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**THE DAILY EXAMINER**  
NOVEMBER 7, 1899.

**OUR SCHOOLS AND THE DEBT.**

THE Patriot quotes from the annual report of public schools certain figures from which (so The Patriot says) "it can readily be seen that public education has been advanced in this province during the past ten years on account of the increased expenditures."

What do these figures amount to? That the number of schools has increased from 443 in 1890 to 468 in 1898, and that the number of teachers has increased from 529 to 581.

It will readily be seen that these figures are just as much a proof of advancement in education as the fact that the government's expenditure on account of education has increased from \$113,626.00 to \$129,817.80. The one is perhaps a cause of the other. But neither one nor all prove that education was materially advanced under the management of Messrs. Peters, Warburton, Farquharson & Co. On the other hand the dismissal of the Professor of Agriculture, the withdrawal of the supplements paid to the teachers, little or no increase in the number of pupils taught,—these and other facts must strike the observer as very peculiar in the face of such a largely increased expenditure on account of education that the debt of this province has been materially enlarged thereby.

In 1899 there were 22,530 pupils enrolled in the public schools of this Province; in 1898 only 21,852! This fact is not stated by the Patriot—although it does not hesitate to charge the Opposition writers with "garbling" and "cooking" figures! Are we to understand that it uses this language in respect to THE EXAMINER? A common device of the man who has a bad case is to abuse his opponents.

In 1890, the daily average attendance at the public schools numbered 12,490, and in 1898, 13,377 a very small increase in comparison with the additional schools, and teachers, and cost.

The figures apart, the people have a pretty good idea whether or not the advancement in education has been commensurate with its cost, and whether or not the great increase of the public debt of the Province can be justified upon that ground. We leave the Patriot and its friends to the peoples' tender mercies.

In conclusion we have merely to point out that at the beginning of the first half year after the Liberals reached office the debt of the province was shown to be less than \$53,000; that debentures were forthwith issued to the amount of \$185,000; that then a Loans bill was passed; that additional debentures were subsequently issued; that, finally, an advance of \$30,000 was obtained from Credit Foncier; and that, even yet, the balance due the bank after the half yearly subsidy has been paid continues to be in evidence. Over and above all the debentures and loans and the amount due Credit Foncier, the Government continues to owe the banks large amounts of money in direct violation of the pledges made to the people that the money received in advance from Ottawa should be used to pay current expenses!

ations for war, but practically to seize the passes through which invasion must enter either country, before despatching to the Cape a force adequate to contend with it. The Transvaal has been preparing for war since the Jameson raid. The entire able-bodied male population has been enrolled and drilled, and incredible quantities of the finest arms, ammunition and equipment, not to be had in the country, have been imported from Germany and France by a sea route England could have closed by a word. Before war broke out Boer commandos were encamped on the frontier, patrolling the passes by day and occupying them by night. The Boers were ready for war before the British moved a battalion. How a military nation, that regarded force as an ordinary agent instead of a last resort, would have dealt with this situation may be seen in the contemptuous German criticism of British management. It would have filled British South Africa with troops, and if it did not actually violate the frontier, would have made invasion impossible by lining it with forces. Just before the critical moment, the passes would have been seized and, if the Transvaal had not yielded, troops would have been poured over the border, and that country, not Natal would have been the theatre of war.

This is the way any Continental power would have managed the affair, if it had not interfered long before to stop military preparations and crush the independence of the Transvaal. That would have been the better way for any power that intended to rule the Boers as a conquered people. But it would not serve the purpose of a power that sought only to add them to the various groups of self-governing communities under its rule of civilization, and enlist them in that wide co-operation of commerce and industry and political, civil and religious freedom which men call the British Empire. Doubtless such a policy would have prevented war, but it would have unfitted the Boers for healthy incorporation under free institutions by making them the embittered victims of smothering force, more than they will be unfitted by defeat after a fair, manly stand-up fight on terms which the calculated moderation of Great Britain has made as nearly equal as may be. Moreover, the British Government recognizes responsibility to the public opinion of the world unknown and despised by the military powers. Partly in obedience to that responsibility as well as in wise forethought for the future of an integral part of its own free empire, Great Britain sought to exhaust every resource of patient diplomacy before bringing force to bear; refrained, indeed, from using force or even the menace of force, when it was plain that diplomacy would fail, until the Boers, having completed the preparation that the British studiously neglected, took the initiative of war.

Great Britain has treated the Boers like the free British subjects they will be in a year or two. This generosity has been costly in money and life, in public anxiety and private distress. But these are paid gallantly, in blood abroad and tears at home, as the price of maintaining the lofty standard of British nationality and of performing the duty of civilization by the race which is its chosen evangelist. A war of military aggression would have been more economical, but the spirit of Anglo-Saxon civilization no longer permits such war.

Mail and Empire: It will be quite a joke upon Mr. Tarte if his speech of last Saturday asserting that the contingent is not to be a precedent should be followed shortly by the sending of another regiment to the seat of war. There have been changes of front more extraordinary than even this. Sir Wilfrid quoted the Militia Act and the constitution in opposition to action, and then dropped them both, and allowed the enrolment to take place.

**THE PRICE OF GENEROSITY BRITAIN IS PAYING**

THE Daily Commercial Advertiser of New York remarks that British reverses and losses in South Africa are the penalty of that generous moderation which exhausted all resources of peaceful settlement before preparing for use of force against the Transvaal, and allowed the Republic not only to make complete and final prepar-



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**The Newest and Best in Men's all-wool Suits 10-00**

These are unmatched values, the product of one of the finest tailoring houses in this country, bought especially low by us, and sold the same way to you. These are made of fine all wool fabrics, the best of this season's patterns in fancy tweeds, well as plain blue and black—the latest cut single and double-breasted sack and D B coats. The linings and trimmings are the best—the tailoring is equal to custom made—the fit of each garment is guaranteed perfect, and in every way these are handsome, desirable, stylish suits, such as elsewhere would cost you \$12 to 14. Our special price \$10

Heavy weight Overcoats, of fine chevrons, kerseys and meltons, blue and black some of the with plaid backs, also heavy covert cloth; finely lined and trimmed, some with satin piping.

These Overcoats are beautifully tailored, perfect in style and fit, and come in all sizes. Nowhere in this city could you get them for less than \$10 to 12. Our special price is \$7.50 and 8.50

**James Paton & Co.**

**The BRITANNIA**  
MINING CO. OF ONTARIO, LIMITED

**CAPITALIZATION:**  
\$300,000.00 fully paid and non-assessable  
Par value of shares, 30c each

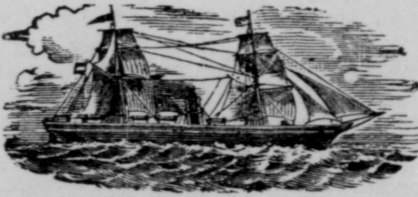
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Several hundred of feet of work done.  
Equipped with steam hoists, pumps, and 10 stamp mill.

All necessary buildings (about 20 in all) are in good repair.  
A working property now producing bullion.  
Assays are usually satisfactory running from \$3.00 to \$400.00 per ton.  
Mill runs show the ore to average \$15.00 to \$20.00 per ton. Last mill run (August 21, 1899), of 38 tons gave \$579.85 or \$15.25 per ton. The next run is expected to exceed this value per ton.  
For shares and reports by engineers John E. Hardman, S. B. and Capt. Z. J. S. Williams.

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