

SENATE.....No. 69.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN SENATE, January 19th, 1848.

ORDERED, That the Committee on Education inquire into, and report upon, the expediency of revising and embodying, in one act, the statute laws of the Commonwealth in relation to Common Schools, and the duties of towns and school districts in respect to them; and of providing for the publication of said laws, when so revised, in a separate book, or pamphlet, for the purpose of supplying each of the school districts in the Commonwealth with a copy thereof.

Sent down for concurrence.

CHAS. CALHOUN, *Clerk.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 19, 1848.

Concurred.

CHAS. W. STOREY, *Clerk.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 22d, 1848.

The Committee on Education, to whom was referred an order of the two Houses, to "inquire into the expediency of revising, and embodying in one act, the statute laws of the Commonwealth in relation to Common Schools, and the duties of towns and districts in respect to them; and of providing for the publication of said laws, when so revised, in a separate book or pamphlet, for the purpose of supplying each of the school districts with a copy thereof," have considered the same and

REPORT:

That, from a careful examination of the subject, they are satisfied, that more time and attention will be required, to complete a revision of our school laws, than can be devoted during a session of the legislature. However desirable such a revision may be, for the assistance of those called to perform duties under the existing laws, your committee cannot perceive its immediate urgency. The most important provisions of our school laws are found in the Revised Statutes of 1836; the acts in addition are neither so numerous, or difficult to collate, as to require, in the opinion of your committee, an immediate codification. Essential aid to a knowledge of the laws relating to common schools, is afforded in the Tenth Report of the Secretary of the Board of Education, which is within the reach of all interested in such knowledge.

Some of the provisions of the law of 1836, and all of those

of a more recent date, are passing the test of experience. Our common-school system, however advanced its condition may be, is, in many important respects, in a *transition* state. These considerations seem to your committee to point to a future period as more propitious to the object proposed in the order, and they therefore recommend its reference to the next session of the legislature.

For the committee,

EBENEZER BRADBURY.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 6, 1848.

Accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

CHAS. W. STOREY, *Clerk.*

