by the Council of the University of Manitoba. The validity of the above Act was called in question and the matter carried through the courts to the Imperial Privy Council, by whose committee the Act was sustained.

1417. Two sections of land, 640 acres each, in every township, are reserved and held in trust by the Dominion Government as school lands for the purpose of aiding and promoting education, and it is estimated that upwards of 1,500,000 acres are available for settlement. These lands were, for many years, purposely kept out of the market, in order to allow their value to increase ; but in January, 1888, a number of sections were offered for sale at several points in the province, when 19,986 acres were disposed of for the sum of $140,189, being an average of about $7·00 per acre ; in January, 1892, 53,030 acres were sold by auction, and realized $421,518, being an average of $7.95 per acre, and again in January and February, 1893, 12,603 acres were disposed of for the sum of $89,505, or an average price of $7.10 per acre.

1418. The progress of education in Manitoba has been very rapid, as the following figures show. The figures previous to 1890 are for Protestant schools only :—

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS OF MANITOBA, 1871, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891 AND 1892.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.	School Population.	Number of Pupils.	Average Attendance.
1871	16	....	.. ..	816	....
1887	464	581	17,600	16,940	9,715
1888.............	495	675	18,850	18,000	9,856
1889......	524	668	21,471	18,358	11,242
1890.....	627	840	*25,077	23,256	11,627
1891......	612	866	28,678	23,871	12,433
1892.............	660	902	29,564	23,244	12,976

*Incomplete.

1419. The school age is 5 to 16 years, inclusive, and from the above table it will be seen that the average attendance was 56 per cent, while the proportion of the population at school was 1 in 7. Figures such as these not only demonstrate the wonderful progress of the province during the last 20 years, but must effectually dissipate any ideas that intending settlers might have about