

the number was 5,189, or 70 per cent. of the whole profession. The amount expended by the Government upon their support since 1877 was \$23,353; in addition to this the municipalities furnished \$2,650, and the teachers themselves expended the sum of \$6,220, all of which sums were devoted to the formation of teachers' libraries and other purposes of a professional character. In order to make these associations as useful and practical as possible, the Government has appointed a director, whose sole business is to instruct teachers in matters pertaining to their profession. The work done in this way compares favourably with the best States in the American Republic. In Massachusetts, in 1883, the amount expended by the Legislature for this purpose was \$1,700, but out of 8,861 teachers only 1,941 attended the meetings of the association, or 18 per cent. New York expended \$16,040, but only 13,231 out of 30,826 teachers, or about 44 per cent. attended the meetings. New York has four directors, or lecturers, while Ontario has only one.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTES.

The sum expended since the year in which mechanics' institutes were placed under the supervision of the Minister of Education, (1880), was \$298,471.

	1884.
Number of members.....	16,259
Number of volumes in libraries.....	230,917
Number of volumes read.....	528,971
Number of reading-rooms.....	68
Number of evening classes.....	62

A new feature of the work now done by mechanics' institutes is the great attention paid to mechanical drawing. In 1884 there were 42 classes in this subject alone, attended by 4,764 students in the different branches of drawing. The effect of this upon the industrial classes is hard to over-estimate.

ART SCHOOLS.

In 1871 Ontario could not boast of a single art school; in 1884 there were no less than six. These art schools aim at giving practical instruction in freehand drawing, modeling, machine drawing, etc., and are attended by artisans representing every occupation in the country.

The expenditure on this department, although just in its infancy, amounted to \$3,768.

Besides these the Ontario Government has expended since 1871 the sum of \$124,625, in aid of literary and scientific societies generally. In Toronto it aids the Canadian Institute, the Ontario Society of Artists, the School of Practical Science, and the School of Art and Design; in Ottawa it aids the Institut Canadien, the Literary and Scientific Society, and St. Patrick's Literary Association; in Hamilton it aids the Historical Society, and in London, the School of Art and Design.