

local or township superintendents and that these officers ought to be in connection with the Educational Department, and that they should be required to be possessed of a requisite amount of scholastic attainments.

At Barrie, Feb. 14.—Moved by Rev. W. F. Checkley, A. B., seconded by John Ross, Esq., and

Resolved.—1. That instead of numerous Superintendents, one or more Inspectors should be appointed by the County Council for the Common Schools of each County. That such Inspectors should themselves have exercised with success the office of School Teachers.

2. That no one Inspector should have supervision over fewer than seventy-five, or more than two hundred schools.

3. That a sufficient salary should be provided for each by the County Councils, and that they should be required to make the inspection of schools their exclusive business.

At Cobourg, Feb. 21.—Moved by John R. Clark, Esq., M. P. P., seconded by Thos. M'Naughton, Esq., and

Resolved.—That this meeting approves of the appointing County, instead of Township, Superintendents.

Too frequent change of Teachers.—Increase of Trustees.

At Whitby, Feb. 20.—Moved by Mr. Gibbs, seconded by Mr. Sheriff Reynolds, and

Resolved.—That it is highly expedient where practicable that there be but one School Superintendent appointed for each County.—Carried.

At Whitby, Feb. 20.—Moved by Mr. Youngusband, seconded by Rev. Mr. Currie, and

Resolved.—That that part of the school law in reference to the frequent change of Teachers, works very injuriously to the position and the welfare of Teachers, and it is hence hereby recommended that the number of school Trustees in each section be increased to five, one of which shall retire annually, and that all have a voice in the engagement of the Teacher during any period of their term of office, and that said Trustees should be empowered to engage a Teacher for a more extended term than one year, guarded by suitable conditions.—Carried.

Change of time in School Elections.

Moved by E. Birrell, Esq., seconded by Mr. Bengough, and

Resolved.—That as there is a great evil felt in many sections, and in Towns and Villages especially, in reference to the time of Trustees, election being so nearly coincident with the Municipal Elections, a change of the date of these elections is earnestly recommended.—Lost.

Holiday every Saturday.

Moved by Mr. Baird, seconded by Dr. Checkley, and

Resolved.—That it would be conducive to the physical and mental development of the pupils, as well as to the general efficiency of our common schools, if every Saturday were a holiday instead of every alternate Saturday, as the law now stands.—Carried.

Compulsory Selection of School Sites.

At Cobourg, Feb. 21.—Moved by Caleb R. Mallroy, Esq., seconded by Philip Kelly, Esq., and

Resolved.—That it is desirable that School Trustees should have the same power of selecting School sites as Township Councils have to force roads where desirable.—Carried.

4. DINNER TO REV. DR. RYERSON, IN COBOURG.

Dr. Ryerson was entertained at a dinner given him by the teachers of the United Counties of Northumberland and Durham, at Cobourg, on the occasion of his official visit, 21st of February.

Sheriff Fortune occupied the chair, and among the company were the Ven. Archdeacon Bethune, Hon. Sidney Smith, the Mayor of Cobourg, ex-Sheriff Rutan, &c. &c. The chairman having proposed the health of their guest, Dr. Ryerson, in the course of his speech, made the following remarks:—"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the generous and hearty manner in which you have received this toast. Surely it is a matter of congratulation to me to see the day I now see—that I never expected to see—and the glowing feelings that animate our hearts at the glorious progress of Education in the country. This meeting, composed as it is partly of common school teachers and of others who hold so high positions in the country, speaks loudly in regard to the influence of education in the country. We have cordially responded this evening to the usual loyal toast. I can well recollect the time when that toast would not have been received with cordiality. But our prosperity has given birth to feelings of loyalty. It was apprehended that in proportion to the freedom we enjoyed, might the bonds of connection between us and the

