

to push up the standard of training to the highest attainable point. Appreciating this, I have, with the consent of your Board, engaged the services of Mr. A. M. Chisholm, who, since his graduation from this school, has spent two years at one of the best of Berlin's Conservatories. With Mr. Chisholm's help and the additional time given to musical training, I trust to keep up the reputation of the school as one in the very front rank among similar institutions on either side of the Atlantic. Miss Maggie Duke, of Richibucto, N. B., who graduated most creditably at the close of the last school year, is now pleasantly situated at Acadia Mines, having already secured a small class of pupils, with every prospect of increasing their number. This young lady, during her term of pupilage, was a faithful student, and I anticipate for her a successful career. Our number of practising instruments has, thanks to the thoughtful kindness of the executors of the late Mr. Justice Bliss, been increased by the addition of a Grand Piano, for which gift we are deeply grateful. We now have, including two tuning pianos and an organ, ten instruments in all, most of which are in use nine hours in each day. The alterations effected in our outbuildings during the vacation have been of great advantage to the tuning and technical departments. We now have for the former a convenient tuning-room, in which Mr. Reid, our painstaking instructor, is training five young men as pianoforte tuners. By the use of the models of piano actions, recently purchased, he gives them an insight into the mechanism employed by different makers, and by dissecting the old pianos teaches them to replace broken strings, and otherwise make such repairs as properly come within the province of pianoforte tuners. In Paris this business is monopolized by the blind, but unfortunately our tuners have to contend with some unprincipled persons, who by mean insinuations endeavour to discredit the work done by the blind, thus adding another to the difficulties they have to encounter. I do not mean to say that blind tuners, any more than tuners with sight, always do their work thoroughly and conscientiously, but I do assert that blindness does not prevent them from doing so. All the pianos in the Boston Public Schools are now looked after by

blind tun
entire s
carried o
will gain
we are g
in the ch

It is
graduate
may be a
in handie
off into
admirable
first start
which no
assistance
is as essen
and skill.
instruction
have to b
it is absol
tion in th
I have dir
class-room
retire to t
and four l
trained by
tinuously
willow-wo
toys, a ch
our shops;
be taken a
blind, it m
has master
Halifax an
which will