

economical line of demarcation can be established by substituting for the high picket fence which has been blown down, posts and iron rods only. This construction has been approved of and the work of clearing away the old fence is being proceeded with preparatory to the placing of the new one on the ground.

"The alterations necessary before replacing some of the steam heating pipes with those of larger diameter for the purpose of more perfectly heating the eastern or girls' wing, has also been attended to and the work advanced as far as practicable before the vacation term commences, and the whole can now be completed in a satisfactory manner before the assembling of another session.

"The grounds appeared to advantage; the crops promise a good return and the general condition of the cultivated portions shewed care and proper attention."

"I made a third inspection of the Institution on the 9th, 10th and 11th October.

"My visit was made in company with Dr. Bryce, Secretary of the Board of Health, owing to the appearance of three cases of diphtheria among the pupils of the Institution.

"The re-assembling of the pupils on the first day of September had taken place under the usual conditions. The Principal had reported them to be in good health and the session opened auspiciously in this respect. Although quite a number of the pupils of the former session had not returned, the new pupils—together with those of the old ones who had returned—brought the population up to the usual number, the pupils in attendance on the first day of our visit numbering 136, namely, 80 males and 56 females.

"On arriving at the Institution, we found one of the pupils to be in a very precarious condition, the disease in his case being malignant in its symptoms and not responding favourably to treatment. This case, I regret to say, resulted fatally on the morning of the 10th. In the other two cases, the disease did not appear to be so violent and the medical men in attendance expressed themselves hopefully as to recovery.

"Under the circumstances, we of course felt it to be our first duty to determine, if possible, whether the disease was traceable to any local cause, and the first two days were spent in making a thorough examination of the Institution itself, as well as the premises generally and the drainage system. In this examination we were assisted by Dr. Corson, the physician in attendance at the Institution.

"No evidence could be found, however, of there being any local cause for the appearance of the disease. The main and branch drains were inspected with a view to ascertaining their condition and at the same time provide more thorough ventilation where it was deemed advisable to have it, and instructions were given to continue this work throughout the drainage system. The extension of the drain-pipes and water supply to the Principal's house was also authorised, together with the necessary internal alterations, to make the system complete and thus avoid any danger of contamination from the cesspools in future.

"The condition of the buildings and their surroundings was found to be excellent. Improvements in the way of painting, calsomining, etc., had been properly and thoroughly attended to. All closets and outbuildings were clean and well kept, and refuse of all descriptions had been removed.

"The opinion entertained by the Principal, therefore, as to the probability of the disease being imported was concurred in by us; and the prompt action taken in isolating the three pupils who were taken with the malady will, it is hoped, entirely check its further spread.

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