

## THE CANADA

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### EDUCATION IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

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NEWFOUNDLAND is a part of British America, but it is not included in the Dominion of Canada. It is about twice the size of Nova Scotia, having an area of 42,000 square miles. It is triangular in shape, but the coast line is deeply indented with many bays and harbours. The surface is hilly and the soil is not well adapted for agriculture. There are many lakes, rivers and marshes. The climate is cold and severe. The country is rich in minerals, especially copper, iron, coal and lead, but the people live mainly by the fisheries. The principal varieties of fish caught are cod, herring, lobster and salmon. The population is estimated at 202,000 and are chiefly the descendants of the settlers who came from Britain. The original race, called Boethies or Red Indians, has been extinct for many years. The form of government is the same as in the Canadian provinces, consisting of a Governor appointed by the Crown, an Executive Council of seven members, a Legislative Council of 15 members, and a Legislative Assembly of 36 members, elected by the people. St. John's (30,000) is the capital and chief seaport. It possesses one of the best harbours in the world. Harbor Grace, Carbonear, Twillingate, Trinity, Bonavista and Heart's Content are important towns.

Newfoundland is said to have been discovered by John Cabot on June 24, 1497, and called by him Prima Vista. It was formally taken possession of by Sir Humphrey Gilbert in 1583. For many years the island was regarded merely as a fishing station, and it was not until 1813 that land grants were first made. As late as 1811 no one was permitted to build a house on the island without special license.

The first school established in Newfoundland was started at Bonavista in 1726. In 1744 a school was established in St. John's, and in 1766 one at Harbor Grace. These, as well as thirteen other schools, were founded by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. This society had control of education until the establishment of the Newfoundland School Society in 1823. It is said that the S.F.P. spent £375 annually in its schools. It paid the teachers' salaries, usually £15 to £20 each, supplied the school with books and apparatus and established libraries. A fee of a quintal of fish for each