

1399. An increasing interest is taken by the Indians in the education of their children. The establishment of industrial and boarding schools at various points is deemed of great importance, as these schools have a much greater beneficial influence on the minds of the young Indians than have the day schools—since the attendance at them removes the children from the deleterious home influences and brings them in uninterrupted contact with higher civilization than their own.

1400. The number of industrial institutions and boarding schools in 1895 is as under :—

PROVINCES.	Industrial Institutions.	Semi-Industrial and Boarding Schools.
Ontario.....	5	2
Manitoba.....	3	3
North-west Territories.....	5	18
British Columbia.....	6	4

There are at present no institutions of the above nature in Quebec or in the Maritime Provinces.

1401. The following figures show that the Indians are becoming more and more sensible of the benefits of education :—

NUMBER OF PUPILS AT THE INDIAN SCHOOLS IN THE SEVERAL PROVINCES, IN THE YEARS 1892 TO 1895.

PROVINCES.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Ontario.....	2,273	2,310	2,341	2,425
Quebec.....	559	556	634	619
Nova Scotia.....	114	124	119	146
New Brunswick.....	104	108	102	102
Manitoba.....	1,500	1,488	1,454	1,612
British Columbia.....	687	786	843	1,029
Prince Edward Island.....	43	43	33	31
North-west Territories.....	2,295	2,284	2,610	2,385
Total.....	7,575	7,699	8,136	8,349

The increase in the general school attendance is not marked, being 213.

This, however, means more than is at first sight apparent, because the gradual introduction of the boarding schools to replace the day schools on the reserves necessitates a separation of children from parents, to which both are naturally strongly opposed, and Indian parents have to be educated