

and those of corporations and incorporated companies. Mr. Galt, it will be remembered, made some promises to the people of the Eastern Townships upon these subjects, which were easier made than performed. At all events, the proposed changes have not taken place, and there is good ground for the belief that the Protestant portion of the community is not fairly dealt with in the distribution of the Government grant. Protestant and Catholic alike have dissentient schools; the former number 134, with an attendance of 4,629 pupils; the latter 48, with an attendance of 1,830. The superintendent says nothing as to the amount of money expended upon each kind of school. On the financial question generally he remarks:—"The most urgent want of the department is that which I have constantly represented—the regulation, namely, of its financial difficulties. These difficulties existed previous to 1855, before my appointment to office and the passing of the law of superior schools. The Legislature voted an annual grant for superior education, but with a proviso that only a certain portion of the amount should be receivable from the consolidated revenue of the Province, while the residue should be a special charge upon the Jesuits' estates and on the balance of the grant for common schools. Now, the sums voted every year being always in excess of the two last mentioned sources of supply, a considerable deficit was the result. The passing of the law for superior education continued the same state of things. * * The portion of Lower Canada in the annual supplementary grant for common schools is exhausted, without the possibility of increasing the allowance to these schools; nay, a deficit remains, which now nearly equals the capital of the fund for superior education. It follows that it is very difficult to increase the different grants which I have, in this as in many previous reports, represented as insufficient."

Passing from the teachers and the common school fund we come to an interesting portion of the report—that which refers to the establishment of normal schools some six or seven years ago. In Upper Canada one central normal school is sufficient, but Lower Canada has three. "In establishing these schools," says M. Chauveau, "the same principle that obtained in the establishment of dissentient schools led to the granting of separate normal schools for the two great religious divisions of the population, the Catholics and the Protestants." But, why, working upon this basis, should there be more than one normal school? The Superintendent explains:—"An almost necessary consequence of this division was the establishment of two Catholic normal schools, and one Protestant normal school; the great mass of the Protestant population of Lower Canada being located in the western section, it followed that the Protestant normal school must be established at Montreal. But as the Catholic population of the Montreal section is numerically, if not relatively, more considerable than that of the Quebec section, it was difficult to avoid placing a Catholic normal school at Montreal; while on the other hand it was evident that the geographical position of that city, by no means a central one as regards the rest of Lower Canada, did not entitle it to enjoy alone the advantage of possessing these institutions." This arrangement may have been necessary, but it is unfortunate that three normal schools should be required to do what one would have done as well but for the irreconcilable differences which religious distinctions create. M. Chauveau, however, defends the system by its results. "There is no doubt, whatever," he says, "but that the three normal schools have attracted a far larger number of pupils and popularized the new systems of teaching much more effectually than a single school would have done." Last year there were 213 pupil teachers attending the three schools,—97 males and 116 females. The Superintendent goes pretty largely into details to show that these schools have answered the fullest expectations, and that the great majority of those who have received diplomas from them have continued teaching. Altogether something like 840 teachers have been turned out of the three schools, of whom over 600 were teaching at the date of the last reports.—*Leader*.

2. EDUCATION IN UPPER CANADA.

In the last report of the Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada, we have an abstract of the work done by the Normal, Model, Grammar and Common Schools of the Western Province during the year 1864. It is full of figures, which, though dry reading generally, are in this case of so much general interest that we shall be excused if we give more of them than ordinarily take up much space in these columns. The Chief Superintendent's report, too, is suggestive upon many topics; and if we do not touch upon them to-day, it is because the figures which form the basis of the report are so extensive that it would be impossible to go over the whole ground in one article of reasonable length.

