

liberality were known to all who came in contact with him, and his memory will be fragrant in many hearts.

Δεῦτε Χριστοῦ παῖς.

REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION FOR THE YEAR 1890 WITH THE STATISTICS OF 1889.

IF the increase in the size of this Report were a fair indication of the progress of education in the country, that progress would be very great indeed. The Report for 1888 contained 238 pages, that for 1889 had 328 pages, while the bulky volume before us comprises 437 pages. It needs but a cursory glance through its pages to see that the improvement in educational matters is much more moderate than the increase in the size of the Report would indicate. In 1889 there were 86,515 pupils between the ages of seven and thirteen who did not attend the required one hundred days during the year though they were entered on the registers. This number is seventeen per cent. of the whole attendance counting the ages, not from seven to thirteen, but from five to twenty-one. In addition to this there were 6,132 children between seven and thirteen years of age who did not attend any school whatever during the year. When we consider that the total expenditure for all educational purposes in 1889 was \$5,145,370 it is evidently not the fault of those who supply the money that all the children of the country are not made to participate in the advantages of our excellent system of education. It is to be hoped that Mr. Ross will take advantage of the present opportunity, when the new education bill is before the house, to make the compulsory clauses more operative than they are at present, for it is not pleasant to contemplate passing another five years under such defective legislation.

STATISTICS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS — ATTENDANCE.

The total number of pupils enrolled was 468,025, average attendance 235,790, per centage of average attendance 51. The number in regular attendance has been gradually increasing. In 1879 the average attendance was 45 per cent. of the registered attendance, in 1888 it was 50 per cent. and in 1889 it was 51 per cent. The attendance is always worst in the counties and best in the cities. In the counties the percentage was 47, in the towns 60 and in the cities 64. The county of Waterloo, not for the first time, boasts the highest average, 57 per cent. Pembroke has 72 per cent. which is the highest for any town, and Hamilton with a percentage of 74 stands first in the province among the cities.

TEACHERS.

The total number of teachers employed in 1889 was 7,421 consisting of 2,658 males, and 4,763 females. The number of the latter has been gradually increasing, while that of the former has been diminishing. In 1879 the numbers stood, males 3,153, females 3,443. The truth is that the pittance paid as a salary is not sufficient, not only to induce men to remain in the profession, but it actually deters them from entering it, as they can get better pay for their labour in other employments. Of the total number of teachers, 3,920, or over one-half, had only third class certificates, while there were only 247 with first class certificates. There were ten counties in the province without any teachers with first class provincial certificates. These counties are Dufferin, Elgin, Essex, Frontenac, Grey, Haliburton, Lanark, Prince Edward, Stormont, and Welland. We cannot tell whether there are any cities and towns in the same backward condition or not, as no statistics are given for these ex-