

FIRST SESSION.

ADDRESS BY J. R. INCH, M. A., LL. D.

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION.

Members of the Provincial Educational Institute :

Ladies and Gentlemen,—

Permit me to extend to you all a hearty greeting. It is ten years since the Provincial Institute assembled in the City of Moncton. At that time there was no school building in the City sufficiently commodious to accommodate the Sessions of the Institute, which was obliged to meet in the vestry of one of the churches. The educational progress made in this City during the ten years which have since passed is highly gratifying. The noble school buildings which have been erected, furnished and equipped with modern appliances and a good library, reflect the highest honor upon the enterprise and the enlightened liberality of the School Board, and upon the citizens of Moncton who have provided the financial means for this wonderful development. The material progress as seen in the school buildings and equipments has not been greater than the progress made in all other respects—in the qualifications of the teachers, in the increase of attendance and in the general educational efficiency. The following comparison between the terms ending December, 1889, and December, 1899, will show the correctness of my statement.

	DEC. 1889.	DEC. 1899.	% Increase.
No. of Departments,	22	33	50 p. c.
“ “ Pupils enrolled,	1,271	1,825	44 p. c.
Gross days Pupils' attendance,	80,891 ½	125,590	55 p. c.
Percentage of attendance,	76.73	84.64	8 p. c.
No. of Pupils above Gr. VIII.	53	176	232 p. c.

Though it cannot be claimed that in all respects the progress made during the decade in this City is a fair measure of the progress made

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