

In 1866, the Inspector of this County reported only twenty-five houses suitable for school purposes—seven of which were built during the year. There has been, therefore, a commendable advancement in the matter of school accommodation for the past ten years. The change introduced by the new system, has taught all to look for school houses, in keeping with the other public buildings of the Province. This improvement still goes on in the face of the dull times. During the past year the school houses in Lake George, Ormsby Road, Clermont and Lockhartville Sections, have been newly plastered and otherwise repaired. In Hants Border another room has been finished and furnished in the school house, and the school graded into two departments. Upper Canard has enlarged the school house so as to give two rooms in the lower storey. The old part of the building has been extensively repaired by raising the ceiling, plastering, painting and seating with the Dawson desk. Upper Pereaux has just completed a new house, suitable for the wants of the section, at a cost of \$600.

Canning has expended about \$3000 in the erection of a school house on the most desirable site in the section. The house is finished to accommodate two departments—having also a large class room, intended for the smaller children, until another room can be added to the building. I understand it is the intention to make this addition as soon as possible. Burnett's patent desks are used as furniture. The rooms are well ventilated and supplied with all the modern conveniences and improvements for the comfort and health of the teacher and school. In appearance, location, finish, &c., &c., this building reflects great credit upon the taste and enterprise of the section. Horton Landing and Randville have houses in course of erection which will be completed and used for schools after the Christmas vacation. Kentville has finished another room in the new school house, and graded the school into three departments. A few old houses remain, an eyesore to those laboring in the interests of the schools, but hope points to a time, near at hand, when all these hindrances shall be removed.

Schools.—For the winter term, 85 schools were in operation, taught by 97 teachers and licensed assistants. The number of pupils enrolled was 4453, making an attendance of 267115 days.

For the summer term there were 93 schools, 96 teachers and assistants, 4528 pupils registered, with an attendance of 260125 days.

Class of teachers employed:—

Winter. Grade B. 10—C. 48—D. 22—E. 9. Male 43.—Female 54.

Summer. “ B. 9—C. 44—D. 30—E. 13. “ 19. “ 76.

Almost all the teachers employed in the County are earnest and faithful workers. If they do not accomplish, in all cases, all that can be desired, they can not justly be censured, as they have qualified themselves and passed the required examination and taught to the best of their ability. Those intending to follow teaching for a length of time, are manifesting an increasing desire for a better qualification for the work; and for this purpose 26 from this County attended the Normal School for some part of the past year. The attendance of many of these being short was not such as to secure the principal benefit this Institution is intended to confer, i.e., a training to teach. But once receiving a correct idea of the work done at this school, most persons will return and complete the course. This short attendance is likely to give a wrong impression of the training received at the Normal School. From May until the examination of teachers in July, the work of the Institution is more particularly a review and preparation for license. This attracts large numbers at that time, who are generally successful in obtaining high marks upon the