

No. III. Monetary Tables—i. e., amount levied for Public Instruction in the Province of Quebec for the year 1877-78; and then follows a table of superior Educational Institutions for the same period, with amounts appropriated to them.

No. IV. Minor Tables—e. g., books sent to the School Inspectors to be given as prizes, number of pupils who have attended Normal Schools, limits of each Inspection District, salaries of Inspectors, &c., &c.

No. V. Minutes of the proceedings of the Roman Catholic and Protestant Committees of the Council of Public Instruction.

We shall confine our remarks in this article to the able, clear, and in not a few of its details, satisfactory Report of the Hon. G. Ouimet, Superintendent of Public Instruction. It is pleasing to have to note such progress as the following figures incontestably establish:—

Increase in School Municipalities over previous scholastic year,	18
do. in School Divisions,	40
do. in School-houses,	119
do. in Schools (under control),	94
do. in number of pupils,	2063
do. in average attendance,	1673

In reference to the new School-houses which have been erected, the Superintendent remarks. "I would direct attention, in particular, to the fact that the 119 new school-houses erected have been built upon plans supplied or approved of by me; it suffices to say, that of this number there are none to which the severe criticisms of the Inspectors can apply."

It might be supposed, on reference to the statistics, that, in respect to Academies and Model Schools there has been a falling off, but on this point the learned Superintendent says:—"I think it my duty to explain that it would be wrong to conclude from this circumstance that we have retrograded. In one of my past reports, and in my circulars, I have insisted on a better classification of our schools. I had perceived that several institutions, styling themselves Model Schools or Academies, were far from meriting these titles. Consequently, the Council of Public Instruction, in making the distribution of the Superior Education Fund, according to the Inspectors' reports, thought it right to increase the list of Elementary Schools, by curtailing that of Model Schools and Academies. In reality, therefore, there has been no diminution, but a rectification." There is further evidence of progress in the past scholastic year over the previous one in the great increase of pupils studying the principal subjects of the compulsory programme. That increase is very marked in the following subjects:—

In History,	5,532
" Arithmetic,	6,193
" Book-keeping,	1,758
" Geography,	4,852
" Agriculture,	2,960
" Mechanical Drawing,	12,563

These facts prove that the Province of Quebec is not stationary in the great work of Education, notwithstanding the great difficulties with which it is beset. The next subject referred to in the Superintendent's Report is School Inspection, and on this head there is no uncertain sound. The Superintendent speaks emphatically on the benefits and necessity of thorough School Inspection to the growth and efficiency of our educational system. "Without inspection," he says, "it is impossible to work a system of Schools any more than any other public organization." "The inspection bulletins are the new weapon placed in the hands of the Superintendent."

A specimen inspection bulletin is then given. "The Inspector," continues the Superintendent, "fills up his formula after his visit to each school, and, when he has completed his tour through a municipality, he is obliged to forward me, under cover, the bulletins of all the schools in such municipality. By means of this system, the Superintendent can always arrive at an understanding of the manner in which the local authorities fulfil their duties, and of the spirit with which they are animated."

The law requires that the Inspector shall visit each school in his district twice a year, and the Council of Public Instruction has laid down the principle that each Inspector should not have more than 100 schools to visit; "but," continues the Superintendent, "it has been necessary to depart from this principle, and a double visit is still an impossibility for more than one Inspector. There is, therefore, reason, I repeat, to increase the Inspection staff." With respect to the Inspection system itself, it only requires to be completed by the appointment of two general Inspectors.

After some remarks in regard to the Book Depository, the ques-

tion of Scholastic Exhibitions was taken up. The success of the Provincial Scholastic Exhibition at the last grand universal congress held at Paris is referred to with commendable pride, and all Educational Institutions throughout the Province of Quebec are earnestly recommended "to take measures immediately for contributing to the Provincial Exhibition, to be held next September at Montreal, or to a General Exhibition at Ottawa."

The Canadian Academy of Art, advocated by the Governor General last summer in a speech delivered before the Ontario Society of Artists, is said to be far in process of formation. A Constitution has been drawn up, and arrangements are in progress for holding the first annual exhibition at Ottawa during the approaching Session of Parliament. Subsequent annual exhibitions are proposed to be held in the cities of Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Montreal and Toronto.

Official Department.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Council of Public Instruction has adopted the following Regulation, providing for the organization of an Educational Association under Provincial sanction and encouragement:

THE EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The Superintendent of Education shall have authority to assemble annually in either Halifax or Truro, or at any other place which may be approved of by two-thirds of the Executive Committee hereinafter provided for, an Educational Association, whose object shall be to promote the efficient operation of our Public School System, and the professional improvement of its own members by the discussion of educational questions.

I. The Association shall be composed as follows:

1. The Superintendent of Education, the Principal and Professors of the Normal School, the Provincial Examiners for Teachers' Licenses, and the Inspectors of Schools, shall be *ex officio* members of the Association.

2. All members of the late (voluntary) Educational Association, all licensed Teachers, the Chancellor and Fellows of the University of Halifax, and the Presidents and members of the Faculties of the various Colleges affiliated therewith, may become members of the Association by enrolment and the payment of such fee (not exceeding one dollar) as the Association itself may determine.

II. The Association shall be directed as follows:

1. The Superintendent of Education, the Principal of the Normal School, and seven persons chosen annually by the Association from among its members, shall constitute an Executive Committee. This Committee shall have control of all funds raised by the Association, and shall appoint its own Secretary-Treasurer to receive those funds and disburse them under the direction of the Committee. The Committee shall also determine the days of the year on which the Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held, and the programme of exercises for each meeting (*vid. infra*, 6).

2. The Association shall appoint a Secretary, and, if necessary, an Assistant Secretary, who shall keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, and forward a report to the Minister of Education.

3. The Superintendent of Education shall preside at the meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee. At his request another member may preside, and in his absence the Association or Committee shall choose its own presiding officer.

4. The Superintendent of Education is authorized to use the Normal School Building and appliances for the meetings of the Association when they are held in Truro, and the Principal and Professors will aid to the extent of their power in promoting the success of such meetings. The Pupil-Teachers will be admitted to the exercises, but not as members of the Association, save when enrolled under Section I. 2.

5. Teachers can claim the same privileges in respect of attendance at meetings of the Association, as are given them by regulation in regard to attendance at District Associations.

6. The Superintendent of Education shall have, in respect to the first meeting of the Association, the power conferred on Executive Committee by I. 1.

ONTARIO.

On and from the 1st day of January, 1880, it is proposed to only allow thirty-three and a-third per cent on all sums appropriated by the Trustees for purchases from the Educational Depository or Booksellers.

S. P. MAY,

31st December, 1879.

Depository Superintendent.