Dr. Ryerson remarks that the satisfaction with which he presents this report to the Governor General exceeds that of any previous year, inasmuch as "though the last year has been one of a series of

depression from the failure of crops, and the derangement of trade and finance of account of the civil war in the United States, now happily terminated, there has been a larger increase in the receipts and expenditure for the support of schools than during any of the preceding four years, and a corresponding progress in other respects." It is but a few days since we gave a summarised sketch of the progress of common school education in Lower Canada, where considerable progress had to be noted. This progress is small compared with that which has been made in the richer Province of the West. The interest taken in common school education in Upper Canada is perhaps best measured by the disparity, so to speak, between the amount raised by municipal assessment and the grant provided by the Legislature. Last year the legislative grant for the common schools was \$177,052.95, whilst the total expenditure upon these schools was \$1,285,318, an increase in the latter amount over the previous year of \$30,871. The legislative grant is paid to each municipality upon the condition that it provides at least an equal sum by local assessment. Last year the municipalities and school trustees provided in all a sum of \$963,762, an increase of \$44,238. In school sections the ratepayers have the power of determining whether their schools shall be free or supported by a school rate; in cities, towns and incorporated villages, the trustees decide this point. The Superintendent notices with satisfaction that the rate-bill system is decreasing. The amount raised by rates—a tax of not more than 25. a month for each pupil—last year was \$59,636—decrease, \$13,043. The receipts from other sources, besides those already named, were as follows:—Clergy Reserves, \$105,296 a slight decrease; balances from 1863 \$178,438.

There is an increase in every item of expenditure, amounting in all to \$30,871. The different items are:—salaries of teachers, \$996,956; maps, apparatus, prizes and libraries, \$23,149; school sites and buildings \$116,056; rents and repairs of school houses \$37,003; school books, stationery, fuel, &c., \$112,151.

The school population of Upper Canada—that is children between the ages of 5 and 16—number 424,565. Of this number 350,925 attended the common schools last year, of which 198,024 were boys. The number of children reported as not attending any school was 40,483—a decrease of 4,492; these figures are not the result of careful inquiry; but with regard to them the Chief Superintendent remarks:—"Making all reasonable allowance on this ground, yet judging from reports of Local Superintendents themselves, the number not attending any school must be considerable, such as to contribute a public blot, disgrace and danger, which every friend of the country and of humanity should endeavor, by all possible means to remove." Out of 4,225 schools reported as open, 3,459, or more than four-fifths, are free. The number partly free is 711 and in which monthly rate-bills are imposed 55. Farther on his report, Dr. Ryerson makes some remarks upon this subject, which may call for consideration at another time.

The table referring to the number of teachers employed shows an average of one for about every 70 pupils. There were, in all 4,625 teachers employed last year, of which 3,011 were males. There is no explanation of the somewhat striking fact that whilst there was a decrease of 83 male there was an increase of 204 female teachers. They are reported to be of the following religious denominations:—Church of England, 854, church of Rome, 544, Presbyterians, 1,397, Methodists, 1,286, Baptists, 227, Congregationalists, 80, Lutherans 17, Quakers 16, Disciples or Christians, 32, reported as Protestants 76, Unitarian 2, other persuasions 17, not reported 77. As to the proficiency of the teachers we must take for a standard the certificates they held which were as follows: First class Normal school 216, second class 358; First class County Board 1,396, second class 2,054; third class 475; unclassified 124. The salaries range from \$84 to \$1,300; the average being, for males \$436—females \$224.

Of the whole number of school houses reported—4,246—529 are brick, 366 stone, and 1,671 log. There is a gratifying increase of substantial structures; the total number of schools built last year was 126, of which 47 were brick and 13 stone.

The average time of keeping open the schools is reported to be, in counties, 11 months; in cities, 12 months; in towns, 11 months, 29 days; in villages, 11 months, 25 days.

In former reports it used to be an argument in favor of permitting the Separate School system to run its course into disuse, that the number of schools of this class was yearly diminishing. This year we find an increase of 27, the total number reported being 147. The amount of the legislative grant appropriated to these schools was \$8,892. The amount towards the support of these schools obtained from self-imposed rates and subscriptions was \$42,150; increase, \$7,341. The number of pupils attending these schools last year was 17,365, an increase of 1,506. The number of teachers employed was 190, of which 107 were females.

With these figures, we leave the common schools. Of grammar schools there are 95 in operation. The amount received by these