

Professor H. Miles, the Commissioner for Canada, furnishes the following interesting details respecting the state of education in that country:—

"Education in Canada is subsidized, inspected, and in great part controlled, by the Government. A provincial superintendent of education, and a staff of clerks, &c., form an education bureau for each of the former provinces of Upper and Lower Canada. The school laws in both are the same in their more important features, but differ in details—differences being necessary to adapt them to the wants and usages of the two races which inhabit Canada. In Upper Canada there are five colleges with the rank and privileges of universities. An effort is now being made to fuse them, or adopt a common curriculum and common standard of examination. Toronto University is under direct Government control, enjoys a large provincial endowment, and is not under the control of any religious body. The others are under the control of several Churches. In Lower Canada there are three colleges with university rank—viz., McGill College, Montreal, under the control of no religious body; Bishop's College, Lennoxville, belonging to the Church of England; and Laval University, Quebec, under the control of the Roman Catholic Church. The first of these had in 1860, 213 students in the schools of art, medicine, and law; the second twenty-three in arts alone. Laval, not receiving any grant from the public exchequer, nor submitting to the control of the superintendent, furnishes no return. Next in grade in Lower Canada are ten classical colleges, or high schools, with 1896 pupils; and fourteen industrial colleges, with 2333 pupils. The Universities received in that year 5234 dol., or a little over 1000L. sterling, from the provincial exchequer; the classical colleges 14,258 dol., and the industrial 8090 dol. Besides these, more than 230 academies and model schools are returned, with a number of pupils in each ranging from 12 to 138, giving a very large aggregate attendance, and receiving 41,816 d.l. in aid. In many of these latter the education is mixed, classes being taught everything, from the elements proper to an infant school, up to the classics and mathematics necessary to matriculate at the University. In Upper Canada the higher part of the work is more strictly apportioned to the grammar schools. For the common schools the provinces vote annually a fixed sum to be distributed by the provincial superintendents, who annually report their proceedings to Government. The share of the grant falling to each municipality is handed over to it, subject to the condition that it will tax itself to an equal amount; and the perfect representative municipal institutions of the country make the levying of this rate upon the property a very simple matter. The same machinery is employed as that created to provide means for the making and support of roads and bridges, and other local improvements. In Lower Canada, the distribution is based on the annual census of the children between the ages of seven and fourteen years; in Upper Canada, upon the last decennial census of the total population. In Lower Canada, each school of fifteen scholars kept open for eight months receives its allowance. In Upper Canada, each receives in proportion to the length of time it is kept open. But the people in neither province have been content with raising just enough by local rates; or voluntary subscriptions, to meet the grant. In 1860 the sum actually distributed by superintendent among the common schools of Lower Canada was only about 116,000 dol.; but against that the people raised by local rates 235,364 dol. as monthly fees 219,717 dol.; and as assessments for the erection and repair of school-houses 15,771 dol., making a total of 503,853 dol., or more than four times as much as the direct grant. The grants being nearly stationary from 1853 to 1855—in fact, rather reduced by funds devoted to annual schools, &c., in the later years—these contributions steadily increased from 1853, when they only amounted to 165,848 dol., to 249,136 dol. in 1855, 459,396 dol. in 1858, and 503,850 dol. in 1860. During the same period, 1853 to 1860, the number of schools increased from 2352 to 3264, and the pupils from 108,284 to 172,155; the population being in the latter year 1,111,566. We cannot furnish the same statistics for Upper Canada. But with a grant slightly larger than Lower Canada, based upon its larger population in 1852, that portion of Canada spent in 1859 upon its common schools upwards of 1,100,000 dol., or nearly one dollar per head of the entire population.

