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CIRCULAR TO HIGH SCHOOL BOARDS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE.

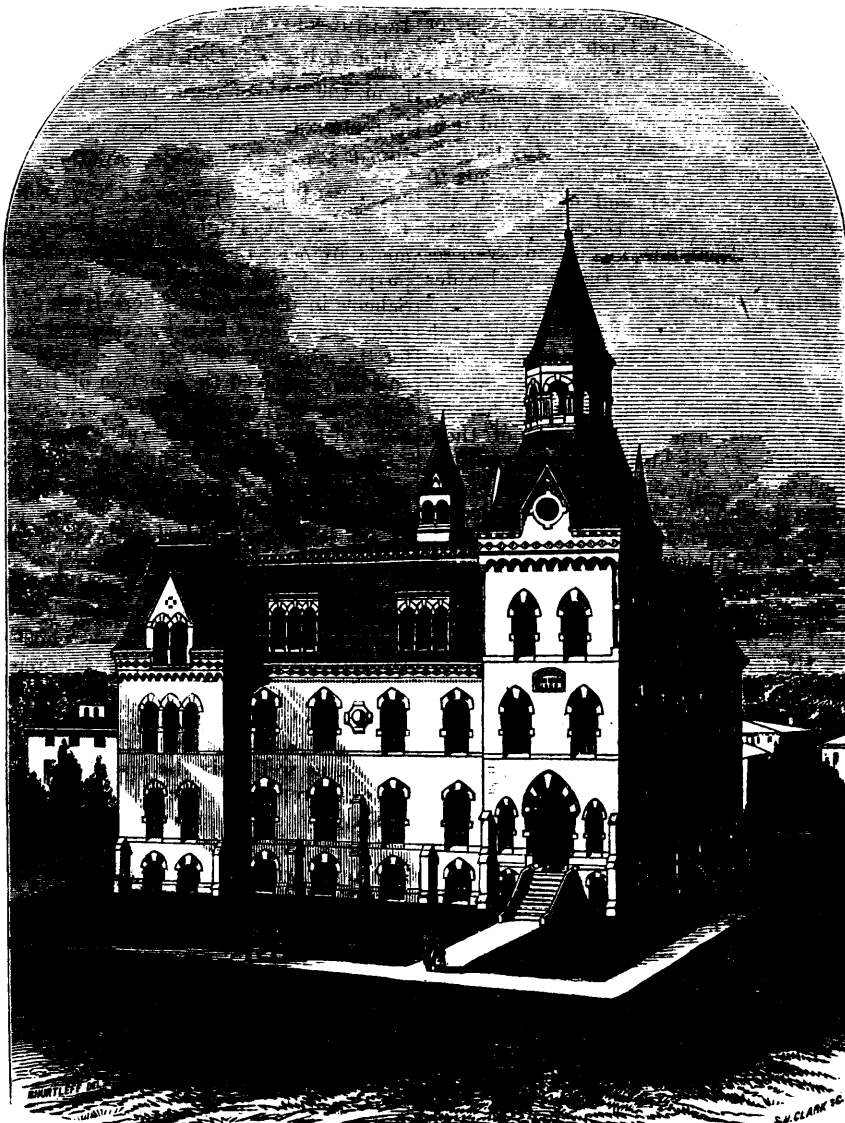
GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to transmit herewith the Programme of Studies, General Rules and Regulations for the government of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, which have been prescribed by the Council of Public Instruction, and approved by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

This is now the third year since the Programme itself and

timate to your Board that, on the reassembling of the High Schools in August, the accompanying Programme, Rules and Regulations will take effect.

Your Board will observe, by reference to the High School Act, that the Legislature has confined the functions of the High Schools, as relates to English education, to the teaching of "all of the higher branches of a good English and commercial education." A misapprehension of this provision of the law has led to innumerable evils in our High Schools. The tendency, and indeed, in many cases, the effort has been, to divert the High Schools from their legitimate purpose, and to make them little better than a mere elementary common school — the unjust and unlawful rivals of

some of the Regulations have been published. For various reasons, I have preferred leaving that Programme, at least during a portion of that time, optional with the Boards of Trustees. This was the more necessary owing to the fact that the Programme itself could not go into effect until the Regulations for the admission of pupils to the High Schools had been definitely decided upon. These and the other General Regulations affecting High Schools having now been approved by the Government, no further time should be lost in carrying them into effect, and giving the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes that definite status which the Legislature designed they should have in our System of Public Instruction. I have, therefore, to in-



HARTFORD PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.