

total number of pupils than can be found in any other Province, the proportion being as high as 75·99 per cent.

Protest-
ant pupils. 618. The proportion of Protestant pupils was just a shade less than in 1886, being 15·1 per cent., as compared with 15·6 per cent.

Education
in Nova
Scotia. 619. The Council of Public Instruction in Nova Scotia consists of the members of the Executive Council. There is also a Superintendent of Education. The local management of the Public schools is in the hands of trustees chosen by the rate-payers of the section.

Average
attend-
ance. 620. There was a falling off in the number of pupils and in the average attendance, the latter having been 57·6 per cent. of the number enrolled, as compared with 58·5 per cent. in 1887. This is attributed to an exceptional prevalence of weather unfavourable to attendance, especially of small children, in the rural districts. Attendance at the Public schools of children between the ages of 7 and 12 is by law compulsory, but the regulation is not strictly enforced. There was, however, a decrease of 12 in the number of sections without schools, and increases of 20 and 43 respectively in the number of teachers and schools in operation.

Popula-
tion at
school. 621. The proportion of the population enrolled in the Public schools remained about the same as in 1887, viz.: 1 in 5·7. This proportion is based on the estimated population of the Province.

Expendi-
ture. 622. The total Government expenditure for education during 1888 was \$211,196, a decrease of \$4,889. The county fund amounted to \$118,485, and the sectional assessments to \$346,314, the three amounts making a total of \$675,995.

Educa-
tional
statistics,
Nova
Scotia. 623. The following table of educational statistics explains itself:—