

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

SINCE Easter, legislation has gone on apace. On Monday last, Hon. Mr. Haviland submitted a Bill to ratify and confirm an exchange by the late Hon. George Coles and the late Martin Doherty, Esq., of pasture lots in the Royalty of Charlottetown. Hon. Mr. Brecken submitted a Bill respecting the jurisdiction of the Stipendiary Magistrate of this city. Hon. Mr. Owen moved the House into Committee of the Whole to "consider of supply." The following resolution was submitted:—

Resolved, That the following sums be granted and placed at the disposal of the Government for the following services:— Lunatic Asylum, (maintenance) \$9,000. Poor House, 4,500. Paupers, 1,500. Small Grants to poor and infirm people, 1,000. Boards of Health, 200. Coroners' Inquests, 400. Public Printing and Stationery, 4,500. Contingencies, 5,000. Advisory Board, Philadelphia Exhibition, 400. Summerside Survey, 400. Deaf and Dumb Institute, Halifax, 500.

He stated his belief, that it was not probable that the Rev. Isaac Murray, Rev. J. McLean, and Rev. Donald McNeill—all of whom are members of the Board of Education—would permit the law to be broken for the sake of Roman Catholics. He contended that the law had not been broken. Hon. J. C. Pope regretted the low state into which our public schools have fallen; and said, that in his opinion, the educational system of the Province would never work properly while five-twelfths of the population were conscientiously opposed to purely secular teaching in the public schools. While he was in favor of the secular system; while he believed it would be impossible to carry out, successfully, any other system in settlements, where the inhabitants were of different creeds—still, he thought that in towns and villages where denominational schools were established, the public money might fairly and properly be applied in paying for the secular education imparted in those schools.

REPORTS OF SCHOOL VISITORS. Reports of the Visitors of our public schools have—rather late in the season—been laid before the Legislature. They contain important and even startling information, on which we will take leave to comment at a later date.

Mr. McPhail, Visitor of Schools for Queen's County, submits the following summary of statistics:— No. Common Schools 172. Grammar Schools 78. Normal Schools 1. Total 181. No. Schools vacant 59. Schools closed 6. Teachers employed 1,385. Pupils enrolled 24,577. Boys 12,345. Girls 12,232. Average daily attendance 1815. Number present at examinations 1490. Reading Class Books 2457. In the Alphabet 432. Writing 1409. Arithmetic, (beginners 918, advanced 577) 1595. Grammar, (beginners 532, advanced 203) 735. Geography, (beginners 698, advanced 101) 799. Writing from Dictation 1859. Writing Composition 1551. English History 126. Book-keeping 146. Algebra 27. Trigonometry 20. Latin 30. Greek 375. Music 198. Naval Schoolhouses erected 4. Schoolhouses enlarged 4. Schoolhouses repaired and provided with better furniture 10. Schoolhouses not fit to teach in 10. Amount expended by trustees in erecting, repairing, and furnishing schoolhouses during the year, about \$5470.00. Amount paid to teachers by the Districts 2170.00. Annual amount drawn from the Treasury by the seventy-seven Teachers present employed 12356.75. Total amount paid to Teachers 14526.00. Average amount per Teacher 188.65. The greater number of Trustees neglected to keep account of expenditure for fuel, making it difficult to furnish a reliable report of the total amount expended for all educational purposes during the year.

THE INSIDE OF SOME ISLAND INSTITUTIONS. Under this heading the St. John Watchman of the 15th inst. contains the following:—"About two years ago the people of Prince Edward Island were horrified by revelations in reference to the condition of the Lunatic Asylum of the Island and the unfortunate insane there confined, which shocked the humane sentiments of all who read the sickening details. From end to end of Canada, and in fact in many parts of the United States, the official statement of the Charlottetown Grand Jury, through whose efforts the terrible exposure was made, was read with amazement, and opinions were formed which were anything but flattering to the people who permitted the existence of such a state of things. The Legislature was constrained to move; an Act was passed for the erection of a new and more suitable building; but even at this distance of two years from the date of the revelations, the Local Government has not struck a blow on the proposed building, and in fact the site of the building has not even been selected. It is not a little remarkable that the Island Government has been so slow to move in a matter which demanded prompt and energetic action."

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. STEAMER HEATHER BELLE. Summer Arrangement! WILL leave CHARLOTTETOWN for ORWELL every MONDAY and WEDNESDAY. Leave ORWELL for CHARLOTTETOWN every TUESDAY and THURSDAY mornings at 7 o'clock. Returning to Orwell same evening at 3 o'clock. Leave Charlottetown for Mount Stewart every Wednesday and Friday mornings at 7 o'clock, returning to Mount Stewart same evening. Leave Charlottetown for Grandview every Saturday morning at 7 o'clock, and the same evening every alternate Saturday will make a return trip. JOHN HUGHES, Agent. Ch'town, P. E. I., April 24, 1876.—3m