

**JOHN D. PIERCE, FOUNDER OF
THE MICHIGAN SCHOOL
SYSTEM; A STUDY OF
EDUCATION IN THE NORTHWEST**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649115228

John D. Pierce, founder of the Michigan school system; a study of education in the Northwest by Charles O. Hoyt & R. Clyde Ford

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

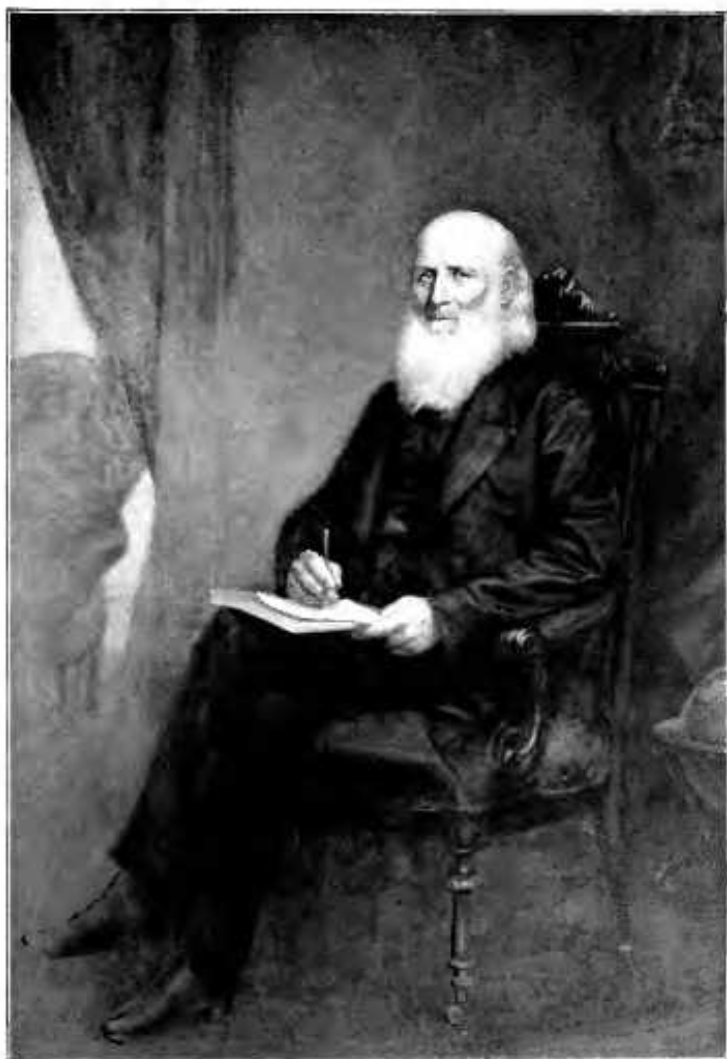
Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

CHARLES O. HOYT & R. CLYDE FORD

**JOHN D. PIERCE, FOUNDER OF
THE MICHIGAN SCHOOL
SYSTEM; A STUDY OF
EDUCATION IN THE NORTHWEST**



JOHN D. PIERCE

[FROM A PAINTING IN THE LIBRARY OF OLIVET COLLEGE,
BY COURTESY OF THE COLLEGE]

JOHN D. PIERCE

JOHN D. PIERCE

FOUNDER OF THE

MICHIGAN SCHOOL SYSTEM

A STUDY OF EDUCATION IN THE NORTHWEST

BY

CHARLES O. HOYT AND R. CLYDE FORD

PROFESSORS IN THE STATE NORMAL COLLEGE,
YPSILANTI, MICH.



YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN
THE SCHARF TAG, LABEL & BOX CO.
1905

LB695
P7HG

COPYRIGHT, 1965, BY
CHARLES O. HOYT AND R. CLYDE FORD.

"It is my pride to have been one to help lay the foundations of our present school system, and I want no better monument to my name than this."

—JOHN D. PIERCE

TO
MRS. HARRIET REED-PIERCE
THE VENERABLE WIDOW OF
JOHN D. PIERCE
AND TO
MRS. MARY A. EMERSON
HIS DAUGHTER
THIS BOOK IS GRATEFULLY
DEDICATED



PREFACE

THE chief idea underlying the preparation of this volume has been to present to the people of Michigan a true account of the life and work of John D. Pierce, our first Superintendent of Public Instruction. Almost seventy years have gone since he entered upon his educational work, and more than twenty years since his death, and as yet no adequate study of his career has appeared. His memory is deserving of better treatment from the generation of to-day, and if this book shall contribute in any way to bring about even a tardy recognition of his services, its purpose will have been accomplished.

It is only proper to say that this study is based almost altogether upon original material which the writers have made use of for the first time, and whatever value it may have depends in no little measure on this fact. The task of collecting, sifting, and editing the data has been a difficult one, yet one which has fully compensated for the trouble, for in many of the papers and documents yellowed by age there have been discernible the motive forces in the life of a great man.

Falling as Mr. Pierce's labors in education did in the period coincident with the beginnings of our statehood, it has been thought desirable as an introduction to his life and work, to offer some preliminary observations concerning our national and local educational inheritances, as well as to sketch briefly the course of Michigan history up to the close of the Territorial days. What Mr. Pierce did to establish our school system marks an