

Terra Natalis. It is a very prosperous colony, 20,641 square miles in area, with a population of 46,788 Europeans, 41,142 Indian coolies, and 455,983 native Zulu Kaffirs. The coast is adapted for tropical products, the mid-land for cereals and the upper regions for grazing purposes. The leading occupations are the raising of cattle and sheep and the rearing of ostriches. Wool and ostrich feathers are among the most valuable exports. The only large harbor on the coast is Port Natal or Durban, which is land-locked, with good outside anchorage. The capital is Pietermaritzburg.

The present educational system of Natal was established in 1877, the same year in which the present school system of Prince Edward Island was established. In 1878, before the changes provided for by the new laws had been carried out, there were only four Government Schools in Natal—a High School and an Elementary School in Maritzburg, and two similar schools in Durban. The Maritzburg High School was miserably housed, and had an attendance of 22 boys; the Durban High School was housed in a granary, and was attended by 46 boys. These two schools are now flourishing day and boarding schools, occupying handsome buildings in the suburbs of each town, and having a combined attendance of 260 boys, 65 of them boarders. In 1878 the two Elementary Schools were attended by both boys and girls—the Durban school by 160 pupils, and the Maritzburg one by 180. They have grown into six large schools—two for boys, and four for girls and infants—with an aggregate attendance of 1,813 in Durban, and 1,333 in Maritzburg. In country districts, where there are now twelve large and successful country schools belonging to the Government, with

1,469 children in attendance, there were, in 1878, eight small aided schools, with a total attendance of 199. In 1878 only two Secondary Schools for girls received Government aid—the Durban Girls' High School and the Maritzburg Collegiate School. The combined attendance was 97. Now five such schools are under Government inspection—the Collegiate School and Thanet House School in Maritzburg, the Young Ladies' College in Durban, the Huguenot Seminary in Greytown, and the Collegiate School in Ladysmith. The average daily attendance of these schools, three of which are boarding schools, is 449.

The following tabulated comparisons show, in part, the progress that has been made :

	1878.	1898.
European population	23,000	50,000
No. of schools under operation	63	303
No. of certificated teachers	21	217
No. of pupils in attendance	1,936	8,675
No. present at annual inspection	1,859	7,269
No. of free pupils	224	960
No. of candidates at certificate and bursary examinations	99	425
No. of certificates gained	11	316
No. of pupils receiving manual, scientific or technical instruction	190	1,599
School fees paid into treasury	£845 2s.	£7,942
Expenditure by Government	£8,815	£44,941

This table refers only to European schools. In 1878 the Native and Indian Schools were few in number. Now there are 184 Native and 32 Indian Schools under inspection. Twenty years ago the buildings were very inferior, consisting, in many cases of wagon sheds, stables and store rooms. The furniture was frequently deficient, antiquated and badly arranged. School books were of all descriptions. In some schools