

according to the census of 1857, is 119,304; of these 63,995 are Protestants, and 53,309 Roman Catholics.—The legislative grant for educational purposes in 1858, was £13,175 sterling, amounting to £16,168 currency—a munificent sum. The educational instructions are divided into three classes—Elementary and Commercial Schools, four Academies, and five Convent Schools; the two former classes of Schools receive of this grant £10,525; the four Academies £1700; £750 for the training of teachers; and £200 for repairs of Schoolhouses, etc. The Separate School system exists on this Island; of the £10,525 sterling, the Protestants receive £5,612 16s.; the Catholics £4,912 4s. The £200 granted for the Repairs of Houses, is also divided between these two bodies. Each denomination has a separate Board of Education, who superintend the expenditure of the School fund, in proportion to the population of the respective districts. “Thus local Boards expend the money voted by the Legislature, in accordance with the provisions of the Educational Act;” each Board makes its own bye-laws, etc., subject to the approval of the Government.

The inhabitants are required to pay, by way of fees, towards the support of the Elementary Schools:—For each child learning the alphabet, etc., Two Shillings and Six Pence per annum, currency; learning to write and cipher, Five Shillings; and for learning other branches, seven shillings and six pence per annum. There are two Inspectors, one Protestant and one Catholic, who submit separate reports to the Legislature.

The Protestant Inspector reports the total number of Protestant schools, excepting Academies, to be 131—attended by 6,521 pupils, of whom 2,934 can read the Scriptures. Of these schools 98 are controlled and supported directly by the Boards; and 33 are denominational, receiving a portion of the public grant, but are not under the direction of the Boards. The sa-

laries of the 98 teachers is £36 10s. each; of the 33 each receive £28, with additional support from their respective denominations. The average cost per pupil is £1 4s. currency. Pupils have to supply their own school books,

From the Inspectors report there appears to be £1,310 of the school fund unaccounted for; and the expenditures made, “owing to the want of proper superintendence, and the careless way in which business is transacted,” is not satisfactory;—the Board is composed of men quite incapable of doing an intentional wrong.

The Catholic Inspector reported in 1858 91 schools, attended by 4,522 children; in addition to these are five Convent schools, aided by the educational fund, not under the control of the Inspector, attended by 1148 pupils—making a total of 5,670 pupils; of these 1811 are able to read. Each teacher gets a salary of £29 10s. The five Convent schools receive £548 currency. The average cost of educating each pupil in the elementary schools is £1 2s. 2d. In the expenditure of the £5783 currency, entrusted to the Catholic Boards, there appears to be £1638 unaccounted for; thus, between the two Boards, Protestant and Catholic, there is £2,948 wasted.

“It is clear,” says our authority, “there is need of some improved supervision in this matter. The Education Act requires each Board to furnish a detailed statement annually of their expenditure; but very few of the Boards comply with this. The others totally disregard it; and thus this large absorption from the Educational grant is unknown or disregarded.”

The following tabular form will show more clearly the state of the matter:—

PROTESTANT.	
Population,	63,995
School Grant,	£5,712
Number of Schools,	131
Pupils,	6,521
Able to read,	2,934
Average salary of teachers, .	£40 10s.