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OLD SERIES]

Nec aranearum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.

[COMPRISED 13 VOLUMES

New Series, Vol. XI.

Miramichi, Tuesday Afternoon, December 30, 1851.

No 10.

THE NEW SCHOOL BILL.

A BILL for the better establishment and maintenance of Parish Schools.

21. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Trustees to admit free scholars, being the children of poor and indigent parents, into the schools in their respective districts, provided that no greater number than five free scholars shall be admitted and taught in any one School at one and the same time.

22. And whereas it is desirable to raise money by assessment for the erection of School Houses and the supply of books, maps and apparatus; Be it therefore enacted, That on the application of five or more resident freeholders or householders in any Parish, the School Trustees, by written notice given for at least twenty days previously in five or more public places in such Parish shall call a public meeting of the rateable inhabitants upon property, and if the majority of the rate payers upon property present at such meeting shall agree to raise any sum of money by assessment, either for the purchase of lands whereon to erect a School House or School House or School Houses, or for the building or repairing of any School House or School Houses, or for the purchase of books, maps or other apparatus for the use of the Parish Schools, then shall the Trustees transmit the vote of the said meeting to the Assessors of Rates, and the sum so voted shall be assessed and collected in the same manner as taxes for the support of the poor of the Parish are by law assessed, upon the inhabitants of the School district for which the School House is intended to be erected or repaired, or books, maps or other apparatus provided, and when collected the money shall be paid into the hands of the School Trustees, to be by them laid out and expended in strict accordance with the desire of the majority voting at such meeting, as expressed by resolution at such meeting.

23. And be it enacted, That in every Parish where the assessment principle shall be adopted and put in operation under the Provisions of this Act, each of the Parish Schools therein shall be entitled to and shall annually thereafter receive an additional Provincial allowance of pounds over and above what is allowed to Parish Schools of the same class in Parishes where the assessment principle has not been introduced, and the tuition money of the pupils attending such Schools shall thereafter not exceed the sum of shillings per quarter.

24. And be it enacted, That all the provisions of this Act, whether they regard the engagements, qualifications or duties of Teachers, Trustees, Inspectors or other officers, or any other matter or thing, shall extend and be applied to all Schools established under the assessment principle, so far as the same are applicable thereto, save and except that the inhabitants of such Parishes shall not be subject or liable to anything beyond the amount assessed for the support of the Schools of the Parish, and the tuition money required to be paid by the parents and guardians of the pupils, as hereinbefore provided.

25. Provided always, and be it enacted, That in all the Counties that shall or may be incorporated under the provisions of the Municipal Act, intituled *An Act to provide for the establishment of Municipal Corporations in this Province*, the taxation and assessment for the support of the Parish Schools shall and may be governed and regulated thereby, anything in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding, so as not to interfere with the amount to be assessed.

26. And be it enacted, that every Trustee of a Parish School who shall knowingly sign a false report, and every Teacher of a Parish School who shall keep a false School Register or make a false return, and every Inspector who shall make a false report, shall for each offence forfeit the sum of ten pounds, and may be prosecuted before any Justice of the Peace by any person whatsoever, an convicted on the oath of any one credible witness other than the prosecutor, and if convicted, the said penalty shall, if not forthwith paid, be levied with costs by distress and the sale of the goods and chattels of the offender, under Warrant of such Justice, and paid over by him to the County Treasurer for the benefit of the Parish School Fund.

27. And be it enacted, that it shall be the duty of the Provincial Board of Education to require that sufficient security be given by all officers whatever to whom School money shall be entrusted, to see that no deduction be made by any County Treasurer, Trustee or other officer, from any School fund, by way of commission or other charge on account of the receipt or payment of such moneys; to appoint Auditors, whose duty it shall be to audit the Accounts of the County Treasurers and other officers to whom school money have been entrusted, and to report the same to the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Educa-

tion on or before the first day of January in each year.

28. And be enacted, that the Provincial Board of Education may upon the requisition of the Inspector and Superintendent of any district, grant a supply of books, maps and apparatus, to be distributed gratuitously by him among the poor Schools under his superintendence, in such manner as their wants and necessities may require, provided that the whole value of the books, maps and apparatus so granted shall not exceed the sum of pounds in any one year.

29. And be it enacted, That no part of the salary of the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Education, or the contingencies of office, or the salary or allowance to the Inspectors and Superintendents respectively, or the sums required for the purchase of books, maps or other school apparatus, or other expenses incurred in the execution of this Act, shall be paid out of the Parish School Fund, but the same shall be expended wholly and without diminution in the payment of Teachers' salaries alone as hereinbefore provided.

