

QUEBEC.

The annual meeting of the McGill University for the conferring of degrees in law and medicine was held in the William Molson Hall, on 31st March. The Hon. C. D. Day, Chancellor, presided. The total number of students in the Faculty of Medicine for the past year was 116, of whom 87 were from Ontario; 53 from Quebec; three from Nova Scotia; seven from New Brunswick; three from P. E. Island; one from Newfoundland; and 14 from the United States. Forty students passed their Primary Examinations. Thirty-seven fulfilled all the requirements to entitle them to the degree of M.D.C.M. from the University. The Holmes Gold Medal, awarded to the graduating student who obtains the highest aggregate number of marks for the best examination, oral and written, was carried off by Mr. J. B. Lawford, of Montreal. The prize of books for the final examination was won by Mr. A. W. Imrie, of Spencerville, Ont. The Sutherland Gold Medal for Theoretical and Practical Chemistry was awarded to Mr. W. L. Gray, of Pembroke, Ont. The degrees were conferred by Principal Dawson, assisted by Dr. Osler. The Graduates' Valedictory was read by Mr. J. McCully Oscar, of Sussex, N.B. Referring to the custom of note-taking, he stated that one-half the students' time is worse than wasted, and suggested that the Professors should have their lectures printed in order to save the valuable time of the students. Professor Freewick congratulated the graduating class, pointing out to them the great importance of the profession they were entering upon, and the arduous nature of the duties which belonged to that profession. He warned them against the evils of intemperance, and dwelt upon the duty of keeping pace with the rapid progress of medical science and discovery.

Professor W. H. Kerr, Q.C., then read the Prize and Honor List of the Faculty of Law. One gentleman obtained the degree of D.C.L. Twenty passed the examination for the degree of B.C.L. The Elizabeth Torrance Gold Medal, awarded to the student of the graduating class who, having passed the Final Examination and composed a thesis, obtains the highest marks in a Special Examination, which shall include Roman Law, was carried off by Mr. A. D. Nicolls, who obtained 650 marks out of a possible 700. Mr. R. D. McGibbon, who obtained 646 marks, was recommended to the Governors of the University for a duplicate medal. The prize for the best thesis was awarded to Mr. L. J. Ethier. Twenty-one students passed in the second year, and twenty-two in the first year. The valedictory was delivered by Mr. Fleet. Professor Kerr then addressed the graduates in law; stating that the profession of the law was one of the noblest, if not the noblest, in the world; that the liberties and lives of every man and woman depended upon the law; and that by the struggles of lawyers in the past have been chiefly obtained the constitutional rights of the subjects in the empire to which we belong. Dr. Buller of Point St. Charles was admitted *ad eundem gradum*, and the convocation was brought to a close, Rev Dr. Wilkes pronouncing the benediction.

On December 5th, 1878, the Protestant committee of the Council of Public Instruction met for the transaction of business. There were present the Lord Bishop of Quebec, Rev. Dr. Cook, Mr. R. W. Heneker, and Hon. G. Ouimet, the Superintendent. As no quorum was present, a sub-committee was formed with Rev. Dr. Cook in the chair. Messrs. Emberson and Weir were re-appointed to inspect the Protestant Model Schools and Academies. Stansfield Ladies' College, Compton Ladies' College, the Academic Department of St. Francis' College, and Lachute College were ordered to be embraced in the same inspection. On the 26th February the sub-committee met again, when lists were submitted, showing the geographical distribution of academies and model schools, the amounts of grants made last August, their order of merit according to the Inspectors' reports, together with a map of the Province, showing the position of each institution. Directions were given to procure for the information of the Committee: (1) the Protestant population of each county; (2) the proportion of model schools and academies per 1000 of the population. Dr. Dawson moved a renewal of the application to the Government for an additional grant of \$1000 annually to the McGill Normal School. On 27th Feb., with Hon. Judge Day in the chair, the following notices of motion were submitted: (1) That the regulations for granting diplomas to teachers be revised; (2) That in addition to the reports of the Universities of McGill and Bishop's College, and that of McGill Normal School, annually laid before the Committee, returns be requested of the annual examinations of these institutions, as well as of any Colleges affiliated to the Universities, or schools con-

nected therewith, and also of the Montreal and Quebec High Schools. It was also resolved that a financial statement showing the revenue and expenditure for Protestant education made up to the 30th of June in each year, be laid before the Committee; that all correspondence relating to Protestant schools be submitted to the Committee, as well as the returns of the Inspectors of Protestant and mixed schools, and that the sum of \$50 be granted to the Clarendon Model School. Some of the local Boards of Examiners give full marks for reading. Others seem to find some of the candidates defective in that branch of education. It has been whispered indeed, that the Superintendent has on one occasion, if not more, been compelled to suspend a teacher on account of not knowing how to read. This might have been an interesting fact for the Paris Exhibition last year, along with other results of our educational system. Local Boards are required to give special attention to the examinations in the Art of Teaching, and in Canadian and English History. It is suggested that copies of the examination papers be printed in the *Journal of Education*; and that the Secretary of the Committee have for distribution 1000 extra copies.

A teacher in the Quebec High School was fined \$1 and costs by Dr. Marsden, for striking a boy on the head with a walking cane, and inflicting a scalp wound.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Mr. Malcolm J. T. McNeil, 9 River Bourgeois, has been appointed Inspector of Schools for the County of Richmond. Mr. McNeil is a teacher of experience and success, holding a First Class License.

The *Journal of Education* for April contains quite a number of departmental notices of interest. It republishes in full the Revised Regulations and Syllabus of Examination adopted and published last autumn. The text is given of an amendatory Education Act passed at the recent session of the Legislature. Most of the amendments seem designed to simplify the law and render easy its practical working. Others touch matters of mere form. The essential principles of the system are unchanged.

The *Journal* also contains Regulations of Council on the following subjects:

1. Summer Vacation—allowing certain discretionary power to Boards of Commissioners in relation thereto.

2. Grade E License—discontinuing it entirely after Oct. 31st, 1879.

3. Teachers' Associations—providing for the formation on principles substantially analogous to those prevailing in Ontario and New Brunswick.

4. Examination of College Graduates, as follows: Graduates in Arts of all Chartered Universities and Colleges in Her Majesty's Dominion, whose graduation bears date subsequent to January 1st, 1866, shall receive the Academic License known as that of Grade A. on passing the regular examinations upon professional subjects, viz.: those embraced in "Requirements common to all Grades" in published Syllabus of Examination.

The Convocation of Dalhousie College was held April 23rd, in the Assembly Room of the Province Building, Halifax. Very Rev. Principal Ross opened the proceedings with prayer, after which he briefly addressed the meeting on the events and results of the College Session just closed. Among other occurrences, he referred in terms of fitting regret and eulogy to the lamented demise and brilliant career of Professor McKenzie. The various University prizes were presented by the Professors. The Sir William Henry prizes for Elocution, and the Dr. Avery prize were duly given by the respected donors, who are the two oldest Governors of the College. The valedictory oration was pronounced by Mr. Robert R. J. Emmerson, after which brief addresses were delivered by the Superintendent of Education, Dr. Allison, and the Chief Justice, Sir William Young.

The annual Examination of candidates for Teachers' Licenses will commence at the usual stations on Tuesday, 22nd of July.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Annual Report of the Chief Superintendent of Education, laid before the Legislature a few weeks since, contains as usual a large amount of valuable information with respect to the progress made under the operation of the school system, and the actual condition of the schools throughout the Province. The following extracts will be read with interest.

Under the head of *regularity of attendance*, a table is given covering the past twelve years, from which we take some of the figures for 1878.