

pended the preceding year of £9,164 17s. 4d. No aid is given for these purposes by the Legislature. The whole is done by voluntary assessments of Municipalities and school sections.

The amount raised and expended for rents and repairs of school houses in 1857 was £9,401 13s. 4d, being a decrease of £795 3s. 3d. This and the preceding item taken together show that fewer school houses were rented, and more built and secured in 1857 and than in 1856.

The amount raised and expended for text-books and stationery (that is by Trustees) fuel and other incidental expenses in 1857, was £22,258 9s. 5d., being an increase of £3,096 6s. 6d. For these purposes no aid is granted by the Legislature.

The balances of school moneys in hand the 31st December, 1857, amounted to £30,564 10s. 9d., being an increase of £1169 18s. 11d. on those in hand at the end of the preceding year.

The total expenditure for Common School purposes during the year 1857 was £303 10s. 10d., being an increase of £33,512 0s. 1d. on the total expenditure of the preceding year.

As the whole of the £303,039 10s. 10d. expended in 1857 for the support of Common Schools, with the exception of between thirty and forty thousand pounds, was provided by local voluntary assessment or rates, it indicates not only the universally powerful working of this branch of the school system, but the progress of the public mind in a primary element of educational advancement—provision for its support. And when the financial condition of the country is considered during the last half of the year 1857—the part of the year during which the greater part of the school rates are levied, and nearly all of them collected—the fact that the receipts and expenditures of the year are more than one hundred thousand dollars in advance of any one of the preceding prosperous years, presents a remarkable phenomenon in the educational history of Upper Canada, and an extraordinary contrast to its receipts in every other branch of revenue and industry.

COMMON SCHOOL POPULATION.

The number of pupils between 5 and 16 years of age attending the schools in 1856, was 227,992; in 1857, 247,434—increase, 19,442. The number of pupils attending school between the ages of 16 and 21 years, in 1856, was 23,153; in 1857, 25,203—increase, 2,050. The total number of pupils attending the schools, in 1856, was 251,145; in 1857, 272,637—increase, 21,492.

The number of *boys* attending the schools in 1857 was 150,029—increase, 12,609. The number of *girls* was 122,608—increase, 8,883. A much larger number of girls than boys attended private schools, as the law makes no provision for a higher class of girls' Schools.

The number returned as indigent children attending the schools in 1857 was 4,820—increase, 725. This distribution does not, of course, obtain where the schools are *free*, as all children then attend them by right, and none as paupers.