

7. EDUCATION IN BRITAIN AND CANADA.

One of the members of the British House of Commons lately secured returns of all the children on the books of schools in England and Scotland, actually visited by any of her Majesty's inspectors in the course of the year ending 31st August, 1867.

It appears by these returns that the number of pupils in England was 1,376,882, and in Scotland, 216,030. This of course, does not give us nearly all who are there receiving instruction, still, so far as any national system of education is provided, it affords a fair approximation.

When we compare these statements with the last we have in reference to our own country, we have no reason to be ashamed. The population of Ontario is less than one half of that of Scotland it is a new country where the labour of children very speedily come to be valuable, and it has been settled by persons of the very humblest class, who might naturally not care for being at much expense for the education of their children, seeing that they had so little of it themselves. Notwithstanding all this the number of children attending schools in Ontario, for nearly the same period as that referred to, was 369,768, or one-half more than all the pupils in schools visited by Government Inspectors in Scotland, for that year.

Now, surely, inspectors ought to be in each schools at least once every year, unless their inspection is to be regarded as a farce. If so, it follows that a far larger proportion of children are under instruction in Ontario than in Scotland, even after making all allowance for the larger number attending private schools in that country than with us. The same thing is still more noticeably true when the comparison is made with England.—*Globe*.

8. ADVANTAGES OF THE TOWNSHIP SYSTEM.

The advantages of the township plan are chiefly these—

1st. The more equitable distribution of school privileges throughout the township which would be effected by the township board having the entire field to provide for.

2nd. The employment of better teachers. The township board would have more candidates to select from, and could better distribute the teachers employed, according to the character and wants of the several schools.

3rd. The equitable apportionment of school funds, almost impossible under our present system, would be comparatively easy, as the whole amount would come into the hands of the township board and be expended by them for the general good.

4th. A more steady management and more stable support of the schools by a board so much weightier in influence and so remote from petty neighborhood quarrels.

5th. The more effective supervision of schools possible under this plan.

6th. The convenience of organizing, when needed, one or more central high schools for the township and the introduction thus of the graded system in the rural districts; and

7th. The securing of a uniformity of text-books and teaching throughout the township.—*Hon. John M. Gregory, Ex-Superintendent of Michigan*.

9. EDUCATIONAL MEMORIALS TO BISHOP STRACHAN.

It is proposed to erect two memorials to the late Bishop Strachan. One, a memorial Church at Cornwall, where the late Bishop commenced his ministerial labors, in the year 1803, and where he established his fame as an instructor of youth. Under his headmastership the Cornwall Grammar School acquired a Provincial reputation, and from it went forth those who afterwards became the foremost men of their time in western Canada.

The other memorial proposed, is the erection of a Convocation Hall and Library for Trinity College. From a resolution on the subject passed at a recent meeting, we learn that the Bishop bequeathed to the College his Library, consisting of about three thousand volumes, while the room, which at present contains the College Library, is filled almost to its utmost capacity, by the four thousand six hundred volumes, which it already possesses, independently of the bequest.—[Ed. J. or Ed.]

IV. Biographical Sketches.

1. JUDGE WILLIAM SALMON.

It is our painful duty to announce the death of the Hon. William Salmon, Esq., Judge of the County Court of this County, which event took place on Saturday the 8th Feb. Although for the past four years he had been seriously indisposed and unable to discharge the duties of his office, his decease was not apprehended until a few days prior to his death. The deceased was born at Alverton, near Bristol, on the 2nd June 1802, and was consequently in the 66th year

of his age at the time of his lamented decease. He was the second and youngest son of the late Colonel George Salmon, and came to this country with his parents in the year 1809—the father and family of the present Dr. Rolph emigrating with them. They resided for two years at Queenston; but, shortly before the war of 1812, removed to the Township of Woodhouse. Mr. Salmon was educated by the Rev. R. Leeming at Dundas, and entered the study of the Law in the office of Dr. Rolph, near Vittoria. He practised his profession in London for a short time, but a few years previous to the division of the London District, came to Simcoe, where he continued his practice until his elevation to the Bench, by Lord Metcalf, in 1845. The late Judge was married twice; his first wife was a sister of Dr. Rolph, and his widow is a daughter of the late James Fraser, Esq., of Nova Scotia. His career, as a Judge, was marked by a strict and undeviating integrity. His judgments were universally received as sound and equitable; and we believe that no suitors could be found disposed to question his wisdom, or complain of his partiality. He held for many years the commission of Major in the Militia, and took an active part with his company in suppressing the disturbances of 1837; and shortly afterwards represented the County for one session in the House of Assembly. He lived in the fear of God, and his life presented an edifying example. While health and strength were afforded him he was never absent from his place in Church, and took an active part in all efforts that were made for the advancement of religion. His end was perfect peace. His faculties continued unimpaired to the last. While therefore the County of Norfolk will deplore the loss of an able and upright Judge, and the community at large a most amiable and estimable member of society, we are encouraged to indulge the sure and certain hope of his everlasting happiness in that kingdom where sorrowing and sighing shall be no more.

The funeral took place on Wednesday 13th, the remains being interred in St. John's Church-yard, Woodhouse. Two Rifle Companies of the Battalion were present, and a very large number of the inhabitants testified, by their attendance, their appreciation of departed worth.—*Communicated*.

No. 2—THE HON. ROBERT SPENCE.

The deceased gentleman has been more or less associated with the political history of Canada for upwards of thirty years. He was born in Dublin in the year 1810, and emigrated to this country in the year 1837, just before the commencement of the rebellion. He first settled in this city, where he remained for a short time and then removed to West Flamboro', where he discharged the duties of school-master in a very efficient manner. In the year 1846 he started a newspaper called the *Dundas Warder*, which he published until 1850. At that time he abandoned literary pursuits and went into business as a Paper Manufacturer, at the Gore Mills, where he remained until 1854, occupying during those years the position of Warden of the County of Wentworth. He was in 1854 selected by a Convention that met at Dundas, to contest the County in the Reform interest. His opponent was Mr. W. Miller, and Mr. Spence was elected by a handsome majority. When Parliament assembled the government of the Hon. Francis Hincks was defeated and Mr. Spence accepted the position of Post Master General in the Coalition Government, which was then formed by Sir Allan MacNab. On taking office he again appealed to his constituents, and was reelected by a large majority, being opposed by the Hon. W. Macdougall. He held office as Postmaster General under Sir Allan MacNab, and served in the same capacity in the Administration formed by Sir John A. Macdonald until the year 1857, when he was defeated by the late Mr. Nottman and resigned his office in the Cabinet. Mr. Spence was shortly afterwards appointed Collector of the Port of Toronto, which position he has filled with credit to himself and much advantage to the public ever since that time. Mr. Spence worked his way upwards by the sheer force of talents and unremitting industry. He owed the position he occupied to no fortitious circumstances of birth or position, but to his own unremitting energy and force of character.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

3. LIEUT. COL. DUNN.

Recent papers from England contain the melancholy intelligence that Colonel Dunn, of H. M. 33rd Regiment, accidentally shot himself in Abyssinia a few weeks ago. The particulars will be found below. Col. Dunn, though the youngest Colonel in the army, was one of the most distinguished. He was a Canadian, son of the late Hon J. H. Dunn, who for more than twenty years held the important office of Receiver General in this country. He was educated at Upper Canada College, joined the army when a mere lad served through the Crimea, was in the glorious charge of the Six Hundred at Balaklava, for which he received the Victoria Cross from the hands of the Queen herself. He subsequently took a prominent