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teachers and inspectors, and all interested in the welfare of the unfortunate, to use their influence to bring the friends of the deaf and dumb in their respective districts to a sense of their duty, and aid in rescuing these neglected ones from the mental and moral darkness in which they are necessarily shrouded—a condition imperfectly understood, even by their parents and relatives, and those with whom they are daily associated, and that reveals itself, in all its manifold sadness, only to years of patient and intelligent study.

The following table shows the various

#### LOCALITIES

from which the pupils have come during the past year :

New Brunswick.....	9	Hants .....	2
P. E. Island .....	8	King's .....	2
Newfoundland .....	1	Guysboro .....	1
Halifax Co .....	7	Annapolis .....	1
Pictou .....	4	Digby .....	1
Inverness.....	3	Lunenburg .....	1
Cumberland .....	3		—
Colchester.....	3	Total .....	48
Richmond .....	2		

The

#### EDUCATIONAL WORK

of the year has been carried on with a fair measure of success. It is worthy of remark, however, that with some exceptions, the average standard of capacity among our present pupils is inferior to what we have witnessed at some former periods. This fact, while it increases the labor of the instructors, affects unfavorably the results of their efforts, as the same improvement cannot be realized with dull pupils as with those of fair ability and intelligence. Such fluctuations in the average quality, as it were of the "raw material" on which the teacher has to work may be expected, and are, I believe, not uncommon in the experience of labourers in other departments of education besides our own. In the broad sphere of the *intellectual*, as in the natural world, there seem to be seasons of scarcity and seasons of abundance—times of comparative mental barrenness, when mediocrity or dullness rules the hour, alternating with rare periods of beauteous efflorescence and rich fruitage of literary and scientific genius; and it has often appeared to me that the same law operates in the smaller sphere of a school or Institution like our own, some periods in its history showing a high average of mental capacity and attainment among the pupils, and others a corresponding depression of the standard. We seem, just at present, to be passing through a period of the latter kind.