

time. The decrease of twenty-seven male teachers and the increase of 125 female teachers shows the continued withdrawal of men from the teaching profession. Of the "religieux" about two-thirds are nuns. There is scarcely any change in the average of the salaries of Roman Catholic teachers. In the case of the Protestant teachers there is a decline. There must be a mistake in the report in the average salary of Protestant male teachers in elementary schools, \$663. Last year it was \$345. The increase of French pupils learning English is very marked, 11,258. However, the proportion of English pupils learning French is very much higher. The two languages are supposed to be taught in all schools, but of Protestant scholars two-thirds are learning French, and of the Roman Catholic scholars not much more than one-fourth are learning English. Still, credit must be given to our French fellow-citizens for their facility in speaking English. French laboring men can generally speak English while many English professional men cannot speak French.

NOTES FROM INSPECTOR'S REPORTS.

The first one in the volume is from an inspector whose district is in the eastern part of the province. He finds that generally progress is slow, but such must be expected from a staff of teachers badly remunerated, who do not make a profession of teaching because there is no future in it. He does not find much improvement in school-houses and furniture; and he finds that the law and regulations upon these points "are scarcely visible outside the books which contain them." Another inspector, dating his report from Rimouski, makes the same complaint. The school-houses are too small by half, the children's desks are uncomfortable and the schools need maps, blackboards, and other necessary school appliances. An inspector whose district comprises much of the territory

to the north of Montreal, complains of small school-houses. He writes: "A large number of schools do not supply the children with the number of cubic feet of air required by the regulations of the Roman Catholic Committee of the Council of Public Instruction. Whenever a new school is to be built, the commissioners, without considering that the population is liable to increase, build such schools in proportion to the actual number of children old enough to attend school, and in a couple of years, it very often happens, in a country requiring to be colonized, such, for instance, as that of Labelle, that they are too small. From statistics prepared by myself, 61 schools give only from 38 to 96 cubic feet of air per child, 22 give from 100 to 130 feet, and in my district there are only 34 schools of the dimensions required." An inspector, whose territory includes part of the valley of the Richelieu, finds in many schools the same state of affairs. He finds a female teacher compelled to take charge from Monday until Friday evening of the pupils living at a distance from the schools. Besides teaching she had to board and lodge these pupils, and all this in a room badly ventilated, while the sleeping chamber was so narrow that sometimes it was impossible to have any clear space between the beds. The teacher stated that she would be obliged to give up her position as her health was breaking down, nor was the inspector surprised that such was the case. In a number of reports it is suggested that the government withhold the grant from such schools or that the superintendent be empowered to construct suitable school buildings at the expense of the rate-payers of the district. This, it is thought, would stir up the people to make the necessary reforms.—The Daily Witness, Montreal.

The William Black memorial beacon shone on Monday night over the