

by teachers of the McGill Normal School, and that the clergy who take a great interest in education, seem always desirous of obtaining the services of those, who, from having undergone a course of systematic training, are fully prepared to aid them in their exertions. Each of our schools has had its usual public examination during the past year, and the attendance of visitors and of the parents of the children showed that we still retain the confidence of the people of Montreal. Independent of this it should not be forgotten that immediately before the Christmas holidays the teachers of the boys' and girls' departments thoroughly test by written examinations the proficiency of their pupils, and the progress they have made during the preceding year. This is a task involving a large amount of labour, but it is so useful in ascertaining how far success has attended the exertions of both the teacher and the taught, that it ought to be used in all our schools to a greater extent than it is.

My chief work in connection with schools is, as I have previously stated, the superintendence of the students during the time they are engaged in class teaching, and that general inspection which may be necessary in order to ascertain the fitness of each department as a practising school for teachers in training. The superintendent of the Society, the Rev. Canon Bond, takes charge of the religious instruction, and in this he is aided by Mr. de Gruchy the City Missionary. Bible lessons form the most important part of this instruction. With reference to these lessons, I believe I may say, that as far as careful preparation, earnestness of manner, investigation as to how far the instruction has reached the end intended, and the maintenance of fitting attention from the pupils are concerned, we have all that is required on our part to make them successful. There may be all these, however, and yet but little of that spiritual benefit which our little ones must receive if the teaching is not to become worse than useless. May our heavenly Father prepare the hearts of these children for the reception of those truths which are able to make them wise unto salvation.

The Liturgy and Catechism classes are taught by the City Missionary, and from an important part of the religious instruction.

The teaching of the French language remains in the hands of Mons. Duval, who, independent of collective oral lessons to the children of either the boys' or girls' School, gives special lessons to the more advanced scholars. As in past years, I can speak in the highest terms of his success in this most necessary part of education in this Province.

In my report of last year I made mention of an Evening School which had been set on foot in Montreal by the Society for the instruction of adults and others whose education had been neglected, and at the same time I spoke of a reading room which had been established in connection with our building, and which, to the end of last winter, was well attended by