

be done at very small expense, the returns would show the name of every blind child of schoolable age in the Province. We commend this idea to the Provincial Council of Public Instruction.

Nova Scotia has done nobly for the education of the blind, and as a Province was in the very vanguard in making the education of those who are deprived of sight a part of the Public School system.

The law providing free education for the blind was passed in Nova Scotia in 1882. Similar laws were enacted by the British Parliament: those for Scotland in 1890, and those for England in 1893.

The census returns of Canada give the number of blind in the Province of New Brunswick under the age of 19 as fifty-six. There are at present twenty-seven New Brunswick pupils attending the School. It is evident that there are in our sister Province blind children who are growing up without the blessing of an education. We trust that as the Legislature of that Province has by statutory provision made the education of this School free to the blind of New Brunswick, that the teachers in the Public Schools will send in the names and addresses of all boys and girls who by reason of blindness or imperfect sight are unable to attend the ordinary schools.

During the autumn the School was visited by Doctor Inch, (Chief Superintendent of Education for New Brunswick.) Dr. Inch thoroughly inspected the School, and we feel certain that his report to the Council of Public Instruction at Fredericton will fully endorse the policy of continued and united effort so far as the education of the blind in the four Maritime Provinces is concerned. To this union of interest is due the present gratifying status of this Maritime Provincial School.

The census returns of Canada for the year 1891 give the number of blind persons in Prince Edward Island as seven. There are at present six Prince Edward Island pupils in the School, which number probably represents fully one-half of those who are deprived of sight and are now of a schoolable age.

The matter of the free education of the Blind in Prince Edward Island has been frequently referred to in previous reports. The Government of the Island has on several occasions been memorialized and urged to place blind children, in the matter of education, upon the same footing as those with sight; but, so far, beyond giving the School a small and utterly inadequate annual grant of money, the Legislature has taken no definite action in the matter. A strong effort will be made to present the question to the Government of Prince Edward Island in a fair and reasonable light, and it is hoped that the present administration will introduce at the next session