

large and excellent curriculum to the ambitious student; over fourteen thousand common and other schools, and eight normal schools, in which teachers are trained. The total amount annually expended by the governments and people of all the provinces amounts to £ 1,600,000, of which Ontario contributes at least one half. The same province has spent during thirty years some £ 12,000,000 sterling for the building of school houses, and other educational objects; and the results of its liberality is the possession of buildings which for size and convenience cannot be surpassed by the New England States where education, from the earliest times in their history, has been the most important feature of their social and political system. The public schools of Canada, however, do not go very far back in the history of the country. In 1839 there were in all the schools of British North America only some 92,000 children out of a population of 1,400,000 souls, or one to fifteen, but now the proportion is given as one to four. The majority of the schools in the province of Quebec are controlled by the priests and religious orders. Separate Schools, however, exist in Quebec and other provinces for Protestants and Roman Catholics; and in fact they are specially protected by the terms of the Act of Union.

The higher educational institutions of Canada, for instance, McGill University in Montreal, Toronto University, Queen's College in Kingston, and Laval University in Quebec — have connected with them a large class of professors, many of whom, like Sir William Dawson and Dr. Daniel Wilson, have won for themselves a high reputation in the world of science and literature. In accord with the spirit of the day, these large institutions have their courses of technical, geological, medical and legal studies. A young man can in Ontario commence with the common school, in due course of time pass through the academy or collegiate institute, and then complete his studies in ^{one of} the Universities ^{and} at the minimum of expense. Indeed if he is clever and industrious, he can take enough scholarships to meet nearly all his necessary expenses whilst passing his university course.

The people of Canada have been so much occupied in building cities and towns, in opening the mine, in clearing the forest, in developing all the varied resources of their country that one would naturally suppose they have had little time for the pursuit of Art, Literature and Science. The Geological and other Sciences have, however, from an early period engaged the attention of many able men who have found abundant opportunities for the exercise of their talents in the very fertile field of investigation and study