mother country be weakened. But so far from this—although all the self-government was given us that we could wish for—we find that the very exercise of that freedom and self-government has called forth a cordiality and a depth of feeling and attachment that has made the name of Victoria an honored word—a word of magic and power, in the hearts of the people. For proof of this need I point to the grateful offering of a regiment of men raised in a very short time, for the cause of England? The hearty answer made to the threatened invasion of England by the enrolment of 500,000 volunteers, proves that there are yet true hearts and native energy in England. He was deeply impressed with the great importance of the teacher's work, its elevating—he had almost said its divine—nature, because it was that which operated on the immortal mind and divine heart of man. Such work needed long and careful training of the workmen, and there had been an immense improvement in this respect throughout the Province. Fifteen years ago, such an array of able and respectable teachers as those present, could not have been found in the country. The people had learned that the best paid talent was the most economical, because it secures the greatest efficiency."—In reply to a toast from Dr. Beatty (the Mayor), the Hon. Sidney Smith, in acknowledgment, bore ample and cheerful testimony to the ability, zeal, and patriotism displayed by the respected Chief Superintendent of Education, in the arduous duties of his office.—The toast to "The Trustees of the Grammar Schools and Common Schools," was most ably responded to by the Venerable the Archdeacon of York, who bestowed a graceful eulogy on the Chief Superintendent of Education, for the honesty of purpose and unquestionable ability which he had manifested in the discharge of the duties of his office.*—*Colonist and Cobourg Star.*

III. Education in various American States, 1858-9.

1. PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

We thank the Hon. G. S. Boutwell, Secretary to the Board of Education, for this valuable report for 1858-9:

Townships in the Commonwealth, 333, of which all but one, (Belmont, incorporated within the year) made returns. Public schools, 4,444, making an increase of 23 for the year. (For brevity's sake, we will denote Increase, by +, Decrease, by -.) Persons in the State between 5 and 15 years of age, 220,379, - 2,925; scholars of all ages, in all the public schools, in summer, 204,925, + 5,133; in winter, 211,388, - 6,810; average attendance in all the public schools, in summer, 160,108, + 5,466; in winter, 166,520, - 9,006; ratio of the mean average attendance to the whole number of children between five and fifteen, expressed in decimals, .74. Children under five attending public schools, 10,903, - 1,467. Persons over fifteen, attending public schools, 23,607, + 6,713. Teachers in summer, males, 394, + 11; females, 4,612, + 102; total, 5,006, + 113. Teachers in winter, males, 1,929, + 31; females, 3,568, + 86; total, 5,497, + 117. Number of different persons employed as teachers in public schools during the year; males, 1,669, females 5,575, = 7,244. Average time open of the schools, 7 months and 17 days + 4 days. Average wages of male teachers per month, including board, \$48.90, - \$0.97. Average wages of female teachers per month, including board, \$19.02, - \$0.61. Amount raised by taxes for the support of public schools, including only wages, board, fuel, and care of fires, \$1,390,382 34, + \$40,130 31. Income of surplus revenue and of similar funds, appropriated only for public schools, \$7,852.47. Amount of voluntary contributions of board, fuel, and money, to maintain or prolong public schools, \$29,309 41, - 6,014-70. Income of local funds appropriated for academies and schools, \$41,043 62. Amount received by towns and cities as their share of the income of the State School Fund, \$46,761 12. Amount paid by the towns and cities for superintendence, \$44,865 99. Aggregate returned as expended on public schools alone, exclusive of the expense of repairing and erecting school-houses, and of the cost of school books, \$1,519,171 33, + \$44,682 45. Sum raised by taxes, (including income of surplus revenue,) for the education of each child in the State, between five and fifteen years of age—per child, \$6 34, + \$0 30. Per centage of the valuation of 1850, appropriated for public schools, (2 mills and 34 hundredths,) .002-34.

Three hundred and thirty towns, all except Southwick, which has a local fund for the support of its schools, Belmont which was incorporated within the year, and Bernardston—have raised more than \$1 50 per child between five and fifteen.

Towns that have raised the sum of \$3 or more, per child, between five and fifteen, 287, + 9. Number of incorporated academies

* During the recent Tour of the Chief Superintendent throughout Upper Canada, several very complimentary addresses were presented to him by Municipal and other bodies, especially in the Counties of Welland, Norfolk (his native county), Northumberland and Hastings.