

education last year amounted to \$681,134.36, of which the Government contributed \$204,266.38. The expenditure was thus divided:

		Portion paid by Gov. of N. S.
Public Schools.....	\$610,158 36	\$178,775 38
Normal and Model Schools..	10,162 30	5,011 00
Special Academies	11,386 00	5,750 00
Colleges	49,427 70	14,700 00
Total, 1877	\$681,134 36	\$204,266 38
" 1876	717,274 58	194,605 55

Decrease..... \$ 36,140 22 Increase ..\$ 9,660 83

The local expenditure on public schools was \$431,382.98, the money raised by county assessments having been \$106,832.73, and by section rates, \$324,550.25. The number of school sections last year was 1,770, showing an increase of 16 over the previous year; and the number of sections having no school during any portion of the year was 14, or 43 less than in 1876. During the winter term there were 1,731 schools in operation, with 80,788 pupils, and an average daily attendance of 46,350; during the summer term 1,871 schools, 83,941 pupils, average daily attendance 47,000. In all these figures there is an increase over last year. The total number of teachers and licensed assistants employed was, winter term, 1,829, an increase of 89; summer term, 1,947, an increase of 6. There were 76 new school houses built in 1877, and 58 more begun, \$32,179 having been voted by trustees for building purposes.

The six colleges receiving Provincial aid had the following number of students: King's, (Church of England) 30; Dalhousie, (non-sectarian) 46; Acadia, (Baptist) 53; St. Francis Xavier's, (Roman Catholic) 68; Mount Allison, (Wesleyan) 48; St. Mary's, (Roman Catholic) 32. The endowments of the institutions are: King's, \$106,891; Dalhousie, \$94,864; Acadia, \$103,000; Mount Allison, \$45,000; St. Mary's \$15,000. The income and expenditure do not appear to balance in most cases, as may be seen from the following table:

College.	Income.	Expenditure.
King's.....	\$8,978	\$11,414
Dalhousie	7,009	8,526
Acadia	7,060	6,020
St. F. Xavier's.....	1,804	1,954
Mt. Allison	12,800	12,800
St. Mary's.....	2,200	2,387

At the Provincial Normal School four teachers were employed last year, and 140 students were in attendance, 43 during the whole session, and 97 during a part of it; 73 obtained licenses. The Model School had 11 teachers and 881 pupils.

The number of candidates examined for licenses to teach in the public schools was 2,058; of these 554 received a license of the grade sought, 1,344 received licenses, though in many cases of a lower grade, and 714 failed to receive a license. 18 applied for Grade A, 15 succeeded; 190 for Grade B, 56 succeeded; 984 for Grade C, 319 succeeded; 715 for Grade D, 132 succeeded; 151 for Grade E, 32 succeeded. Most of those who failed in getting the grade they asked for obtained a lower one, as may be seen from the following summary of licenses awarded: Grade A, 15; B, 58; C, 359; D, 491; E, 401. Of new candidates receiving licenses there were 747. There was a falling off in the number of successful candidates for the two higher grades, A and B, the figures last year being 15 and 56 as against 16 and 82 in 1876, but there was an increase in the number who, in all grades, obtained the grade they asked.

The University of Halifax has published its calendar for 1878. It contains, besides the Regulations respecting Matriculation, and Degrees in Arts, Laws, and Medicine, published last year, the Regulations respecting Degrees in Science, issued this year. The Registrar's report shows that the University is making excellent progress. The offices have recently been removed to much more extensive and commodious quarters in Hessel's Building, Hollis street.

Mr. J. S. D. Thompson, M.P.P. for Antigonish, and a Fellow of the University, has introduced a Bill in the Local Legislature, conferring certain important privileges on law students graduating in the University.

The Technological Institute—this is the name finally given to the College of Science—has been fairly started. Hon. W. J. Stairs, Vice-Chancellor of the University, very liberally provided rooms and all necessary class appliances. Lectures have com-

menced, and the attendance of students already exceeds the number expected.

Dr. Bayne, of the High School, and Dr. Mackenzie, of Dalhousie College, are doing knightly service in the cause of popular science by their lectures given to the general public.

There is a hitch in the final securing of the site for the Halifax High School, as a good title to one of the properties cannot be obtained. A very much better site should now be obtained, as the one fixed upon is not considered by many persons at all a desirable one.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

At the opening of the Local Legislature of this Province, on the 26th February, notice was given in the "Speech" of the the Government's intention to amend the School Act so as to enlarge the School Boards in cities and towns with a view to a more varied representation. It is understood that the object of the proposed enlargement is to facilitate the appointment of Catholic members on these Boards.

In the January number of the JOURNAL, notice was taken of the appointment of the Rev. Howard Sprague, of St. John, to the Presidency of Mount Allison College and Academics, in succession to Dr. Allison, now Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia. The position thus honourably tendered, Mr. Sprague has been obliged to decline on account of feeble health, and Prof. Inch, of the same College, and for a number of years Principal of the Ladies' Academy, has, by a unanimous vote of the Governors, been elevated to the vacant post. The Governors have made a most judicious and fortunate selection, as all who are well acquainted with Prof. Inch will very readily testify. The Rev. George S. Milligan, another practical educationist, well tried in many fields, is to succeed Prof. Inch at the Ladies' Academy, and the Rev. Mr. Kennedy, the present Vice-Principal of the Boys' Academy, will take charge as Principal.

Teachers' Institutes are in the course of formation in several counties of this Province, and from present appearances give fair promise of being popular and useful. As yet the teachers of the County of St. John have not given in their adhesion to the movement, but it is understood that meetings have been held and other steps taken which may lead to the establishment of a large and active institute. Should the negotiations now in progress fail, it is probable that the teachers of the city schools will unite, as the teachers in the town of Portland have done, and form an association of their own.

A large number of teachers in St. John and Portland have recently formed themselves into a class for the systematic study of botany under the direction of the Rev. James Fowler, A. M., who has made the subject a specialty for over a quarter of a century. In the earlier lectures of the course, the attention of the class has been turned to the consideration of cellular growth, the root, stem, buds, leaves and flowers of plants, every step being illustrated by appropriate specimens, as fresh as the season will allow. Before the close of the course, spring will have arrived, and then excursions to the fields will form part of the programme. It is a rare chance for the class to have secured the services of so highly qualified an instructor, and every member has taken a corresponding degree of interest in the study.

As the winter is passing away, and the weather still continuing unusually mild, the schools of the city of St. John are rapidly becoming thronged, as they have not been since the great fire in June. This is a feature very pleasing in many respects to contemplate, but it is one which is taxing the efforts of the school authorities to a great degree to know how to provide for all applicants with the limited accommodation at their disposal. That friends at a distance may know what a burnt city really means, let them try and realize, if they can, that for months past hundreds of the city scholars have had to make shift with one-fourth the floor space which either health or proper teaching arrangements require, without desks to write on, without, in short, the thousand and one appliances lately possessed in abundance. All this, too, with scarcely a murmur or complaint. Truly the lessons taught by misfortunes are wonderful. The patience of the people is being fast rewarded. The opening of New St. Malachi's Hall on the 4th March has brought great, and greatly needed, relief to a number of over-crowded departments. The new Hall has ten rooms, admirably furnished, five for boys and five for girls, and the attendance, in less than a week from the day of opening, reached the goodly number of seven hundred.