated by law for the years 1838 and 1834. This was directed to be apportioned as follows:—Eastern, Johnstown, Bathurst, Newcastle, and Niagara Districts, £500 each. Midland (including £200 for Prince Edwards) and Home District £750 each—Gore and London District £600 each—Western £350—and Ottawa £100. A clause in this act provided that the teachers of common schools were not entitled to allowance, unless the trustees of said school shall make it appear to the satisfaction of the Board of Education that they have made provision for his support, so as to secure him for his services in a sum at least equal to double the amount which may be allotted by the Board of Education from the public money. It was further enacted that each District should allow to the Clerks of their respective Boards the further sum of £5 annually, in addition to the sum they are already authorized by law to receive.

Since the passing of this act no further improvement has been effected, although there appears to have been a general persuasion (which your committee have reason to believe is at present very generally entertained) of the inadequacy of the system adopted.

Your Committee annex an analysis of some of the reports of the District and Common Schools for the year 1838, from which an estimate may be formed of the present state of Education in the Province; they regret that this branch of statistics is in so imperfect a state that they have not been able to obtain as exact information on the subject, as the importance of it would require.

From these reports, however, it appears that the number of pupils in 18 District Schools is little more than three hundred; that the number of Common Schools may be assumed to be more than 300, and that the number of children receiving instruction in them may be estimated at about 24,000, i. e. taking the population of Upper Canada to be 450,000, the average of Education by public funds is about 1 in 18.

The commissioners then remark that the state of the school funds had been referred to another committee, and that full information respecting King's College would be given in the appendix; and they then present the following plan of education for the Province:

National Education may be divided into four departments,—Professional, Liberal, Commercial and Elementary. Of these, the first two