

HIGH SCHOOLS.

—	No. of Schools.	Pupils.	Legislative Grant.	Teachers' Salaries.	Municipal Assessment (1855 and 1874.)	Building, &c.
			\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1874	108	7,871	75,553 00	179,946 00	137,801 00	63,684 00
1852	84	2,643	20,567 00	38,533 00	6,520 00	(5,711 00) This item from 1855. First year reported.
Increase.	24	5,228	54,986 00	141,413 00	131,281 00	57,973 00

—	Maps and	Prize Books sent out.	Globes.	Library Books.	No. of Public School Libraries.
1874	47,413	766,645	2,785	266,046	1,334
1852	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.	nil.

Total Value of Maps, Apparatus, Prizes and Libraries despatched to 31st December, 1874, including 100 per cent., \$605,338.

In his last Annual Report to the Governor, the Chief Superintendent thus summarizes the progress of our Schools since 1844:—

“In concluding this Report for 1874, I may be permitted to note the progress which has been effected in the development of the Public School system, of which I took charge in 1844. At that time there were 2,706 Public School Teachers; in 1874, there were 5,736—increase, 3,030. In 1844, the amount paid for salaries of Teachers was \$206,856; in 1874, the amount paid for salaries of Teachers was \$1,647,750—increase, \$1,440,894. In 1844, the total amount raised and expended for Public School purposes was \$275,000; in 1874, it was \$2,865,332—increase, \$2,590,332. In 1844, the number of pupils in the Public Schools was 96,756; in 1874, the number of pupils in the Public Schools was 464,047—increase, 367,291. In 1844, the number of School-houses was 2,505; in 1874, the number was 4,827—increase, 2,322. The number of *log* School-houses in 1844 was 1,344; in 1874, 1,115—decrease, 229. The number of *frame* School-houses in 1844 was 1,028; in 1874, 2,080—increase, 1,052. The number of *stone* School-houses in 1844 was 84; in 1874, 463—increase, 379. The number of *brick* School-houses in 1844 was 49; in 1874, 1,169—increase, 1,120. These are mere naked figures, which convey no idea of the improved character, furniture and fittings up of the School-houses; the improved character, uniformity, and greater cheapness of the text-books; the introduction of maps, globes, blackboards, &c., in the Schools; the improved character, qualifications and position of Teachers and their teaching. In 1844, maps and globes were unknown in the Public Schools; up to 1874, 2,785 globes and 47,413 maps and charts have been furnished to the Schools, nearly all of which are now manufactured in the country. In 1844, there were no Public School libraries or library books; in 1874, there were 1,334 Public School libraries, containing 266,046 volumes, provided and sent out by the Department. In 1844, there were no prize books distributed as rewards for good conduct, diligence and success in the Schools; up to 1874, 766,645 prize books had been sent out by the Department and distributed in the Schools. In this summary statement, no mention has been made of the Normal Schools and their work, the standard of qualifications and examinations of Teachers, and the improved organization and inspection of the Schools.

“In regard to the Grammar or High Schools, the duty was

imposed upon me in 1852 of framing and administering the law respecting this important class of our public institutions. The number of these Schools then in existence was 84; the number in 1874 was 108—increase, 24. The number of pupils in 1852 was 2,643; the number of pupils in 1874 was 7,871—increase, 5,228. In 1852, the amount of the Legislative Grant or Grammar School Fund was \$20,567; in 1874, it was \$75,553; besides a sum equal to half that amount to be raised by County and City Councils, and corporate powers in Boards of Trustees to provide additional means for the payment of Teachers, and the building and repair of School-houses, many of which are now among the finest School buildings in the Province. In 1852, the amount paid for salaries of Teachers was \$38,533; the amount paid for salaries of Teachers in 1874 was \$179,946—increase, \$141,413. In 1852, the Grammar Schools received pupils from their a, b, c upwards; now pupils are only admitted on an entrance examination from the fourth form of the Public Schools, and the High Schools have uniform programmes and text-books, and are under the semi-annual inspection of three able Inspectors.

“It is by the co-operation of successive administrations of Government and Parliaments, and the noble exertions of the country at large, that this great work has been developed and advanced to its present state.

“This Report for 1874 is probably my last Annual Report, though my own personal work in the Department may not close before the end of the current year, 1875.

“On retiring from the Department, in the seventy-third year of my age, I may address a circular of a few parting words to Municipal Councils, Boards of Trustees and Teachers, by whom I have been so nobly seconded in our country's greatest work, and with whom I have been associated in the most cordial relations one year more than the historical generation of man.”

AN ACT RESPECTING THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

Received the Royal Assent 10th February, 1876.

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:—

1. The functions of the Council of Public Instruction are