

MR. JAMES BROWN'S REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION ON THE EDUCATIONAL DEPOSITORY.

I have the honour to report that, in accordance with your instructions of the 22nd of March, now last past, I have undertaken an examination of the Accounts and Business Operations of the Depository Branch of the Education Department, with the view of furnishing you with full information on the various questions connected therewith. For this purpose I have examined all Books, Accounts and Papers necessary for obtaining complete information, and my work has been aided by the willing co-operation of Doctor Hodgins, Mr. Marling and other Officers of the Department. I have thus been enabled to investigate with facility a large amount of work, involving the operations of the Depository from its origin in 1850, through twenty-five years of constantly increasing business, down to the end of the year 1875, and I am now enabled to present in the following Statement the actual results of these operations.

In conformity with your instructions I have confined my investigation of the years from 1850 to 1867, inclusive, to the general statistics of the Depository, as the details of those years have already been presented to a Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly during the Session of 1868-69, as will appear in their Report, dated the 1st day of February, 1869. My statements, numbers one and two, refer to the operations of this period.

My examination for the subsequent period, beginning on the 1st day of January, 1868, and ending on the 31st day of December, 1875, involved a detailed and thorough enquiry year by year, and a comparison of the operations of each year with the Public Accounts of the Province in the Treasury Department. . . .

I can testify to the correctness of the Accounts, and the accurate system upon which they are kept. I was thus enabled to examine the intricate accounts during the period of seventeen years, and ascertain this result with the greatest ease. . . .

Statements with the even numbers of Fourteen to Twenty-eight show the current Cash Accounts of each year between the Education Department proper and the Depository Branch. . . .

In considering these statements, it will be understood that . . . Under the Regulations, every dollar received by the Department is considered as Public Revenue, and deposited daily to the credit of the Treasury Department. . . .

TORONTO, 12th December, 1876.

JAMES BROWN.