

hereby suspended, and all the powers and duties which the said Council now possess or may exercise by virtue of any statute in that behalf, shall devolve and are hereby devolved upon the Education Department, which shall consist of the Executive Council, or a Committee thereof appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor; and all the functions and duties of the Chief Superintendent of Education are hereby vested in one of the said Executive Council, to be nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor, and to be designated "Minister of Education"; and whenever in any statute, by-law, regulation, deed, proceeding, matter or thing, the term "Council of Public Instruction," or "Chief Superintendent of Education" (as the case may be), or to the like signification, respectively occurs, the same shall be construed and have effect as if the term "Education Department" or "Minister of Education" was substituted therefor respectively.

2. The said office of Minister of Education may be held by a Member of the Executive Council holding no other office; and notwithstanding any salary attached thereto, he shall be capable of being elected, and sitting and voting as a member of the Legislative Assembly; or such office may be held in connection with any other office held by a member of the Executive Council; and any of the powers and duties of the said office may be assigned for a limited period, or otherwise, to any other of the members of the Executive Council holding any other Departmental office, by name or otherwise.

3. In case a member of the Executive Council holds any one of the five Departmental offices established by the sixty-third section of the British North America Act of 1867, and being at the same time a Member of the Legislative Assembly, resigns his office, and within one month after his resignation accepts the said office of Minister of Education, he shall not thereby vacate his seat in the Legislative Assembly, unless the Administration of which such person was a member shall have resigned, and in the interval a new Administration shall have occupied the said offices; or in case such member of the Executive Council is appointed to hold the said office of Minister of Education in addition to or in connection with one of the said five Departmental offices, he shall not thereby vacate his seat in the Legislative Assembly; and in either of the said cases, any increase or change of emolument arising from the said office of Minister of Education shall not cause any vacancy, or render a re-election necessary.

REV. DR. RYERSON'S RETIRING ALLOWANCE.

Dr. Ryerson will retire from his office with a full allowance—\$4,000 a year. It is unusual for the pension to equal in amount the salary for active service, but Dr. Ryerson's long and faithful labours in the work of education fully entitle him to this special mark of consideration.—*Hamilton Times*.

The supplementary estimates were brought down on Monday. Rev. Dr. Ryerson gets \$4,000 retiring allowance or pension—that is, his salary is continued in full. In this the Government has acted generously and righteously. No man in Ontario deserves better of his country than Dr. Ryerson.—*Waterloo Chronicle*.

We observe with exceeding pleasure that the Ontario Government, in their supplementary estimates, recommend the grant, as a retiring yearly allowance, of \$4,000 to the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Schools. This is a grateful tribute to the founder and protector of our magnificent school system.—*Cobourg World*.

The action of the Government in placing the sum of \$4,000 in the supplementary estimates for this year to provide for the annual allowance to be given to the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, who is about to retire from the position of Chief Superintendent of Education, which he has long and honourably held, will be generally endorsed.—*Kingston Chronicle and News*.

Everybody will be pleased to know that Dr. Ryerson will be allowed his full salary for 1876 upon retiring from the office of Chief Superintendent of Education, which he has so long and ably filled.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

The public will be pleased to see by the supplementary estimates that the Government propose to allow Rev. Dr. Ryerson his full salary on retiring from the office of Chief Superintendent of Education.—*Toronto Mail*.

I.—Education in Various Countries.

1. EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES, 1875.

Constitutional Provisions related to Education, Literature and Science, in the several States of the American Union. Prepared by Franklin B. Hough.—*Bureau of Education, Circular No. 7, 1875.*

The National Bureau of Education, its History, Work and Limitations. Prepared under the direction of the Commissioner of Education, by Alex. Shiras, D.D. 1875.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION FOR 1874.

"We are a republic, whereof one man is as good as another before the law. Under such a form of government it is of the greatest importance that all should be possessed of education and intelligence enough to cast a vote with a right understanding of its meaning. A large association of ignorant men cannot for any considerable period oppose a successful resistance to tyranny and oppression from the educated few, but will inevitably sink into acquiescence to the will of intelligence, whether directed by the demagogue or priestcraft. Hence the education of the masses becomes of the first necessity for the preservation of our institutions. They are worth preserving, because they have secured the greatest good to the greatest proportion of the population of any form of government yet devised. All other forms of government approach it just in proportion to the general diffusion of education and independence of thought and action. As the primary department, therefore, to our advancement in all that has marked our progress in the past century, I suggest for your earnest consideration, and most earnestly recommend it, that a constitutional amendment be submitted to the Legislatures of the several States for ratification, making it the duty of each of the several States to establish and for ever maintain free public schools, adequate to the education of all the children in the rudimentary branches within their respective limits, irrespective of sex, colour, birthplace or religion, forbidding the teaching in said schools of religion, atheistic or pagan tenets, and prohibiting the granting of any school funds, or school taxes, or any part thereof, either by legislative, municipal or other authority, for the benefit, or in aid, directly or indirectly, of any religious sect or denomination, or in aid or for the benefit of any other object of any nature or kind whatever."*

Nothing could be more *à propos* to these remarks of the President of the United States than the official papers and report named at the head of this article.

These publications show that from their very foundations, the several States have regarded popular education with the most lively interest, and without exception have sooner or later provided for it, under the guarantees of constitutional rights, and placed it beyond the bounds of change except by a modification of the organic law. Some of the States, in their first constitutions, omitted the consideration of educational interests, but subsequent revisions have supplied the omissions, until, at the present time, every State in the Union seems to regard Education as it deserves to be regarded—as a State concern of the first magnitude, to be provided for and protected with the most jealous care.

A careful study of the subject leads the Commissioner of Education to remark that "the ideas of one have been adopted by another, according as these several instruments have been consulted and followed in the preparation of new plans of government or in the revision of old ones. This process of construction and amendment is going on every year, and the study of fundamental principles in government becomes, in one part of the country or another, a frequent subject of immediate practical importance with those who may be charged with these responsible duties, or who may feel an interest in the success of the labours of those who are so charged. The merits of these several principles come under the direct personal inspection of every citizen who thoughtfully studies the plan submitted for his approval or rejection; and with the increasing intelligence which it is the province of education to impart, we may reasonably hope that every change in the organic law will be an improvement, and that these frames of government will in each change present a principle justified by experience and well founded in justice and wisdom."

Frequent occasions for information as to constitutional provisions in regard to educational subjects led the Commissioner of Education to request Dr. Hough to prepare the Circular comprehending the provisions in the several States.

* President Grant's recent Message to Congress.