

I. The appointment of Head Master of the Normal School for Upper Canada.

I laid before the Board, at its first meeting, some private correspondence relative to the character and qualifications of John Rintoul, A.M., Esquire, who had had for twelve years the charge of the Model Schools, and the instruction of the Teachers in the practice of School Teaching in the Government Normal School, in Dublin, and whom I proposed as Head Master for the contemplated Normal School for Upper Canada.

The Board opened a correspondence with the Commissioners of National Education on the subject.

The Commissioners recommended Mr. Rintoul as peculiarly qualified for the situation offered, and expressed their willingness to forego his important services in Dublin, for the more important object of introducing their system of instruction into Canada. Mr. Rintoul accepted the appointment. The Board, being anxious to open the Normal School as early as the commencement of the current year, requested Mr. Rintoul to proceed to Canada in the autumn of last year; but the severe affliction of his wife, in the opinion of her physicians, forbade him removing his family to Canada in the autumn. The Canadian Board then proposed to pay the expenses of Mr. Rintoul's passage to Canada, and back to Dublin again after the close of the Session of the Provincial Normal School; but the affliction referred to put it out of his power, consistently with the obligations of domestic duty, to leave his family. The same cause has delayed Mr. Rintoul's departure for Canada in April last, as previously arranged. Mr. R. has repeatedly placed his appointment at the disposal of the Canadian Board of Education; but the Board, desirous, if possible, of securing the services of a gentleman of so large experience and acknowledged fitness, have thought it most desirable to allow Mr. Rintoul until July to prepare for his departure for Canada; and, in the event of his not being able to leave at that time, the Board has requested the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland to select another person as Head Master of the Normal School for Upper Canada, so that the Institution may be opened before the middle of autumn.

NOTE.—Since the writing of this paragraph, an official letter has been received from Mr. Rintoul, announcing the resignation of his connection with the National Commissioners, and his intended departure for Canada in July.