

ten years previous when the school attendance was 401,643, or more than three-fourths of what it is now ; so that with one-fourth more scholars, double the amount of money is expended—a somewhat significant fact!

There were 5,140 schools, giving employment to 6,468 teachers, of whom there were 400 more females than males. The increase of teachers for the year was 283; and, since the increase of scholars was but 323, we come to the pleasing conclusion that there are fewer scholars for each teacher to manage—and a step towards a consummation devoutly to be wished.

In 1876, teachers of the Methodist denomination took the lead in numbers, but they were slightly outstripped by the Presbyterians in the following year. It is worthy of remark that out of 812 Roman Catholic teachers 478 are employed in the Public Schools, the remainder working in their own Separate Schools.

In regard to certificates, 250 teachers hold first-class provincial, 1,304 hold second-class, and 3,926 hold new County Board third class. These are exclusive of old County Board certificates which are yearly decreasing. With such a preponderance of third class teachers it behoves our educational authorities to use their utmost wisdom in improving and extending the means provided for their training. It is gratifying to find that the financial position of the teacher is improving, since there is an increase of \$200,000 upon the salaries for the year. The average salary of male teachers in cities was \$735, in towns \$583, and in counties \$379; of female teachers in the same, \$307, \$269, and \$260 respectively; this shows an average increase for male teachers of \$14, and for female teachers of \$12. It is odd to find, however, that while the highest salary paid in towns is \$1,100; in cities it is only \$1,000.

The number of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes in the Province is 104, with 9,229 scholars, who are taught by 280 teachers at an average salary of \$756, or an increase of \$23 upon the previous year. Twenty-seven of these schools charge a quarterly fee ranging from 25 cents to \$5—the remainder are free. The total expenditure was \$343,710,

being at the rate of \$37.10 per pupil; the cost per pupil in the Public Schools being \$6.25.

In the High Schools there were 33 pupils to each teacher, in the Public Schools there were 76. We are unable from the official tables to say what the average attendance in the High Schools was, nor are there any details as to salary to enable us to state what was the highest and lowest salary paid; but any defects in these are amply compensated for by the able and judicious report of the High School Inspectors, from which we gather that the average attendance for 1877 was 56 per cent. of those entered on the registers. Did our space permit, we would gladly deal with this report in greater detail, but we content ourselves by quoting the following suggestion in reference to our National University; which, to some extent, runs parallel to a few remarks we ventured in all friendliness to make in regard to this Institution in another place.

“We hold further that, as the matriculation examinations of the University of Toronto practically determine to a great extent the work of the High Schools, and as a national university does not exist for itself alone, but for the educational interests of the community that supports it, the curriculum for these examinations should be so framed as to encourage in the High Schools the study of those subjects which the general interests of the community require to be taught there. Chemistry, we maintain, is one of these subjects, and we desire to place on record our conviction that the Senate of the Provincial University in ignoring its claims as a subject for matriculation in arts, when they last revised their curriculum, adopted a policy directly injurious to higher and secondary, and indirectly injurious to primary education.”

The Report of the Normal Schools contains ample information as to the number of students, the locality they come from, etc., but nothing of the cost of these institutions apart from the Model Schools. After a good deal of search we found that the attendance at the Normal and Provincial Model Schools was 900; their cost was \$43,166.34, being at the rate of \$48 per pupil. This