

REPORT.

Your Committee, appointed with especial reference to the examination of the subject of the foundation of a Normal or Training School, for the instruction and preparation of teachers for the various Primary Schools and Academies throughout the State, and the appointment of a General Superintendent of Public Schools, in connection with St. John's College, beg leave to report that they have given the most careful consideration to the subject, and have availed themselves of every source of information within their reach, and most respectfully to offer, for your consideration, the following result of their labors.

In order that the whole matter may be laid before you in as connected and clear a manner as possible, we propose to reduce what we have to say on the subject, to the following distinct heads.

The first point in natural order, is the necessity for such a Training School for Teachers in our Public Schools. It is very certain that without competent teachers, the best meant and most wisely devised plans for general education, will serve no useful end. The most liberal endowments, the most admirably constructed and judiciously located buildings, the most carefully selected books, will all utterly fail of their purpose, without the well trained teacher to give life and power to the whole. If the whole of education consisted in sharpening the intellectual powers, the preparing men for a contest for wealth, the training them for a successful competition for the honors of the world, it would be a matter of the highest moment, that the trainer be well fitted for his task, be able fully to understand, and faithfully to execute his mission. But since the cultivation of the affections, the nurture of truthfulness, patience, self restraint, purity and human sympathy, are essential elements of all true education, we cannot find language strong enough to express the importance of the