

N. B. NORMAL SCHOOL.

THE N. B. Normal School was formally opened on the 9th Sept. Out of 227 who presented themselves for examination 211 passed. These with 18 in the French Department make a total of 229. On examining carefully the questions for matriculation which will be found in another column, it certainly seems a very good record for the schools of the Province when with such a fairly severe test so few failures occurred.

In the address at the opening Principal Mullin reviewed the work of the school for the past twenty years in which free schools had been in operation in the province. During that time 4,163 teachers had graduated from the English department, while the French department had sent out 368 teachers qualified to teach both English and French, making a total of 4,531 in the twenty years, or a yearly average of 227. The attendance for the last four years had been: For 1887, 196; for 1888, 224; for 1889, 239; and this year, when all the students were in it would be about 270. Dr. Harrison and Dr. Inch, chief superintendent of education, also addressed the students, welcoming them to the institution and tendering them best wishes for success in their studies.

THE CENSUS AND SCHOOL STATISTICS.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Taking the figures for the summer terms of 1880 and 1890, when annual figures are not given, we find that the registered pupils increased nearly 12 per cent., a much better showing than the increase of population according to the census figures just published. Assuming the census to be correct, it means that a greater proportion of the population is enrolled as pupils now than then. The grand total attendance increased over 15½ per cent., which shows that not only is a greater proportion of the population attending school, but the attendance is more regular. The schools in operation have increased nearly 24 per cent, which means a great extension of school privilege during the decade. The increase of government expenditure in aid of the public schools has been nearly 19 per cent. But the total expenditure from the school section to the government has increased even more rapidly, over 27 per cent., which shows that the people are pleased to spend more money in the education of each pupil than ten years ago.

The teachers have also increased more rapidly than the population, making a gain of about 23 per cent. But strange to say the male teachers decreased nearly 18 per cent. Is he destined to become extinct? He numbers in 1890 only 558 out of 2,287—less than 1 in 4. The female teachers increased during the decade over 47 per cent.

County Academy headmasters or "A" teachers increased over 39 per cent. Good! Male "B" teachers decreased, however, nearly 22 per cent. Bad! But to balance, female "B" teachers increased 168 per cent. "A" and "B" male and female teachers have on the whole increased over 7 per cent, which means a backward movement in the higher grades, the teachers as a whole having increased about 23 per cent. This should not continue. It means that education does not pay so well in the profession of teaching as in other professions.

And lastly, let us look at the drift in salaries. The male "B's," though growing less in number, prove their value by receiving an increase of 12 per cent. The female "B's" not only are held in lower value, but have fallen by competition about 6 per cent in salaries.

Male "C" teachers depreciated 5 per cent. while female "C" teachers maintained the standard of ten years ago, and in fact stand better by 1 per cent. Nearly the same holds true of grade "D" teachers—salaries of males depreciate 6 per cent, while females make a gain of a ½ per cent. This looks as if the male teachers of grade C and D are not so efficient compared with female teachers, as they were ten years ago. Are they not—many of them—becoming more disposed to make teaching a stepping stone to something else? If so, the tendency is in the wrong direction, although it might possibly be due to a material prosperity somewhere else which holds out the prospect of greater remuneration for effort made. On the whole, the progress in educational matters is much beyond the progress in population given by the census, as reported to date.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Accepting the recent census report of the Province of New Brunswick as correct, it will be seen that the gain in population has been much smaller than the increase in the school enrolment.

In 1871 the population of this Province was 285,594, and in 1881 the population had reached 321,233, or a gain of 12.48 per per cent.

In 1891 the population was only 321,294, or a gain of .02 per cent.

The number of pupils enrolled during the first term of 1870 was 31,487, and for the corresponding term of 1880 it was 50,308, representing a gain of 60 per cent. The enrolment for the first term of 1890 was 58,570, or a gain of 16 per cent

The number of schools in 1870 was 837; in 1880, 1,283, and in 1890, 1,517, a gain during the first decade of 53, and for the second of 19 per cent.

The teachers have multiplied as rapidly. For the