

THE UPPER CANADA CONSOLIDATED COMMON SCHOOL ACT.

INTRODUCTORY SUMMARY

OF THE

POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMON SCHOOL TRUSTEES.

NOTE.—From the following summary, Trustees can easily learn the extent of their general powers, duties, and responsibilities. For more definite information, when necessary, they can refer to sections of the Act and the Index at the end.

I. The necessary and discretionary Powers of Common School Trustees.

1. To take possession and have sole custody of all common school property, movable property, moneys, &c.

2. To obtain a legal title to their school premises, as provided by law.

3. To do whatever they may judge expedient in regard to the building, &c., &c., of the school-house, appendages, play-ground, enclosures, lands, and movable property.

4. To have the sole authority to appoint and fix the amount of the salary of all male and female teachers appointed by them.

5. To appoint a secretary-treasurer, a school collector, and a librarian.

6. To establish, if they judge expedient (with the consent of the local superintendent), a male and female school in their section.

7. To raise all moneys, in the manner (*i. e.* by rate-bill, subscription, or school-rate) authorized by the school meeting. If the rate-bill or subscription be insufficient; they can levy a school-rate upon property, without any appeal to a school meeting. No meeting can lawfully decide what *amount* the trustees shall raise, but only the *manner* in which they shall do it. Should a meeting neglect or refuse to decide upon the *manner* of raising the sums required, the trustees can exercise their own discretion as to which of the three modes they will adopt.

8. To apply, if they judge expedient, to the municipality of their township, once a year, before the August meeting (except in case of a site and building), to raise any school-rate authorized by the inhabitants; and to compel the council to collect it, by *mandamus* from the Queen's Bench, should the council refuse to do so.

9. To exempt all indigent persons from section school-rates.

10. To sue non-residents for school rate-bills or subscriptions. School-taxes on absentees must, however, be collected as pointed out on page 25. In case the township council should refuse to pay these taxes (duly returned to the clerk), the trustees can enter an action, in any competent court, against the township council for the amount.

11. To call a special school meeting for any lawful school purpose.

12. To unite their school with the adjacent grammar school.

13. To resign the office of trustee, with the consent in writing of their colleagues and of the local superintendent.

14. To decline re-election for *four* years next after going out of office.

N.B.—No school meeting of their constituents can deprive trustees of any of these powers, or prevent their exercise.