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No. III.

SIR,—I have already remarked that the chief requisite of a national system of education is its correspondence with the political institutions and religious feelings of the community. The principle on which our Municipal Councils are responsible to the inhabitants of the municipalities, and the advisers of His Excellency the Governor General to the people, therefore, require that the fiscal power and the patronage connected with it of our Common School System should be, in a similar manner, under popular control. And thus, in conformity with the general principle of responsibility, on which the different parts of the Government are constructed and related to each other, the supervision and management and the whole control of the schools should be divided between the Municipal Councils and the General Government, the only two legitimate centres of all fiscal power and patronage. I have also said that an independent Board of Trustees within a Municipality is an *imperium in imperio*, a positive violation of the principle of municipal government. What else is an independent Chief Superintendent within the jurisdiction of the General Government than an independent sovereignty ; a power in the state capable of controlling the Ministers of the state, and holding in *terrorem* both the Governor General and his advisers. The argument is self-convincing, that the same rule which makes an Independent Board of Trustees, incompatible with the duties and functions of a Municipal Council, is applicable to the power, patronage and irresponsibility of a Chief Superintendent, in influencing and overawing the action of the General Government. We all know what the power is which is possessed by every Board of Trustees, that it can demand whatever amount of money it chooses, without limitation, and can squander or do what it chooses with said money ; the Municipal Council being obliged to assess and collect in obedience to the demand, having no say either as to the amount or its appropriation. Apparently, the power of the Chief Superintendent is different only in this, that the amount is fixed by law and the purposes to which it is applied are specific. But, in reality, his power is no less practically than in principle much greater, inasmuch as, besides the nominal limits of his jurisdiction, the institution of Independent Boards of