

To the notices already furnished in relation to the Educational Institutions of Lower Canada, may here be added that in 1850, there were in that portion of the Province, during the first six months, 1,879 schools, with 73,551 scholars; towards which £12,693 had been paid out of the public school grant; and that between 1842 and 1850 £249,530 had been paid to teachers, and £52,921 for the erection and repair of school-houses.—(Scobie's Almanac for 1852—p. 31.)

There is a particular of higher importance still than any hitherto named in which we are making a progress very marked, namely, in facilities for religious instruction and worship. Our churches and ministers are multiplying fast. In some respects the rapidity of the increase may perhaps be a disadvantage, as it has a tendency to keep the congregations smaller and weaker than they might otherwise be; yet the earnestness of which it furnishes evidence is commendable, while it, at the same time, prepares beforehand a supply for the multitudes pouring in upon us so fast.

From a Report of a Committee of Assembly, presented 15th March, 1828, it appears there were at that time in Upper Canada, 236 ministers—about half of them Methodist, some of whom had come in as early as 1792. The number at the commencement of 1851, as stated in the Canada Directory (p. 553) was 869—one to every 870 of the population. At this moment they can hardly be under 900. In 1828 the number of churches was 141 or from that to 150; 66 of them being Methodist. They are reported in 1848 to amount to 395—six times their number only 20 years before. Now they must be as many as 950, or from that to a 1,000. Rapidly as our population is growing it thus appears that the churches are increasing faster—being now six times as numerous as they were 20 years ago, while our population, as we have seen, numbered in 1850 something more than five times what it was 25 years before.

This is a fact worthy of notice as indicating the feeling of the country. Not merely, however, are the churches as to number keeping pace with, outstripping the increase of the population; but in character they are rising with the wealth of the community; becoming in proportion to that, at once, more commodious and more handsome. In their case as in that of the dwellings of the people, brick and stone are, in many parts, taking the place of wood.

The Home District in 1850, contained 163 churches. In the Gore District they had risen between 1817 and 1848, that is, in thirty-one years, from 4 to 64, exclusive of those in the Wellington, formerly included in the Gore District. Seventeen years ago Paris con-