

of whom are still under eight years of age. Arrangements were made to have the remaining five enter the institution in September, and I had reason to hope for a still larger increase from other quarters ; but up to the present time no addition has been made to our numbers. I have now the names of 15 blind children in this Province who should be receiving instruction, and it is to be regretted that the parents and friends of the blind are not more zealous in securing for them an education, without which they are doomed to lives of ignorance and helpless dependence.

I hope the friends of those deprived of sight will become alive to the urgent necessity of educating them while young, and as soon as possible take steps to secure their admission into the school.

ONE CENTRAL INSTITUTION FOR THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

New England supports but one institution for the education of the Blind, and one such school would be ample for the Maritime Provinces.

In a financial point of view it would be for the mutual advantage of the Lower Provinces to unite in sustaining one efficient institution, whilst the blind themselves would be greatly benefitted inasmuch as a better system of grading the classes could be effected, and a greater variety of occupations taught. Some time ago your board decided to admit pupils from New Brunswick, P. E. Island and Newfoundland, at the rate of \$120 per annum. The admission fee being the same as that paid by pupils in this Province.

In New Brunswick there are probably 18 blind persons who are now at a proper age to enter the school, 7 in P. E. Island, and 10 in Newfoundland. The majority of these are in comparatively indigent circumstances, and in order that they may avail themselves of the opportunity to enter this school, assistance will be required from their respective Governments. Trusting that this report may meet with your favorable consideration, it is respectfully submitted.

C. F. FRASER.