30. And be it enacted, That any person who shall wilfully disturb, interrupt or disquiet the proceedings of any School meeting authorised to be held by this Act, or any School established under its authority, or shall wilfully injure any School House, by breaking the windows thereof, or in any other manner, shall for each offence forfeit a sum not exceeding forty shillings, and may be prosecuted before any Justice of the Peace by any person whatever, and if convicted, the said penalty, if not forthwith paid, shall be levied with costs by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender, under a Warrant of such Justice, and paid over by him to the County Treasurer for the benefit of the Parish School fund, or the said offender shall be liable to be indicted and punished for the same as for a misdemeanor.

31. And be it enacted, That it shall be lawful for His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, or person administering the Government for the time being, by and with the advice of the Executive Council, to draw annually from the Province Treasury a sum not exceeding over and above the sum annually granted for the salaries of the Teachers; out of which shall be paid the salaries of the Inspectors and Superintendents, the salary of the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Education, the expenses of the Training School and all other expenses incurred in the execution of this Act.

32. And be it enacted, That the Provincial Inspectors and Superintendents to be appointed as aforesaid shall severally be entitled to receive annually the sum of pounds for their services and expenses, to be paid by quarterly instalments out of the moneys to be drawn from the Provincial Treasury, as provided in and by the thirty first section of this Act.

33. And be it enacted, That the Provincial Board of Education shall by their Secretary prepare and lay before the Legislature in a printed form, within ten days after the opening of the same in each and every year, an Abstract of all the School Returns received from the Inspectors and Superintendents, and also a report of the actual condition and efficiency of the Parish Schools throughout the Province.

34. And be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any Teacher of a School in this Province to make application to the Legislature by Petition or otherwise, for any appropriation or sum whatever for teaching, unless recommended by the Board of Education.

35. And be it enacted, That this Act shall continue and be in force until the day of which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and

House of Assembly, 23d April, 1851.

The Honorable Mr Street, from the Committee appointed on the first day of April instant, to take under consideration a Bill before the House relative to Parish Schools, submitted their Report, and having read the same, handed it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as follows:

The undersigned members of the Select Committee to whom was referred the Bill introduced into this House by the Attorney General for the better establishment and maintenance of the Parish Schools, having had the same under consideration, after giving the subject their best attention, Report—

That the Committee are of opinion the subject is one of great difficulty, involving so many points for consideration, that it requires more time and attention than the Committee fear they have been able to devote to it, and under any circumstances the Committee despair of being able to produce a perfect measure for the consideration of the House; and the same time they are unanimously of opinion, that the system now in operation is susceptible of great improvement, and that the

large amount of money annually appropriated for the support of Parish Schools, does not afford that assistance to the great cause of Education which so large an amount should and ought to produce. The Committee, however, with a sincere desire to make progress, after having examined a number of persons upon the subject of Education, and collected all the information they could obtain thereon, have prepared a Bill, embracing the views of the majority of the Committee, and in some respects their unanimous opinion, which is now submitted with this Report.

Your Committee, in conclusion, beg to state, on the subject of assessment, that although they think that the Parish Schools in this Province can never be in an efficient state till this principle be introduced yet your Committee are unanimously of opinion, that direct taxation for this object can only be adopted in this Province by degrees, and upon the voluntary principle, leaving it to the option of the people of the respective Parishes, which is one of the principles embraced in the Bill now submitted.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. A. Street,
R. D. Wilmot,
George L. Hatheway,
Francis Rice,
R. B. Culler,
W. Crane,
Joseph Read.

Committee Room, 22d April, 1851.

Ordered, That the Report be accepted.

The Bill, as revised and amended by the Select Committee, now reported, was then handed in and read a first and second time.

On motion of Mr Wilmot, Whereas the select Committee, to whom was referred the School Bill introduced by the Honorable the Attorney General the present Session, have reported a Bill upon the subject of Parish Schools; and whereas the Bill in question involves organic changes in the present system, and from the intricacy and importance of the subject, requires more consideration than it is feared this House will be able at this advanced period to bestow upon it the present session; therefore

Resolved, That the said Bill be ordered to stand over to the next Session of the Legislature, and that in the mean time five hundred copies of the Bill reported by the Committee be printed for circulation in the Province.

CHARLES P. WETMORE, Clerk.

European News.

From Willmer and Smith's European Times, December 6.

FRANCE.

The news from France is most important, the affairs of that country having engrossed attention to the exclusion of everything else. The long dreaded *coup d'etat* had been made, and the President having seized the reins of Government, dissolved the Assembly—declared a state of siege—arrested the leading opponents of his policy, and appealed to the People. All this was done at an early hour on Tuesday the 2d instant; preparations for it having been perfected, with consummate skill and secrecy, during the preceding night—done and completed before any one had the least inkling that it was in progress or even in contemplation.

