

Academy, being about 60 feet long and 25 feet wide.

Let us now ascend into the tower. After climbing up about 40 feet of winding stairs we arrive at the top, and are handsomely repaid by the view of the town, harbour and surrounding country, which has been previously spoken of. In looking around us on the inside, we observe countless names carved and written on the walls. Some of these names belong to persons who have already distinguished themselves in many ways.

Having descended the tower stairs and recrossed the Art Room, on our return to *Terra firma*, we may glance into the apartments on our right and left. We find Mr. Gordon Dickson, the Taxidermist at work in the one, and are greeted by a large water-tank in the other.

Other important apartments which we have not time to visit are the Library, Printing Room, and Laboratory.

At the close of our visit we find that the total attendance at the Academy is 210, which will be largely increased before the end of the term. We also learn that both professors and students are thoroughly interested in their work, and thus the time flies on with the utmost smoothness.

We now bid farewell to the Academy staff for the present, and while on our journey home talk of the Academy boys obtaining all the Junior Munro Exhibitions and Bursaries this year (with a single exception) and also of those who led in the Medical and Preliminary Law Examinations, besides those

standing high in other examinations throughout the Dominion, and we declare the Academy to be one of the best preparatory institutions of learning, on this side of the Atlantic, a fact clearly shown by the attendance of students from each of the other Maritime and Upper Provinces, also from the Bermudas, West Indies, Newfoundland and other places.

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### PICTOU.

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ONE hundred and eighteen years ago the site now occupied by the town of Pictou was a pathless forest whose only human denizen was the untutored savage, while the bear, the caribou, and the moose stalked among its stately trees. But a change came soon. In the year 1767 to the astonishment of the Indians living upon its shores, an immense canoe with "white wings" sailed into the harbour, and landed upon its inhospitable shores a few families who had sailed from Philadelphia, to make a home for themselves in the forest land. A few years later thirty families came out from Scotland in a ship called the "Hector" and settled upon the present site of the town. Thus was the settlement of Pictou effected, and hence it is that the majority of the inhabitants of the town and surrounding country are of Scotch descent.

The town of Pictou is beautifully situated on a hill facing the harbour of the same name, and presents a very picturesque appearance from the water. It has, however, one disadvantage in its situation, being on