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No. 188.

3d Session, 3d Parliament, 13 and 14 Vict., 1850.

BILL.

An Act to amend and repeal in part the
Education Acts of Lower Canada.

Received and Read a first time, Wednesday, 17th
July, 1850.

Second Reading, Friday, 19th July, 1850.

HON. MR. LAFONTAINE.

~~PRINTED AND BOUND BY FOWLER AND GIBSON.~~

BILL.

An Act to amend and repeal in part the Education Acts of Lower Canada.

WHEREAS for better promoting Elementary Education in Lower Canada, it is necessary to amend and to repeal in part the Acts thereunto relating: Be it therefore enacted, &c. Preamble.

- 5 That the Act passed in the ninth year of Her Majesty's Reign, Chapter Twenty-seven, intituled, "*An Act to repeal certain enactments therein mentioned, and to make better provision for Elementary Instruction in Lower Canada,*" and of the Act passed in the twelfth year of the same Reign, and Chapter Fifty, intituled, "*An Act to amend the School Law of Lower Canada,*" shall be and are hereby amended and repealed in so far as they are derogated from by this Act, and more especially in so far as relates to the imposing and levying of any compulsory assessment for the support of Schools, for which voluntary contribution shall be substituted as hereinafter provided. Part of 9 V. c. 27 and 12 V. c. 50 repealed.
- 10
- 15

- II. And be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, the School Commissioners shall be appointed by the Governor, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and may be removed and others appointed in their stead at pleasure; Provided always, that the Commissioners appointed under the authority of the Laws now in force shall continue to act until the Governor shall see fit to appoint others in their stead in the manner aforesaid. School Commissioners to be appointed by the Governor.
Proviso.
- 20
- 25

- III. And be it enacted, That the Governor shall have power, through the Superintendent of Schools, after consulting the School Commissioners, to fix and determine the number of Schools, whether for boys or for girls, which he shall deem necessary in each County, Parish, Township or School Municipality; and in like manner to fix, when he shall think it expedient, the *quantum* of remuneration to be paid to Schoolmasters. Governor to fix number of Schools, &c.
- 30

- IV. And be it enacted, That the portion of the fifty thousand pounds appropriated for educational purposes, which shall belong to Lower Canada, shall be yearly apportioned among the several Counties and School Municipalities, in proportion, as nearly as it can be done, to their population: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Governor, in certain particular cases of which School moneys to be distributed in proportion to population.
Proviso.
- 35
- 40

he shall be the judge, to derogate from this provision, the money taken out of the share coming to any County or School Municipality being nevertheless applied to educational purposes in the locality or elsewhere, or towards defraying expenses incurred for such purposes. 5

Conditions on which any locality shall receive a share of the School Grant.

V. And be it enacted, That each and every County, Parish, Township or School Municipality, in order to be entitled to its share of the allowance out of the general School Fund, shall in the course of each year establish, to the satisfaction of the Superintendent of Schools, under 10 such regulations as the Governor shall think proper to make in that behalf, that an equal sum, or such sum as shall have been fixed by the Governor, has been paid into the hands of the School Commissioners by voluntary contributions, which fact they shall attest on oath, and 15 any Justice of the Peace may administer such oath.

Present laws to remain in force for certain purposes.

VI. And be it enacted, That the present laws shall remain in full force as regards the funds to be raised for the purpose of meeting the engagements or contracts of the present School Commissioners, with regard 20 to the building of School-houses; and the Commissioners appointed or continued in office by virtue of this Act, shall have, for this purpose, all the powers vested by the present laws in the School Commissioners appointed under the authority thereof. 25

As to unexpended balance of School moneys.

VII. And be it enacted, That any unexpended balance of the moneys coming to Lower Canada, out of the general School Fund, may at any time be appropriated for the general purposes of popular education in Lower Canada, in such manner as the Governor in Council shall 30 direct, or towards defraying any expenses incurred for such purpose.

Cities of Quebec and Montreal not affected by this Act.

VIII. And be it enacted, That this Act shall not in any way affect the Cities of Quebec or Montreal, which shall remain under the operation of the present laws as 35 if this Act had not been passed.