

of the Island Legislature, an act respecting the education of the Blind similar to the acts which grace the Statute Books of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

The census of Newfoundland, published in 1891, contains no statistics with reference to the Blind of that Colony, but we feel confident that Newfoundland has at least twenty boys and girls of schoolable age who are partially or totally blind. Nine of these are at present in the School, and two have recently applied for admission.

The Colony of Newfoundland has hitherto made the School an annual lump sum grant, which was equal to a per capitem grant of \$150.00. This is the same rate per pupil as paid by the Province of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but the actual cost per pupil far exceeds this sum. Your Board would respectfully call this matter to the attention of the Government of Newfoundland, with the request that the annual grant be increased in the same ratio as the increase in the number of Newfoundland pupils.

It is a matter of pleasure to your Board that the building operations commenced in April, 1896, have been completed, and that we now have accommodation for one hundred and twenty pupils. Mr. J. C. Dumaresq, the architect; Mr. Samuel Marshall, the builder; and McDonald & Co., who supplied the heating apparatus, have carried out their work to the entire satisfaction of your Board. The members of this association are under a deep debt of gratitude to the Government and Legislature of Nova Scotia for their liberality in making this corporation a special grant of \$6,000.00 towards the erection of a new west wing. This amount, with the very liberal subscriptions received from all parts of the four Maritime Provinces, has enabled us to almost meet the cost of the new building without trespassing upon the trust funds which have been bequeathed to the School by the benefactors of the Blind.

We are now equipped better than ever before to carry on the work of educating those who are deprived of sight, and we trust that in the future, as in the past, the School will prove a blessing to the Blind and a credit to the four Provinces represented among its pupils.

The Managers are happy in again placing on record their sense of the value of the services of their Superintendent, Mr. C. F. Fraser, whose administrative ability and power of application appear to expand with the ever increasing demands upon them.

The Treasurer's statement herewith submitted shows the receipts on current account to have been \$15,888.33, and the expenses \$15,846.31, leaving a small balance in the bank to the credit of the School.

In addition to the subscriptions elsewhere acknowledged, which include a donation of \$250.00 from the late Adam Burns, your

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