

against its operations, but against what certain parties represented would be its operations. However, the circulation of the Act itself, and its actual operations, have corrected most of the false impressions which had been produced by misrepresentations.

It has been found, that so far from the Trustees having no power to employ a Teacher without the permission of the Chief Superintendent, they have more power than had been conferred upon School Trustees by the former Act, and can employ whom they please, and in what manner and for what time they please; that so far from the Board of Education interfering in matters of conscience between parents and children, and compelling parents to forego cheap and buy dear school books, the Board has no authority of the kind, and has employed its best exertions to bring within the reach of all parents cheap as well as good books; that so far from the Chief Superintendent of Schools having authority to introduce what books he pleases into Schools, he has no authority whatever in respect to introducing books; and so far from having power to employ and dismiss School Teachers at his pleasure, he has no power to employ a School Teacher at all, or even to give him a legal certificate of qualification; that he has no power to interfere in the affairs of any School Section, unless appealed to by some party concerned; that his decisions have in no case the authority of a Court of Law; that both his power and his duty relate to seeing the conditions imposed by the Legislature fulfilled in the expenditure of the Legislative School Grant; that his power is much less than is given to a similar officer in the neighbouring State of New York, and is an accumulation of labour, and not an exercise of any arbitrary authority; that every act of the Chief Superintendent of Schools is subject to the authority of a Government responsible to the Legislature of the country. But while the constitution of the Board of Education has been *ostensibly* objected to, I believe the real objection is rather against that with which the Board has been identified, namely, the prohibition of *United States School Books* in our Common Schools. It seems to be supposed that if there were no Board of Education to recommend Books to be used in Schools, there would be no exclusion of American Books from the Schools.

The extent to which these Books have been introduced into our Schools during the last ten years is almost incredible. I believe