

of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, are not included in this figure.)

The 6161 children and young persons of both sexes who obtain their education in religious communities, receive that education gratuitously, or almost so. The threepences and the fivepences, &c., paid monthly by a certain number of the day-scholars who frequent the schools of the Sisters of Charity, of the Good Shepherd, and of the Ursulines, cannot be considered otherwise than equivalent to 0, if we compare the revenue derived from this source to the sum of the expenses incurred annually by these divers establishments.

So also the \$100, or the \$120, paid by the boarders of the Seminary, of the University, of the Ursulines, &c., does not suffice, or barely suffice, to defray the cost of boarding those pupils. The proof of this is visible in the large deficits of all these establishments, notwithstanding that their administration is conducted with the most strict economy.

We have therefore at Quebec a complete system of gratuitous education.

Between this system of gratuitous education and that followed in other countries, there are two points of capital difference,—that is to say :

1. Gratuitous education in other countries, where this system is in force, exists only in reference to elementary education. In Quebec, education of every kind, elementary and classical, is gratuitous.

2. Elsewhere the costs of this gratuitous education are borne by governments and municipalities; in Quebec the religious communities, unaided, bear the costs of this education, (the Normal Schools excepted.)

In fact the amount of assistance granted for this object by the Provincial Government, and by the School Commissioners, is so small, that, compared to the enormous sum expended by our religious houses, the public grants are barely equivalent to 0.