

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, 1882.

To the President and Board of Managers :

GENTLEMEN,—The year now drawing to a close is one that will long be remembered with pleasure by those interested in the education of the blind of this Province, as being that in which the right of the blind to free education was publicly recognised and liberally provided for by the Legislature of the country. For this just recognition and ample provision, we, the friends of the blind, feel deeply grateful, not only to the Legislature, (which, by the enactment of the law, making education free to this class, have given practical expression to the views and opinions held by all truly liberal-minded men), but also to our Heavenly Father, the Author and Giver of all good things, who has in special manner blessed the efforts made to promote the welfare of the blind in this Province, and has in this particular instance crowned their efforts with complete success.

The following report is submitted, not so much for the information of your Board, the members of which are perfectly familiar with every matter herein referred to, but rather for that of the general public, who, notwithstanding the many opportunities there are for inspecting the school, must in a greater or less degree depend upon such periodicals as these for the details respecting the internal management of the Institution.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

The work of this department has been steadily carried on, no sickness having occurred to interrupt the daily routine of the classes. The zeal and energy displayed by Miss Mackenzie, when first assuming the duties of her position, have in nowise diminished, and the experience gained by her during the past year, as a special teacher, renders her work doubly effective.

In many schools the main object seems to be simply to fill the minds of the pupils with such knowledge as may be obtained from books, instead of endeavoring to train and develop the mental faculties; the latter is undoubtedly the correct method, and is strictly adhered to in this Institution. We feel that we must prepare our people for keen competition in whatever position they may fill, and are convinced that success is the better assured when the mental faculties are carefully developed. Having this end in view, we have during the past year, extended our mathematical course, and have commenced the study of geometry which we intend shortly to supplement with