

being largely settled by people from Ontario, has hitherto received a good supply of admirable teachers from the mother Province.

V. STATISTICS AND REVENUE.

The census having been taken in 1881, and an enormous flow of immigration having taken place to Manitoba since that time, it is only possible to give an estimate of the population. It is generally agreed that Manitoba has a population of from 150,000 to 200,000. There are at present 400 schools or districts belonging to the Protestant section, and fifty to Catholic. In the Protestant schools, in 1883, 123 males and 123 females were teaching. According to the returns for 1884, there were in attendance at the Protestant schools 10,831 pupils, and at the Catholic sections there were in attendance 1,941 in 1883. It will be noted that a considerable number of the organized districts have not their schools in operation. This arises from the very sparse population preventing their having schools carried on all the year round, as well as from the fact that, in the newer parts, except on a few main lines in winter, trails are not open in the more thinly populated localities. During 1884, the average number of days of attendance for pupils was 150 in cities and towns, and eighty in the country districts. The earliest school age allowed by the Act is five years; though so large a number of the schools belong to newly organized districts, that children of the age of eight, to ten years or more, enter school for the first time. About six years would probably represent the average in the older and better-organized schools. There is little difference between the male and female pupils in this respect. In a large number of our country schools, the farmers' children can attend school for but half the year; but up to the age of fifteen most of the children in the better school districts attend in the winter season. In the cities and towns, probably from twelve to thirteen years would represent the age of leaving school in the majority of cases, as work or situations can then be obtained. As stated already, the school course extends over ten years. In the early history of this Province, it is difficult to give statistics as to the number who leave school tolerably well acquainted with the three R's