An entirely new Ministry was formed during the night of Monday; proclamations dissolving the Assembly—appealing to the people—restoring universal suffrage—and proposing a new system of Government, were printed at a private Press in the Elysee, and posted throughout Paris before day-light.—Copies of these, and of circulars from the Ministry and the Prefect of Police, printed in like manner, were dispatched to all the Provinces, announcing what had been done, appealing to the Nation at large, and conveying stringent orders and instructions to all the officers of the Government throughout the country.

The President's "proposal" is, the instant restoration of Universal Suffrage, the instant election by the people, and by the army, of a President to hold office ten years, supported by a Council of State—and by two Houses of Legislature; and that, during the few days required to complete the Elections—the Executive power shall remain in the hands of the President. The election is fixed to take place during the present month; and the President promises to bow to the will of the people whether they elect himself or any one else; and declares that he holds power only until the Will of the People can be made known.

Mean time, he demands a preliminary vote from both the army and the people, to de-

clare whether they confide to him the Executive Power *ad interim*; the army to record their vote within 48 hours, and the people to be allowed a longer time.

The President declares himself to have been forced into this measure; and it is ascertained that Changarnier, Lamoriciere, Thiers, and others of his opponents, had decided to demand his arrest and impeachment on the second instant; and were together and in the very act of confirming this decision, when they were themselves arrested and conveyed to Vincennes, whence they were next day removed to Ham. The temporary hall used for the Assembly has been taken down by the Government; and wherever members have attempted to meet officially they have been ordered to disperse, and arrested if they refused. More than 200 have been arrested in all—many, however, being released in a few hours—but all the leaders of the opposition are imprisoned.—Many members of the Assembly had given in their adhesion to the President—it is said as many as 300.

During the first day no organised resistance to the movement was attempted, and telegraphic reports from the departments declared the news to have been hailed with enthusiasm by the provincial population.

Subsequently, however, partial attempts at opposition were made in Paris; and rumours reached that city hostile to the alleged unanimity of feeling in the provinces.

Barricades were erected in the more turbulent quarters of Paris, but were all broken up by the troops. At one of them two members of the assembly taking prominent places, were killed in the conflict.

A section of the assembly had contrived to meet at one of the Parisian *Mairies* on Tuesday, and had decreed the deposition of the President and his impeachment for high treason—but the meeting was dispersed by the troops, and the "decrees" ridiculed and disregarded on all hands.

In addition to the arrests, troops were placed in the houses of some of the ex-officers of the Assembly who were exempted from arrest. Among others the house of M. Dupin, President of the Assembly, was occupied by troops, and himself held in a sort of durance—although he was not actually arrested.

"The full rigour of martial law" has been proclaimed against all persons concerned in the barricades and they were accordingly shot without delay.

Up to Thursday night the success of the movement seemed certain; and London advices to Friday night do not vary materially from the same prospect;—but new elements were constantly mixing in the struggle, and so long as any actual contest continued not only must there be more or less uncertainty—but the difficulty of obtaining reliable information was indescribable.

Later from France.—Paris, Friday Morning.—A decree appears ordering the voting on the 20th inst. to be secret instead of public. There were rumours of the fighting being continued to day, but nothing confirmatory has appeared in any London paper. The latest published accounts state that the insurgents were put down after a severe struggle.

It is stated that 700 French refugees left London for Paris on Thursday evening. It is also stated that the French Government has stopped the transmission of despatches by telegraph.

Movements of troops silent and firm. During the day barricades have been thrown up in earnest. At about half past one o'clock an immense crowd of about 50,000 troops, moving along the Boulevards, was fired on from the neighboring passages and houses close by—firing returned and answered by the insurgents. The combat lasted briskly for upwards of half an hour. Cannon shots and musketry at the same time further down the Boulevards, firing brisk up to 4 p. m., had then nearly ceased in the neighborhood of the Boulevards Italiens, but continued in other quarters. Complete particulars cannot be obtained. Nothing is certain but this sanguinary struggle has taken place. Many passers by were injured, and a gentleman and his daughter are reported killed. At six o'clock in the Boulevards des Italiens the firing had almost entirely ceased.

Seven o'clock p. m. There has been a fight in the streets from mid-day until five o'clock, in the Quarter St. Martin and St. Denis. Insurrection quelled in all parts. Cannon required to destroy several barricades.—Troops returned to their barracks. The barricades of the Faubourg St. Dennis and St. Martin, and the boulevards near the Bastille have been destroyed and the troops retired.

The Herald and Chronicle correspondents state that General Casteilan, at Lyons, and Gen. Euymer had declared against the government, but this is denied.

Strasbourg and Rheims are also said to have risen. Some doubts are entertained of the fidelity of General Magnau.