

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

W. S. DARRAGH, Inspector.

SIR,—

For the eighth time I have the honor of presenting the annual report on public schools in the County of Cumberland. In the following table you will find at a glance the number, grade, and sex of all the teachers employed in the County for the school year ending October 31st, 1876.

	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Winter Term...	1	7	8	5	....	21	.....	21	Male.
	....	1	38	33	28	.....	100	100	Female.
	1	11	46	35	28	.....	.....	121	Total.
	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Summer Term..	1	7	7	3	....	18	.....	18	Male.
	....	1	39	34	37	.....	111	111	Female.
	1	8	46	37	37	.....	.....	129	Total.

The abstracts already forwarded contain the statistics of the schools and sections in detail. In the Winter term there were one hundred and twenty-one schools and departments in operation, and in the Summer term one hundred and twenty-nine. Of these, the District of Parrsboro' had twenty-two, an advance of six over the corresponding term of last year.

New School Houses.—Three new school houses have been built during the year; two in Little River, in Cumberland proper, and one in New Prospect, Parrsboro'. I am sorry to say that in Little River both sections closed school while they were building, and deprived the children of the advantages of the Summer term.

Districts.—The County of Cumberland is divided into two School Districts. 1st. Cumberland proper. 2nd. Parrsboro'. Each District has a separate School Board of its own. The Board of Cumberland proper meets semi-annually in Amherst, and the Parrsboro' Board meets in Mill Village. This arrangement gives four regular meetings of School Boards in the year.

Number of Sections.—The whole number of School Sections in the County is ONE HUNDRED and THIRTY-EIGHT. In the district of Cumberland proper there are one hundred and thirteen. Four of these have large graded schools, and Amherst has the County Academy. The district of Parrsboro is divided into Twenty-five school sections. Mill Village has a large graded school. Section No. 4 (*Two Islands*), is the only one in the County which holds out refusing to have school. With this exception, Parrsboro district has during the year made astonishing educational efforts.

Books.—The prescribed Nova Scotia School Series, with the exception of an occasional Greenleaf's Arithmetic, are the only books used in the schools of this County. However, this Centennial year has brought out wonderful improvements, and our educational requisites have not been overlooked; thanks