

FREE GRANTS AND HOMESTEAD LANDS.

Chap. 15.—Timber licenses may be and might at any time have been granted, respecting lands reserved under the Free Grant and Homestead Acts, as over any other waste lands of the Crown. And all such grants heretofore made are confirmed. This not to interfere with judgments rendered, or any case pending on the 28th December, 1876.

EDUCATION.

Chap. 16.—The Council of public instruction may decide what are equivalent to examinations for entrance to High Schools or Collegiate Institutes, either in Public School teacher's examinations or in those of learned bodies in the Province and make arrangements with the latter on the subject. They may arrange for the use of a public school as a County Model School for the training of teachers. They provide for examination of pupils in Model Schools. Agricultural chemistry, mechanics and agriculture, are made optional studies in public schools. The Council may impose such further conditions on candidates than those now exacted as may be necessary to secure proper teachers. Persons need no longer be candidates for 1st class certificates in order to obtain the second class, these latter being granted by the department, and third class only by County boards, which may renew them. The examination papers for admission to High Schools, &c., may be sent to any other person appointed besides the Inspector, and it is the duty of the Chief Superintendent to see that the examinations are properly held. The right to appoint a clerk to perform his duties in his absence, is taken away from him. A person deputed to make an inquiry into school matters may take evidence under oath. The Superintendent may authorize the payment, out of moneys voted, of one half the cost of maps and apparatus bought by school corporations elsewhere than from the Dept. His annual reports need not be made on or before the 1st July, but up to 31st December. The L. G. in C. may allot moneys voted for pay. of travelling expenses of candidates for second class certificates. The sums to be paid out of local rates for salaries of teachers of High Schools, &c., must equal the minimum Govt. grant to the municipality or section. Teachers Associations as well as Institutes are to be encouraged. The school year for Public Schools is divided into two terms, from 3rd January to 7th July, and from 18th August to 2nd December. But High Schools and Public Schools joined to them, or the latter in cities, towns or villages where there are High Schools, open on 7th January, and close on the Thursday before Easter, re-open the Tuesday after Easter, and close on 13th July, re-open on 1st September and close on 22nd December. The election of school trustees is to be by open voting. The polls close at any time after 11 o'clock, when a vote has not been polled within an hour. In cities, towns and villages the poll is to open at 10 o'clock. A school site includes land for offices and play-grounds, as well as for the school house. The rights of mortgagees, leasees or tenants, are to be

arbitrated like those of the owner. The Township Council is to pass a by-law to authorize the trustees to borrow money for purchase of site and erection and repairs of house, &c. Loans of surplus money by a municipality may be made to any school corporation within its limits. Boards of Examiners of teachers in cities are done away with. The teacher's report to the Superintendent or Inspector, may be through the Trustees or otherwise. School Inspectors may take advantage of the superannuation fund. The additional pay of an Inspector for remote settlements, may be derived from moneys voted by County Councils as well as the Legislature. In rural school section corporations two trustees must agree to authorize any action; in cities, towns and villages, or township boards, a majority is a quorum; the chairman having the casting vote. A by-law to incur a debt does not require the sanction of a popular vote. But to change a school site a special meeting of rate-payers must be called; if the meeting and trustees disagree arbitration is had. In any township divided into school sections, the question of forming a township board may be submitted at the annual school meeting; and if assent be given by 2/3rds of such sections not united to another municipality, the Township Council passes a by-law (to take effect on the next 1st January), establishing such board and dividing the township into 4 wards for the purpose,—to be the same as those for municipal purposes where formed. Two trustees are elected in each ward at next election and thereafter one retires each year in rotation and one is elected in his place, the elections taking place on the 2nd Wednesday in January. All the powers of the trustees for sections are merged in the board. The union of any portion of the municipality with another or part of another is dissolved by such by-law, but may be renewed. If permanently dissolved all rights and liabilities created under the old union nevertheless remain. A valuation of the property and debts of each section is to be made by the Inspector and 2 non-residents of the township appointed by the Council, and they settle their respective rights and claims. In case of separation as above, each township Council appoints a person to act with the Inspector in a like valuation, and decide how the claims of each is to be settled. The County Judge is added if the arbitrators be an even No. After the Board has existed 5 yrs. the Council may, on the petition of 20 rate-payers in each of the majority of the wards, submit to vote in the several wards the question of returning to the school section system,—the voting to be open. If a majority in a majority of wards decide in favor of it, a by-law is passed accordingly and a new valuation and adjustment is made as above. This Act is to apply after 1st January, 1878, where township boards already exist, the township Councils dividing into wards before 1st October, 1877, if not done already. The power of Councils to alter the boundaries of sections includes the division or union of sections or parts of them. When finally settled, after or without appeal, such alterations, &c., remain in force for 5 yrs. at least. Teachers salaries are payable quarterly, and if the trustees are not in funds they may borrow the necessary amt. at