

## SCHOOL NOTES.

We are weary of winter, and it's Oh! for the flowers of spring.

Arthur Cochrane has strung his fiddle afresh, and is practicing vigorously for the hay bee dance.

Two football matches with the parish school boys played last month, resulted in a victory in each case for our boys.

The thermometer fell to 40 below zero at the beginning of the month, and remained there or thereabouts for several days.

Mr. T. P. Wadsworth, the Government Inspector, has left us after a month's exhaustive examination of the affairs of this Institution.

We are drawing home the remainder of our hay on the prairie. With the assistance of neighbours the work is making rapid progress.

The Rev. A. Silva White came down to meet his future parishioners on Feb. 14th. He hopes to enter upon the charge of this parish before the middle of March.

Reservoirs of water have been fitted into our Smead Dowd furnaces to diffuse moisture with the currents of air circulated by the system through the building.

Our infant's sewing class has been making rare progress in knitting and darning. Nearly all of them can make a mitt and darn a stocking in business-like fashion now.

An organette, furnished with fifteen tunes, has been added to our musical instruments here. Still we are not quite happy; we want a piano, and we mean to have one.

Mr. Inspector Wadsworth gave our children a dance during his late visit. A very happy evening was spent, and a hearty vote of thanks is due to him for his thoughtful kindness.

A wave of sickness is passing over the Red River Valley. At St. Peter's there are numerous cases of influenza and measles partly occasioned, doubtless, by the vagaries of temperature.

At last the weather shows signs of breaking. A thaw set in during the second week in February, and although we have had sharp frosts since, we may reasonably hope for spring weather in the near future.

Fire pails and additional extinguishers have been placed in position during the past month in the main and new buildings. The boys have regular fire stations allotted to them. A gang being detailed for duty on each floor, under an instructor.

An Entertainment to be given entirely by the children is being arranged. Mrs. Jarley's Wax-works, enacted by sundry juvenile performers will be the principal feature. We hope to see a goodly company of friends and relations from St. Peter's on this occasion.

The Carpenter's shop has manufactured a cleverly planned piece of furniture for office use. A large cupboard containing pigeonholes for letters and compartments for official books. A flexible pull down shutter made of oak slats renders the interior dust and air proof.

Victory at last! Nothing daunted by four successive defeats, our boys journeyed up to St. John's College on Feb. 15th to meet the junior students on the football field. After a most exciting game, somewhat spoilt by a cross wind, we vanquished our opponents by one goal to none.

A sudden spell of exceptionally cold weather has resulted in numerous cases of sickness here. Happily, with careful nursing, our patients have now recovered, with the exception of two little girls who contracted influenza in a severe form. They too are on the high road to health, tho' still confined to bed.

We are making practical use of the Kindergarten material lately sent to us by the Department. The drawing apparatus is especially valuable and we hope to show some good results. A talent for drawing and modelling is very general among our children and they thoroughly appreciate the hour set apart for drawing twice each week.

A party of boys from the Elkhorn Industrial School accompanied by Mr. Wilson, the Principal, came to Winnipeg for the Bonspiel week and took part in the curling contests. They made a very creditable show and will prove formidable opponents in a year or two. We hoped to have had the pleasure of a visit from them but the projected arrangements fell through. Arthur Cochrane and Isaiah Badger went up to meet them one day and paid a visit to Parliament Buildings and Government House in their company. His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, received the party most kindly and entertained them in bounteous fashion.

## COMPOSITION.

Composition is the art of expressing thought on any given subject by means of written symbols.

1. Matter. 2. Method. 3. Style. The art may be considered under these three heads.

*Matter* for thought is obtained by observation, i. e. by seeing, hearing, and above all, by reading, constant and intelligent.

*Method.* Everything must have a beginning, a middle and an end. A Truism so true that it may be overlooked. Tell your story well and observe the natural sequence of thought.

*Style.* A good style may be acquired only by hearing, speaking, and reading good English—"the fount of English undefiled." Constant practice is the secret of all success, in composition as in all other arts. Thus may be developed precision and due order of thought, a thorough understanding of sentence building, punctuation and the true meaning and value of English words. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter," it lies in two words—"observation" and "practice."  
F. H. W.

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