

December, 1888. My last year's estimate of the probable maximum enrolment was exceeded by eight, and I shall be safe in predicting that, before the vacation of 1889, we shall have registered for the current session close upon 150 pupils. No special efforts have been put forth during the past year in the way of canvassing for new pupils, although during the holidays calls were made by officers at my request in several instances where a personal interview seemed to be desirable.

I drew attention in my last report very pointedly to the lamentable evidence too frequently afforded of parental ignorance, or indifference, or mistaken affection as preventing the attendance and education of blind young persons, whose lives are simply wrecked by the refusal to place them in the institution. I do not propose to say more on the subject of compulsory education at this time, except to remark that it might possibly be applied tentatively to the cases of those youths who are in any respect dependent, or likely to become dependent, on municipal support. Such cases do exist within my personal knowledge.

The ages of the new pupils are as follows :—

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.
7.....	0	1	1
10.....	1	0	1
13.....	1	3	4
14.....	1	1	2
15.....	1	0	1
16.....	0	1	1
19.....	1	0	1
22.....	1	0	1
28.....	1	0	1
35.....	1	0	1
	8	6	14

GRADUATES OF 1889.

Some reference to the attainments and prospects of the pupils who have recently graduated in various branches of learning and instruction may be interesting, as showing very forcibly the benefits conferred by the institution on those who avail of its advantages. Of the willow shop graduates the senior is a young man twenty-six years of age. He lost his sight by an accident when he had just arrived at manhood. His employment, previous to his entering the institution, had been exclusively agricultural, but to a well developed mechanical faculty he added a most conscientious attention to instruction, and close application to his business. He has graduated at the end of four brief sessions with a full outfit of tools, models and material, and qualified to hold his own in the production of any article in his line, from the rough bushel-basket to the handsome rattan rocking-chair, with any seeing workman in the province. Both the other willow shop graduates entered while children and took the usual course of literary studies. Their introduction to the willow shop was, as is usual in such cases, gradual, but both made excellent progress, and have graduated before attaining the age of twenty-one years. They have now started in life with good prospects of success. One of them is a member of a family of twelve children of whom six are eligible for admission to this institution, and have availed of the privilege. Four, all very intelligent pupils, are still here. The third willow shop graduate is one of a family of five, all eligible for admission. Two elder brothers have already passed through the institution, and a younger sister has just entered.

Two young men have, it will be noticed, graduated from the piano-forte tuning class. One of them came to us after having failed, from defective vision, to succeed in another vocation. He is now engaged by a local firm as their tuner. His graduating companion proved to be the possessor of very superior musical talents which have had here full opportunity for development. Under Professor Baker's able instruction he has attained to great proficiency on the violin, his favorite instrument; he has also taken a full course