

Hall, which temporarily represented the Legislative Council Chamber. Meanwhile the Normal School was confined entirely to three class-rooms and the two cloak-rooms, one of which (*nefandum*!) has since been converted into a smoking room for the legislators. We have read of worse things. Classic fanes and sacred shrines have been used as barracks for rude soldiery.

The York County Teachers' Institute is announced to meet at Fredericton on the 20th and 21st of May.

For "the Truro Council" in the New Brunswick notes of last month, read "The Town Council," referring to the town of St. Stephen.

QUEBEC.

The Protestant Academies and Model Schools of the Province of Quebec have been inspected and examined during the past month (March) by Messrs. Allnatt and Weir. There is an earnest desire on the part of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, in which is vested the management of the Protestant Public Schools of the Province, to increase, as far as possible, the efficiency of the Schools for superior education, especially that of the Academies, and to foster in them to a greater extent than heretofore the study of the ancient classics, so as to prepare young men for matriculating at our Universities. Hitherto, of late especially, there have been very few matriculants in the Universities from other than city High Schools or Academic Institutions in connection with the Colleges of the Universities. The Academies scattered over the Province have been serving as training schools for young men and women preparing themselves to obtain Diplomas as Teachers, an important object no doubt, but one which should be better attained by Normal Schools. At any rate, the study of Latin and Greek should not be altogether neglected, or made to occupy a very secondary place in our Academies. It is not simply that the numbers of classical pupils are few, but there seems to be little importance attached to such studies, and little time and attention are bestowed on them, on the part of the Head Masters of our Academies or their scholars. It is to be hoped that the efforts now being made to promote and encourage classical learning in the Academies of this Province will ultimately meet with success, and that this branch of a liberal education, the advantages of which are, if not altogether unquestionable, well established and depreciated only by those who are ignorant of them, will receive more attention, and be cultivated to a greater extent than heretofore in our Academies.

The Annual Report of the McGill University, Montreal, for the year 1879, has just been issued, printed by permission of His Excellency the Governor General, visitor of the University. It contains much interesting matter, indicative of the rapid growth and present prosperity of the University. A quarter of a century ago it held a very humble position with few students, few Professors, and scanty means, and it was hard to say whether the Professors or the students were the most numerous. Only those who know what it was *then*, and see what it is *now*, can fully appreciate how much of its present unprecedented prosperity is due to the talents and wise administration of its present Principal, to his world-wide reputation as a scholar in his own department, and enthusiasm and success as a teacher. It was indeed a new era for the Institution when Dr. Dawson entered on the duties of the Principalship, twenty-five years ago. It is no small matter too, in these days of doubt and infidelity, when men "are carried about with divers and strange doctrines, through philosophy and vain deceit," that such an Institution should be presided over by a gentleman not only of acknowledged ability and success in scientific pursuits, but also of well-known earnest piety, with all the weight of the highest moral character to influence the young men studying in the different faculties of the University. Parents can with more confidence send their sons to study at such an Institution without fear of their religious principles being unsettled.

The following statistics amply testify to the popularity of this Institution: During the current session, the students have been, in Law, 77; Medicine, 164; Arts (undergraduates), 93; Partial and occasional, 52; Applied (undergraduates), 19; Partial, 11; Total, 416; or deducting students entered in more than one faculty, in all 412. The Teachers in training in the McGill Normal School number 137, and the pupils in the Model School of the Normal School amount to 343. Including these and the students in the affiliated Colleges of the University, the numbers receiving educational benefits from the University figure up to 929. About 320 of the students and teachers in training in McGill College and the Normal School are from a distance, attached to the city by the

educational advantages of the University and its affiliated Institutions. At the meetings of Convocation held in March and May last, the following degrees were conferred: Doctors of Law, Honorary, 2, In course, 2; Doctors of Medicine, 37; Masters of Arts, In course, 3, Ad eundem, 2; Bachelors of Civil Law, 21; Bachelors of Arts, 11; Total, 78. There are many other matters mentioned in the Report, worthy of notice, did time and space allow, which might be inserted with interest in the JOURNAL, and which may be referred to on a future occasion. The progress made by the University during the past quarter of a century may in the words of the Report be summed up as follows: "1st. A body of nearly 1200 Graduates sent forth into the active work of life in all parts of the Dominion, and many of whom have already risen to high positions in the Church, in the Government, in professional life, and in scientific, literary and educational work. 2nd. The establishment of the new faculty of Applied Science, and the complete organization of the other faculties, with a staff of 34 Professors and Lecturers actually engaged in the work of instruction, of whom six are gentlemen of eminence in their departments, introduced to this country through the Agency of the University, and nineteen are graduates of the University, trained in our own halls, though some of them with the additional advantage of study pursued abroad. 3rd. The establishment of the McGill Normal School, which has conferred so important benefits on education by sending forth more than 800 teachers into our schools. 4th. The connection with the University of six Affiliated Colleges, all of them deriving benefit from it, and carrying on an important educational work of their own. 5th. The successful institution of University School Examinations, which, if at present only on a small scale, must eventually constitute a powerful lever for the elevation of education. 6th. The accumulation of considerable endowments of Chairs, of Scholarships, of Medals and Prizes, the completion of the College buildings in such a manner as to permit the work of higher education to be carried on satisfactorily in the faculties of Arts and Medicine, though the other faculties are still unprovided; and the accumulation of large collections of valuable physical and other apparatus, of extensive collections in Natural History and of a valuable Library."

MANITOBA.

The regular quarterly meetings of the Board of Education and the University Council were held on the 4th ult. The Board appointed a committee, consisting of the Bishop of Rupert's Land, the Archbishop of Boniface, Rev. W. Cyprian Pinkham, A. A. C. Lanviere, M. P. P., Rev. J. Robertson, A. Kittson, M. P. P., Stewart Maloy, and E. W. Jarvis, to consider amendments to the school laws of the province, with the view of bringing them forward at the next session of the Legislature. The meeting of the University Council was largely attended, and there was a considerable amount of business transacted.

A letter was read from the General Council of Medical Education and Registration of the United Kingdom stating that the previous examination of the University of Manitoba is recognized as sufficient to enable persons to be recognized as medical students in connection with that body, and the Board of Studies to whom the letter was referred was instructed to communicate with other universities in the Dominion, with regard to their acceptance of our examinations.

With regard to the medals promised by His Excellency the Governor-General, it was decided that the silver medal be given to the student passing the best examination in the honor course for B.A., and the bronze medal to the most successful student in the previous examination.

The Council decided that the B.A. hood should be made of stuff, bordered with the usual rabbit skin and having a green silk cord, as distinctive of the University of Manitoba. The Board of Studies was requested to report upon a form of words to be used at the ceremony of conferring degrees.

The Protestant section of the Board of Education has recently sanctioned the plans and specifications for a new brick veneer school house for the south ward, Winnipeg, submitted by the city trustees. The architect is Mr. O. A. Barber, and the building it is thought will cost between \$3,000 and \$5,500. Mr. S. C. Briggs, B.A., has been appointed Inspector of Public Schools for the city of Winnipeg for the current year.

The Board of Education is laying off an unusually large number of school districts, and new school houses are in course of erection in many localities.