

Acts were passed relating to education. One provided for an additional teacher in the Normal School; another declared the introduction of the Bible into the Public Schools to be legally authorized, while another provided for the establishment of the Prince of Wales College. In 1879 the College was amalgamated with the Provincial Normal School. All the Public School teachers receive their education here. The curriculum includes Latin, Greek, French, English Language and Literature, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Agriculture and Agricultural Chemistry, Natural History, Ancient and Modern History, Bookkeeping and the principles and practices of teaching. This institution has an excellent staff of teachers under the principalship of Alex. Anderson, LL.D., a thorough disciplinarian and a teacher of much ability. A new college building is being erected and will be completed next fall (1899). Last session there were 233 students attending old Prince of Wales College.

On December 13th, 1859, there died a man who always took a deep interest in promoting education, the Right Rev. B. D. McDonald. He established many district schools, also a convent where young ladies receive a superior education. In 1855 he opened St. Dunstan's College, now one of our leading educational institutions, and the only one in the province which confers degrees. It is affiliated with Laval University.

In 1863 some changes were made in the Education Act, the reduction of the teachers' pay from the treasury by £15 and the introduction of the Grammar Schools. The fifteen pounds deducted from the teachers' treasury allowance was required, by the amended Act, to be made up by each school district, and the amount had to be guaranteed by the school trustees to the teacher in a written agreement in order to enable him to receive his

treasury allowance, so that according to the new law every school district that would not raise at least fifteen pounds for the teacher was to get no aid for its school from the treasury. But this arrangement proved unpopular and had to be abandoned in 1867 and the whole of the teachers' salary made payable from the Provincial treasury.

In 1877 a new School Law was passed which dealt successfully with the delicate and difficult problem of our school question. This law is now admitted by all classes and creeds to be well adapted to the wants of a mixed community like ours. The success of the new School Law is very clearly shown by the fact that within the first eighteen months of its operation the attendance of pupils at the Public Schools increased by over five thousand. West Kent Street School, Charlottetown, the Summerside, Georgetown, and other important schoolhouses were erected about this time.

The following extract from Superintendent Manning's report for 1878 shows that at the advent of our present school system there was vast room for improvement in the teaching profession: "Foremost among the hindrances to the progress of education on this Island is the large number of learner-teachers employed and the irregularity of attendance; and when, as is often the case, these occur in the same district, the result is disastrous to the school. A moderate amount of muscular exertion should operate only to improve a teacher's efficiency, but it can be easily seen that the service suffers in the case of one farming on such a scale as to require a \$160 mowing machine, while his school is graded second rank by the County Inspector. Another dragging his weary limbs into the schoolroom half an hour late is so little interested in the studies of ten or twelve youngsters