"For the Training of teachers there have been established one normal school in Upper Canada, and three in the Lower Province. One of these three is connected with Laval University, the one with McGill, and one is under the more immediate control of the superintendent himself. They were only established in 1857—that in Upper Canada having been in operation several years previously. In 1860 the Lower Canada schools had 102 male and 126 female teachers in training, and had granted diplomas for academies to

four male pupils; for model schools to 134 (sixty-one male and seventy-three female), for elementary schools to 181 (fifty-six male and 125 female)—in all to 319 teachers. The teachers previously employed were very generally ignorant of the best methods of imparting instruction, in many cases ignorant of the subjects they professed to teach. Year by year a marked improvement is visible in this respect; a higher qualification for licenses to teach being more and more insisted on.

"In each province there is a council of public instruction to advise the superintendent in certain matters, and specially to determine upon the school books to be used in the public schools. By this means uniformity and system are gradually being introduced into the teaching, and books published in the United States, which necessarily give prominence to the interests of that country, are gradually being superseded.

"To assist the superintendent, there are appointed salaried inspectors of schools in Lower Canada, who visit and examine the schools within their respective districts periodically, and report annually to the superintendent. In Upper Canada there is a county superintendent in each county to perform this office.

"In Lower Canada the immediate control of the schools is vested in commissioners for each parish, township, village, town, or city municipality having charge of all the schools in it. In Upper Canada there are trustees elected for each school district, or district set apart by the municipal council as entitled to a school within its limits.

"In both provinces the authorities may make arrangements for religious teaching in the schools, but no pupils need stay to receive it whose parents object. Provision is also made that wherever a certain number of persons dissenting from the religious views of the majority desire it, they may establish a separate or dissentient school, elect special trustees for it, and receive their share of the Government grant, and of the proceeds of local taxation."

ENGLAND AND WALES.—It is impossible to furnish, respecting the state of public instruction in Great Britain and Ireland, any figures, approaching in symmetry and completeness to those which have been given for other countries. It is very much to be regretted that at the recent census of 1861 no returns as to the state of education of the people were obtained, although in 1851 statistics of great value were collected on the subject. The action of the State upon education is very partial, extending only to 10,900 schools, and the number of endowments and other agencies and influences devoted to the support of schools is not very large, but so varied as to be incapable of easy estimate or classification. Nevertheless, in 1861, sixty inspectors appointed by the Government were employed in visiting schools and in holding examinations. They found present in the schools, 1,028,690 children, 8069 certificated teachers, and 15,498 apprentices or pupil-teachers. Of the schools or departments, 2281 were for boys only, 2260 for girls only, in 4739 boys and girls were instructed together, 1620 were confined to infants (children under seven years of age). Of the children 566,333 were males and 462,357 were females. The inspectors also visited thirty-nine separate training colleges, occupied by 2869 students in preparation for the office of schoolmaster or schoolmistress. In December last these students and 2782 other candidates were simultaneously examined for the end of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year of their training, or for admission, or for certificates as acting teachers. The inspectors also visited 442 schools for pauper children, containing 32,481 inmates, and 53 ragged or industrial schools, containing 4411 inmates. The total sum expended in the year was 813,44L., which was—

	£	s.	d.
For building, enlarging, repairing, and furnishing elementary schools.....	99,506	15	4
For building, enlarging, repairing, and furnishing normal or training colleges.....	6,945	0	0
For providing books, maps, and diagrams.....	5,767	10	7
For providing scientific apparatus.....	244	8	8
For augmenting salaries of certificated schoolmasters and schoolmistresses.....	121,627	7	8
For paying salaries of assistant teachers.....	8,701	0	1
For paying salaries of probationary teachers.....	8,009	11	8
For paying stipends of pupil-teachers and gratuities for their special instruction.....	301,826	10	9
For capitation grants.....	77,239	15	11
For grants to night schools.....	2,192	8	9
For grants for teaching drawing.....	2,253	5	0
For annual grants to training colleges.....	101,865	13	1
For grants to reformatory and industrial schools.....	9,311	9	3
Pensions.....	785	3	4
Inspection.....	44,143	2	10