

themselves to the new order of things, and college work proceed with its accustomed success. In the six colleges 30 professors were engaged during the year, giving instruction to 211 regularly matriculated students, and to 129 taking partial courses. The above figures indicate a growth, as compared with 1875, and are most gratifying assurances that the people of Nova Scotia are not indifferent to this branch of our educational enterprise.

At the close of the recent collegiate year 23 students, having finished their prescribed term, received their first degree, while a very much larger number were successful in their matriculation examination. From table XIX we learn that these six colleges own property in real estate and in funds otherwise invested to the amount of \$364,755.57; but it will be noticed that this sum is somewhat below the figures given in the table of last year. The reports do not explain the diminution. Their income from all sources was \$34,921.28, and their total expenditure \$34,374.99; probably less was spent during the year on construction, hence the smaller expenditure as compared with 1875. The government grant to all six as now paid is \$13,200. The supporters and friends of the colleges, as they contemplate their success, have no reason for discouragement or hesitation in offering them a liberal support, their history, extending over so many years, in one instance almost a century, is a record of educational progress in the country and of influences most salutary. Those who have been active in fostering and promoting their country's education were mostly college men: trained and strengthened by a college course and therefore better understood the character of the work to be accomplished, and the best means whereby it could be carried to successful results.

EXPENDITURE.

For the year 1876 the whole expenditure for common schools was \$619015.62 being an increase of \$24977.23. The amount assessed in the counties, and paid as the county tax was \$106780.75, a decrease of \$615.66 for the year. The whole amount expended by Trustees was \$445619.07, an increase of \$18092.21 for the year. The sum assessed on Sections by the vote of rate-payers was \$292,155.33, an increase of \$14078.30 for the year. This \$292,155.23 with \$153463.74 derived from other sources, gives a total as stated above of \$445619.07.

The total expenditure in 1876 for all common school purposes, including Government Grant, County Fund, and Section Tax, amounted in the aggregate, as above stated, to \$619015.62, and is an excess of \$24977.23 on the former year, making the average cost of instruction for each pupil \$6.57. The sum expended for all educational purposes for the year was \$717374.58.

For a more detailed account, we refer to the several tables, relating to the different branches of expenditure.

GENERAL REMARKS.

It will be observed that yearly the sum expended on Common Schools