

the day at which such clergyman or his authorized representative may give religious instruction to the pupils of his own church, provided it be not during the regular hours of the school.

**OPENING AND CLOSING EXERCISES OF EACH DAY.**—*Minute adopted by the Council of Public Instruction, 13th February, 1855.*—The following regulations in regard to the opening and closing exercises of the day, apply to all Common Schools in Upper Canada :—

With a view to secure the Divine blessing, and to impress upon the pupils the importance of religious duties, and their entire dependence on their Maker, the Council of Public Instruction recommends that the daily exercises of each common school be opened and closed by reading a portion of Scripture and by Prayer. The Lord's Prayer alone, or the Forms of Prayer hereunto annexed, may be used, or any other prayer preferred by the trustees and master of each school. But the Lord's Prayer should

form part of the opening exercises, and the Ten Commandments be taught to all the pupils, and be repeated at least once a week. But no pupil should be compelled to be present at these exercises against the wish of his parent or guardian, expressed in writing to the master of the school.

The provisions of the school law in regard to these daily religious exercises in our public schools are as follows :—

129. PUPILS NOT TO BE REQUIRED TO OBSERVE RELIGIOUS EXERCISES OBJECTED TO BY THEIR PARENTS.—No person shall require any pupil in any such school to read or study in or from any religious book, or to join in any exercise or devotion or religion objected to by his or her parents or guardians; but within this limitation, pupils shall be allowed to receive such religious instruction as their parents and guardians desire, according to any general regulations provided for the government of common schools.

**2. STATISTICS OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN TORONTO AND YORKVILLE, 1864-5.**

(A Statistical Paper read before the Union Sunday School Teachers' Meeting, in the Music Hall, Toronto, 10th January, 1865, by J. GEORGE HODGINS, of St. James' Cathedral Sunday School.

The total number of Protestant children between the ages of five and sixteen years in the City of Toronto in 1863, (according to the school census taken in that year by the Board of School Trustees), was 7,053. Allowing the increase of school population in the City to be at the rate of seven per cent, this would give a school population now of about 7,500. The following returns shew that of these 7,500, 6,645 are enrolled in the various Protestant Sunday Schools of the city—leaving nearly 1,000 unaccounted for, as compared with the 1,165 Protestant children (now doubtless upwards of 1,200) reported by the Board of Trustees in 1863 “who neither attended school nor were taught at home during the period of the six months ending June 30th, 1863,”—“the cause of non-attendance,” say the Trustees, “being, in almost all cases, ‘employment,’ ‘want of clothes,’ ‘considered too young,’ or ‘too far from school.’”

The following returns, therefore, in connection with the Common Schools of the City of Toronto, will be found to be interesting.

NAME OF SCHOOL.	Number of Schools	Total Number of Pupils on the Roll	Boys on the Roll.	Girls on the Roll.	Total Average Attendance.	Average Attendance of Boys.	Average Attendance of Girls.	Total Number of Teachers.	Male Teachers.	Female Teachers.	Total Number of Classes.	Classes for Boys.	Classes for Girls.	Mixed Classes.	Number of Books in Library.	Number of Library Books taken out during the year.
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**UNITED CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND IRELAND.**

St. James' Cathedral .....	2	452	188	264	300	180	170	39	16	23	38	17	24	..	600	8,000
St. James' Cemetery Chapel.....	1	50	23	27	86	17	19	6	3	3	6	3	3	..	75	750
Trinity Church .....	1	267	127	140	200	81	119	27	13	14	27	13	14	..	*150	*1,500
St. George's .....	1	189	101	88	143	75	68	22	8	14	22	12	10	..	283	658
Holy Trinity .....	1	459	200	259	260	105	155	45	21	24	46	22	24	..	600	7,000
St. Stephen's .....	1	150	*80	*70	109	*59	*50	15	5	10	*15	*5	*10	..	*150	*1,500
St. John's .....	1	148	79	69	120	*65	*55	*14	*8	*8	*14	*6	*8	..	*150	*1,500
<b>Total, Church of England .....</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,716</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>1,168</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>2,008</b>	<b>20,908</b>

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES**

St. Andrew's (Church of Scotland).....	1	400*	*180	*220	*300	*130	*170	*35	*16	*19	*35	*16	*19	..	1,000*	*9,000
Bay Street (Canada Presbyterian Church.)	1	369	170	199	256	114	142	40	15	25	40	18	21	1	655	7,000
Knox's do do do	1	308	125	183	205	94	111	28	13	15	26	12	14	..	1,194	*9,000
Cooke's do do do	1	164	88	76	142	76	66	20	12	8	20	8	12	..	650	5,200
Gould Street do do do	1	130	*70	*60	164	*60	*44	13	7	6	12	5	7	..	320	*3,000
West Church do do do	1	130	*70	*60	164	*60	*44	13	7	6	12	5	7	..	320	*3,000
<b>Total, Presbyterian Churches.....</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,371</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3,819</b>	<b>23,200</b>

**WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.**

Adelaide Street.....	1	220	97	123	144	66	78	19	7	12	20	7	13	..	1,000	*9,500
Berkeley Street.....	1	375	169	206	295	120	175	37	20	17	29	12	17	..	1,020	10,000
Richmond Street.....	1	466	200	266	337	142	195	44	23	21	39	17	22	..	1,150	*11,000
Do. do. (Coloured).....	1	10	5	5	10	5	5	2	..	2	2	1	1	..	60	*300
Queen Street.....	1	259	125	134	200	95	105	28	16	12	23	10	13	..	1,000	*9,500
Queen Street West.....	1	60	28	32	45	*20	*25	8	4	4	8	4	4	..	200	*1,000
Elm Street.....	1	265	150	115	195	110	85	31	17	14	24	11	13	..	900	*8,500
Seaton Street.....	1	*80	*35	*45	*60	*23	*32	*8	*4	*4	*8	*4	*4	..	*200	*1,000
<b>Total, Wesleyan Methodist Church....</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1,735</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>5,530</b>	<b>50,800</b>

**PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.**

Alice Street.....	1	369	162	147	196	102	94	38	23	15	33	18	15	..	713	5,720
Queen Street West.....	1	53	30	23	30	15	15	10	6	4	7	3	4	..	87	*700
Parliament Street.....	1	84	52	32	48	31	17	13	10	3	10	6	3	1	80	*800
<b>Total, Primitive Methodist Church....</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>6,220</b>

\* Estimated—no information having been received in reply to the circular.