NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN NORMAL SCHOOLS, 1885 AND 1886.

Year.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1884-85	63	316	379
1885-86	84	304	388
Total	147	620	767

Decrease in number of schools

718. According to the report of the Chief Superintendent of Education, there was a decrease in the number of schools, and pupils and in the total number of pupils enrolled, the average attendance showing an increase. The falling off is attributed to the general depression in business, schools being closed in consequence of the difficulty in collecting taxes.

Average attendance.

719. The average daily attendance in the summer term was 59:23 per cent., and in the winter 56:03 per cent. total amount of salaries paid to teachers during the year was \$345,063, being at the rate of \$5.04 per pupil. The Provincial grant amounted to \$132,494.

Salaries.

Propor-tion of population attending school.

720. The proportion of the estimated population attending the public schools during the term ended 30th June, 1886, was one in 5.50.

Deaf, dumb and blind.

721. Ninety-eight pupils attended the deaf and dumb institutions at Fredericton and Halifax, and 22 the blind asylum at Halifax.