

## SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT.

The Session of 1896-97 opened auspiciously, there being sixty-one pupils present, of whom thirty-seven were boys and twenty-four girls, and all enjoyed uninterrupted health until after their return from the Christmas holidays, when we were visited with three contagious diseases, viz., diphtheria, tonsillitis and measles. Through the prompt attention of our skilled Physicians, Drs. H. S. Birkett and J. V. Anglin, the diphtheria was confined to two cases, a pupil and a teacher, both of whom were promptly removed to the Civic Hospital for treatment. Dr. Anglin promptly inoculated thirty-eight children under fifteen years of age. Fifteen were attacked with tonsillitis and thirty-five with measles. The above diseases were brought to the Institution from the children's homes, and we would, without doubt, have been free from such illnesses had there been no Christmas holidays. The parents were duly notified at the time of the outbreak, but none deemed it necessary to remove their children. One boy, George Laycock, was attacked with pneumonia simultaneously with measles, and notwithstanding the unremitting attentions of Drs. Anglin and Findlay, he fell into consumption and a few months later died at the Montreal General Hospital, where his funeral service was conducted. He was interred in a lot purchased by the Board of Management in the Mount Royal Cemetery. With the approval of the Board, I have this term notified the parents that no Christmas holidays can be given, and look to the Board for support in this important movement. Notwithstanding the interruption thus occasioned by sickness, good work was accomplished in the class-rooms, as the report of the Examiners appended testifies.

The Articulation Department, which is in charge of Miss King, assisted by Miss Daly, consists of thirty-seven pupils. Including those whose speech is defective, there are fourteen who are instructed orally, that is, exactly in the same manner as children attending common schools, and are taught the same subjects, while the remaining number of children—either congenitally deaf or made so through illness—have special instruction in speech and speech-reading. The Drawing Class during the past year was taught by Miss Jessie McFarlane.

The Blind Class is in charge of Miss Ida McLeod, and is composed of five pupils, who are taught the following subjects: reading, spelling, writing (Braille and tablet), geography, arithmetic, and history and instrumental and vocal music. Instruc-