

Bill for Educational purposes amounts to \$186,638.47, which is about 85 cents *per capita*, and it is distributed under the following heads, namely:—

General Education Grant.....	\$91,702.18
Poor Districts Grant.....	6,103.31
Special Grant at the disposal of the Boards of Education outside of St. John's to help destitute places...	15,983.31
Superior Schools outside of St. John's	5,851.62
Pupil Teachers.....	6,197.21
Teachers Augmentation.....	30,912.02
Colleges	11,327.19
Industrial Schools or Manual Training	3,000.00
Scholarships.....	100.00
Inspection.....	8,681.52
Interest on Pensions (estimated amount).....	750.00
Higher Education	5,500.00
Total.....	\$186,638.47

I do not propose at this time to deal with these several allocations, but there is one amount that I deem it most necessary to refer to inasmuch as the object for which it is set apart is, to some extent, misunderstood. I refer to the allocation of \$3,000 for Industrial Education or Manual Training, voted by the Legislature for the first time last year. It had been misunderstood in some quarters, because a wilful and deliberate attempt had been made to deceive the public. I am sorry to observe that this was done merely for party and political purposes. An attempt was made to arouse sectarian prejudice in relation to it by the unfounded assertion that the vote was given for the benefit of the Roman Catholic Orphanage at Mount Cashel. There could be nothing further from the truth. The amount was proportioned on a *per capita* basis and given to the various denominations. In reading over the report made by the Rev. Dr. Curtis, Superintendent of Methodist Schools, for 1902, I observed the following paragraph which deals with the subject. The rev. gentleman says:—

"A grant of \$3,000 was made for Manual Training by the Legislature at the session of 1902, to be divided between the religious denominations upon the *per capita* basis. This will admit of the establishment of one school each by the large denominations. As, however, the apparatus is expensive, the income for the current year will be

required for that object. The Methodist College Executive has had the question of providing a suitable building under consideration, and a committee has been appointed to co-operate with the Superintendent to this end. The committee has given some time to consultation, but no definite conclusion has so far been reached. It is expected, however, that a school will be open at the beginning of the next education year."

The Rev. Canon Pilot, Superintendent of Church of England Schools, has just placed in my hands a particularly able and exhaustive report on the subject, which has recently engaged his attention. The rev. and learned gentleman says:—

"I have assumed that as a Manual Training School is to be established in our midst, such a beginning would naturally be made in St. John's, but I should deprecate any plan by which the whole of the grant coming to the Church of England would be swallowed up here.

"There must be somehow a recognition that St. John's is not the whole of the Island, and that its people have no exclusive right to the privileges for this grant. There are large and important centres of population in four of our principal bays; these must be considered, and after trial has been made in this new departure and found successful and attractive in St. John's, its extension will be a matter of simple justice. I look forward with great expectations to the benefit which will accrue to all our schools, by placing in them teachers who shall have themselves gone through the prescribed course of Manual Training, and who shall introduce into the schools some form of Manual Training, of cardboard work even, where woodwork is not available.

"For the present I have confined my remarks to the Manual Training of boys. I might with force enlarge upon the claims of girls to equal recognition in some other form of Manual Training, say in connection with Domestic Science, but must leave them for future notice.

"I have only to add that, impressed as I have become by my enquiry into the subject of Manual Training as a true branch of education, and convinced that the exercise of hand and eye, under correct direction, is of no less importance than that of the memory, and power of verbal expression, its introduction into our system of education ought no longer to be delayed. The wisdom of the Legislature in voting \$3,000 for this and its elder brother Industrial Education, can, in my opinion, be no longer questioned. Indeed I shall be much surprised if, when we have got fairly under way and see the results of even two years only of this new process, the House of Assembly be not assailed with petitions for its wide extension."

Such are the words of the rev. gentle-