

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The educational system of British Columbia is free, undenominational, 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 fifteen children of school age, viz., between 5 and 16 years of age.

The following table shows the number of schools, teachers and pupils:—

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1877-97.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

YEAR.	Number of Schools.	Teachers and Assistants	Number of Pupils.	Boys.	Girls.	Average Attendance.
1877.			1,938	1,072	866	1,210
1878.			2,137	1,195	942	1,345
1879.	50	56	2,225	1,209	1,016	1,272
1880.	51	56	2,380	1,292	1,088	1,239
1881.	53	53	2,495	1,404	1,091	1,367
1882.	52	56	2,495	1,404	1,091	1,367
1883.	49	60	2,579	1,452	1,127	1,358
1884.	46	60	2,632	1,483	1,149	1,345
1885.	49	50	1,591	892	699	750
1886.	64	64	1,777	983	774	919
1887.	71	71	2,188	1,183	1,005	1,198
1888.	79	79	2,413	1,289	1,124	1,322
1889.	83	83	2,542	1,373	1,169	1,309
1890.	93	93	2,371	1,518	1,353	1,392
1891.	100	105	2,928	1,503	1,425	1,529
1892.	105	109	3,135	1,650	1,485	1,614
1893.	124	130	4,137	2,116	2,021	2,209
1894.	140	150	4,523	2,346	2,177	2,446
1895.	157	164	5,193	2,692	2,541	2,890
1896.	172	183	5,061	2,655	2,426	2,883
1897.	190	199	6,743	3,061	2,682	3,087
	213	223	6,332	3,322	3,010	3,808

GRADED SCHOOLS.

1884.	7	22	1,745	1,013	732	1,001
1885.	7	24	2,136	1,137	999	1,156
1886.	9	26	2,285	1,333	952	1,226
1887.	10	33	2,766	1,486	1,280	1,494
1888.	13	37	3,637	1,954	1,683	1,678
1889.	14	42	3,738	1,927	1,811	2,117
1890.	13	50	4,890	2,515	2,375	2,654
1891.	19	70	5,869	2,962	2,907	3,366
1892.	21	80	6,324	3,196	3,128	3,813
1893.	22	107	6,640	3,279	3,361	4,452
1894.	24	119	6,986	3,494	3,492	4,603
1895.	26	124	7,886	3,955	3,931	5,396
1896.	26	139	8,257	4,164	4,093	5,879
1897.	27	149	9,005	4,572	4,433	5,912

N.B.—Graded schools are included in common schools from 1877 to 1883, inclusive.