

Districts, that the salaries of Teachers would have been larger than they are; the attendance of pupils much larger, and the Schools correspondingly more efficient. But in connection with the enlargement of the powers of Common School Trustees alone, (not proposing any new condition,) I anticipate much improvement in the salaries of Teachers, as well as in the usefulness of the Common Schools, from the more elevated standard of School Teaching, which is being created by the Provincial Normal School; and educational publications.

*Good Teaching versus "Cheap" and Inferior Teaching.*

When the people have illustrations and examples of what good teaching is, they will soon desire it, and be satisfied that it is the cheapest teaching, even at double the price of poor teaching. It cannot be supposed, that good salaries will be paid to poor Teachers, whatever such Teachers may wish or claim; nor is it desirable that such Teachers should be employed at all. It is, however, encouraging to observe that the number of efficient Teachers is greatly increasing in the several Districts, and that the demand for such Teachers is increasing beyond all precedent. The character of the profession and its remuneration, will advance in corresponding rate; and good Teachers and good salaries will become inseparable in the estimation and practice of the Country, as it advances in knowledge, and in the true principles of social economy.

IV. NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE, AND PUPILS ATTENDING THE SCHOOLS.

The Statistics in one of the Tables presents a view of the number of children of School age, the number attending the Schools, whether Boys, or Girls, their comparative and average attendance in both Winter and Summer, and the several studies which they are pursuing. These statistics extend to each Township in Upper Canada, while the General Abstract of this Table furnishes a tabular and comparative view of the same statistics in the various Districts of the Province. This being the first attempt to procure school statistics so varied in their details, and comprehensive in their character, they cannot be considered complete. The local School Superintendents of Districts represent them as being imperfect; but, imperfect as they are, they furnish facts of a gratifying nature, and evince the vast importance of the Common Schools, and the duty of every Statesman and Patriot to do all in his power to promote their efficiency.

It appears that the whole number of pupils attending the Common Schools of Upper Canada in 1847, was 124,829,—being an increase of 14,827 over the number reported for 1845, and of 22,917 over the number reported for 1846. Of the 124,829 pupils in the Schools, 65,575 were Boys and 55,254 were Girls. It also appears that the attendance of Boys, as compared with that of Girls during the Winter, was as 20 to 13, and during the Summer, as 17 to 14. It is obvious that there is a much larger attendance of Boys than Girls at the Common Schools of the Province. It will, furthermore, be seen, that the average number of pupils per School in the Summer was 31, and in the Winter 33; that the total average attendance of pupils, during the Winter, was 89,991, and during the Summer 84,537. The Table and Abstract of Statistics on this Subject exhibit very considerable variations in all these particulars, and, therefore, show different degrees of advancement in the Common Schools in the different Townships and Districts of Upper Canada.

It is a singular fact, that, while the average attendance of pupils in the State of New York, as compared with the whole number on the rolls, was as four to ten, the average attendance of pupils in Upper Canada, as compared with the whole number of pupils on the rolls, was seven to ten. But, on the other hand, the aggregate attendance of pupils at the Common Schools in the State of New York was larger than the whole number of children between the ages of five and sixteen years; while in Upper Canada the whole number of children between those ages returned was 230,975, of whom only 124,829 were reported as in attendance at the Common Schools,—thus showing