

the difficulty there would be in educating their children, and must convince them that life on the prairies does not mean life without the most important benefits of civilization. Collegiate departments for more advanced education are attached to the public schools at Winnipeg and Brandon, and the total number of pupils enrolled during the year was 393 and 70 respectively. There is also a Normal School at Winnipeg, for the training of teachers, at which the attendance in 1888 was 150 ; in 1889, 157 ; in 1890, 81 ; in 1891, 189, and in 1892, 213.

1420. The receipts and expenditures in 1892 were as follow :—

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.	
Legislative grant. . . . .	\$ 98,538	Teachers' salaries . . . . .	\$291,329
Municipal taxes. . . . .	262,297	Buildings, furniture, &c..	399,637
Miscellaneous. . . . .	139,392	Fuel, repairs, &c. . . . .	68,957
Total. . . . .	<u>\$500,227</u>	Total. . . . .	<u>\$636,592</u>

The amount of debenture indebtedness was \$537,676, and the value of the school sites, houses and furniture was estimated at \$796,413.

1421. The educational system of British Columbia is free, un-denominational, and supported entirely by the Government. There is a Superintendent of Education, acting under the Provincial Secretary, and each school is locally controlled by trustees, elected by the ratepayers of each school district. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council is empowered to create new school districts as they become necessary, provided that no school district shall contain less than 15 children of school age, viz., between 5 and 16 years of age.

1422. There was a general increase in schools, teachers and pupils during the year ended June 30th, 1892. The increase in the total number of schools was 21, in that of teachers 43, and in that of pupils 1,513, while the percentage of attendance was 57.80 per cent, being an increase of 2.35 per cent over the preceding year.

1423. The educational progress of the province is illustrated by the following figures :—In 1873, there were 25 school districts, 1,028 pupils, and the expenditure amounted to \$36,764 ; in 1892, corresponding figures were : School districts, 154 ; pupils, 10,773, and expenditure, \$160,628.