

from ten sections. Sixteen sections have reported this year. Since the district was visited last year, the daily average attendance of pupils has increased 100 per cent. In all the schools but two, the increase is very gratifying. Take the following examples:—

Average Attendance.		Average Attendance.	
1st half of 1875.		1st half of 1876.	
U. S. S. 4. Ferguson } and McDougall }	5-03		17-82
2. Foley	6-90		16-52
1. Humphrey	10-08		15-29
1. McKellar	12-29		22-83
1. McDougall	41-50		64-88

3. The sixteen sections in which there are schools in operation, three schools are without legal sites, seven have half-acre sites, and six have sites of an acre in extent. In six sections in which schools have not yet been opened, half-acre sites have been selected or procured.

4. The value of property in the district, assessed for school purposes, may be stated in round numbers, at \$190,000. The estimated value of School property at the close of last year amounted to \$3,064, distributed as follows:—School-houses \$2,760; Desks and furniture, \$218; Maps, \$81; Library, \$5. As two school-houses were completed this year, and five are in course of construction, this valuation must be largely increased.

R. LITTLE,
Inspector.

5. In the Algoma district, there are twenty-four sections, of which thirteen are in the Island of Manitoulin, two in the Island of St. Joseph, seven on the north shore of Lake Huron, and two on the north shore of Lake Superior. Since the schools were visited last year, a section has been established in the Township of Macdonald on the north shore of Lake Huron, and five sections have been organized in Manitoulin Island.

6. The total number of children resident in the school sections of the district, between the ages of five and sixteen years, was at the close of last year, 736. Of these, 583 were enrolled on the registers of the schools. Number of pupils of other ages enrolled, 151, making a total registration of 734. Boys, 391. Girls, 343. The daily average attendance for the first half of 1875 was, 263.49, and for the second half, 182.31. The daily average has risen to 376 for the first half of the current year, being an increase of 43 per cent. over that of the corresponding half of 1875, and of 70 per cent. over the daily average of last year.

The increase of individual schools may be seen by examining the following table:—

Daily av. attendance.		Daily av. attendance.	
1st half of 1875.		1st half of 1876.	
No. 2. Tehkummah	7-86		18-58
1. Assiginack	9-72		27-97
1. Shuniah	50-11		86-81
1. Bruce Mines	47-00		97-97

Only two schools in the district show a slight falling off in the daily attendance.

7. Of the 734 pupils enrolled last year, 352 belonged to the Junior I class, 198 to the Senior I class, 165 to the II and III class, and 19 to the IV and V classes.

8. During the year new school-houses have been built or are now building in 1 Howland, 3 Assiginack, 1 Tehkummah, 1 Sandfield, 1 St. Joseph, 1 Macdonald, and 1 Shuniah. There are fair prospects of new schools being erected in six additional sections within a year.

9. Of the twelve schools in operation in Algoma, two have not procured legal sites, one has a site of three-fourths of an acre, three have half-acre sites, three have acre sites, and one has a site of two acres in extent. For two schools new sites have been selected. In seven of the sections in which schools have not yet been opened, adequate sites have been selected or procured.

10. The estimated value of property assessed in the district last year, for school purposes, amounted to \$246,476. The total value of school property amounted to \$4,241, viz.: School houses, \$3,511, Desks, \$500; Maps and apparatus, \$170; Libraries, \$52. As in the case of Parry Sound District this has been largely increased during the year.

11. In only five sections of both districts were outside conveniences for the pupils provided last year. They are now provided in seventeen sections.

12. During the year which has elapsed since last report was submitted, I have organized six new sections, and re-organized one. Two of these sections were formed on my late visit. Forty sections

were visited, twenty-three schools and departments were inspected, and ten candidates for certificates examined. Plans for seating most of the new schools, and for re-seating some of the old ones were prepared, and given to the trustees. List of requisites were drawn up when required and left with trustees or teachers. Forms of petition for the establishment of sections, were left for distribution by gentlemen who kindly undertook to distribute them in localities which want of time prevented me from visiting. Distance travelled in the performance of these duties, 2,220 miles.

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2. SPECIAL REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS IN THE NIPISSING DISTRICT.

No 1. MATTAWAN. This school is under the charge of Miss Anmond, a young lady from Ottawa, and who receives a salary of \$300 per annum. She holds a special certificate from the Inspector of P. S., County of Renfrew. The management of the school is perhaps as efficient as could reasonably be expected, when we take into consideration the different materials the teacher has to work upon. Three languages prevail amongst the pupils, viz: French, which predominates, English and Indian; and as long as this difficulty exists the teacher who undertakes to teach English subjects must encounter a very serious obstacle in the way of progress and efficiency. The teacher has proper control over her pupils and the pupils evince a very great respect for their teacher. The average attendance for this half year is 22½ and the number on the register is 50. The pupils passed a very fair examination in reading, spelling, writing, dictation, grammar and geography; but the results were not satisfactory in arithmetic. The school accommodation is good, and seats, desks &c. very fair. Progress very fair.

No 1. NIPISSING. This school for the first six months of 1876 was under the charge of Mr. George Cowan, who held a special certificate from the Inspector of P. S., County of Renfrew. He received a salary of \$400 per annum. The school was not in operation at the time of Inspector's visit on account of difficulty between trustees and teacher. I had no opportunity, therefore, for ascertaining the progress of pupils, or efficiency of teacher. But the time which I would otherwise have devoted to the examination of pupils, I spent in conversations with trustees and teacher. The trustees complained that the teacher did not punctually attend to his duties, frequently absented himself from school, &c., and having made no written agreement with their teacher, when they became dissatisfied with his services, dismissed him. Under these circumstances I had no option but to acquiesce in the arrangements made by trustees. I believe no difficulty would have arisen between the trustees and teacher had he conscientiously devoted his attention to his own duties and paid no attention to matters which did not concern him. The average attendance for the first-half of 1876 was 14.7, and the register was 24.

The trustees have considerably improved the school since my last visit, and have provided suitable seats, desks &c. I trust in a few years, with an efficient teacher, to see this school in a good state of efficiency.

No. 1. JONES. This school has been visited by the Inspector of P. S., County of Hastings; but the township being included in the District of Nipissing, I considered it necessary that I should undertake its inspection so as to be able to report on all the schools in the district. Miss Anna Maria Reid has been in charge for six months. She holds a special certificate from the Inspector P. S., County of Renfrew, and receives a salary of \$300 per annum. The business of the school is conducted in accordance with the timetable, and is well carried out. The pupils are very diligent and orderly, and appear to be doing very well. The school-house is a log-building covered with "Scoops," and is convenient for teaching purposes. The only objectionable feature I noticed was the old-fashioned board-desks arranged around the wall with their backs towards the teacher. The teacher is earnest and faithful in her work, and the results are moderately satisfactory. She follows the programme of studies as closely as the circumstances she has to deal with will allow. The pupils passed a very fair examination in all the subjects of the new programme. The average attendance is 6½ and the number on the register is 20.

No. 1. HAGARTY. This school since its inception, has been under the charge of Mr. James Doyle, a veteran in the profession, who is now over 70 years of age, and is anxious to retire from the work, and receive aid from the superannuation fund. He receives a salary of \$200 per annum. Mr. Doyle's method of teaching is the old method, which was in vogue some twenty years ago in this County, and which was peculiar to so called "dame schools." He does not seem to consider it necessary to classify his pupils according to their attainments, but "hears the lesson" of each pupil according to his