

the educational system of the Province of Ontario unless it fulfilled the requirements of the Education Department of the Provincial Government, nor would one of your students have achieved the signal distinction of carrying off the gold medal open to all the affiliated art schools of the province for the test work from the antique cast as well as in design, if your pupils did not receive here a course of instruction at any rate equal to that obtainable in any other locality. (Applause). Nor again would the Ontario Manufacturers' Association have placed a silver medal in the hands of the Government for competition amongst your pupils, unless they believed that the artistic training which you are able to provide had a distinct value in reference to the industrial development of this country. (Applause.) If on the other hand we turn from your industrial art course to that which is devoted more strictly to the fine arts, we may, I think, say without fear of contradiction, that you would not have received, as you have, the warm commendation of the Royal Canadian Academy, as well as a subvention from the fund of which it disposes for the encouragement of the more advanced forms of art education—an education somewhat beyond that ordinarily expected of the art schools of the country—unless you had been able to satisfy the Council that you were achieving results worthy of such recognition. I had occasion a few days ago to refer to the Minutes of the Council of the Royal Canadian Academy, and I observe that after an examination of the works submitted to it by this school, it was placed upon record that the members considered the exhibition "creditable in every way," and expressed themselves "satisfied with the result of the method of study pursued in your classes." That, sir, is a very high compliment coming from such a body as the Council of the Royal Canadian Academy. (Applause.) In all respects the career of the school during the last session has been marked by very rapid progress. The number of Government certificates earned by your students has sprung from 51 to 83. The total number of students, which stood at 87 in 1883, and which had risen to 114 in the following year, has now, I understand, reached 149. This number, large as it is, does not, I understand, include the ladies who are attending the art needle-work class, and who should certainly not be overlooked. I saw the other day in a somewhat ill-natured review of the manners and customs of the present