

The Report concludes with a recapitulation of the recommendations submitted, the result of the labours of the Commission, as follows :

1st. The enactment of a law making the instruction of children compulsory on parents. 2nd. The appointment of a Minister of Public Instruction responsible to Parliament, with a general superintendence over the interests of education. 3rd. The establishment of public schools, from which sectarian teaching shall be excluded by express legislative enactment, and in which religious teaching shall be in like manner sanctioned and encouraged. 4th. Public schools to be under the superintendence and management, subject to the Minister of Public Instruction, of local committees to be partly nominated by ratepayers and parents. 5th. The teachers in public schools to be admitted to the public service upon passing a prescribed examination ; to be under the direction of local committees, subject to the authority of the minister of Public Instruction ; and to be entitled to receive their salaries, and, after a certain period of actual service, an augmentation allowance and a retiring allowance from the State. 6th. The principles of individual examination of children and part payment by result to be retained ; but modifications to be made in the mode of examination. 7th. The establishment of a training school for teachers. 8th. Annual exhibitions at the grammar schools, Queen's scholarships in the training school, and appointments in the civil service, to be given to pupils of public schools. 9th. A capitation grant to be conditionally given for a period of five years to non-vested schools now on the rolls of the Board of Education. 10. Encouragement to be given to the denominations, by means of a grant of increased powers, to part with their school lands, to surrender their schools and contribute to the establishment of public schools. 11th. A separate grant to be made for the purpose of aiding instruction in the rural districts, and in missionary educational settlements for the aborigines and the instruction of the Chinese, and for the purpose of aiding ragged Schools. 12th. The levying of a rate in aid of public instruction upon lands in Victoria.

Thus it will be seen that our sister colony is not slow to appreciate the advantages that flow from an efficient system of popular instruction, and we heartily wish her every success in the work she has undertaken.

#### Death of Archbishop Turgeon.

The death of the venerable Archbishop of Quebec, which occurred in the night between the 24th and 25th of September, spread a deep gloom over the ancient capital, and as the sad intelligence became known, afforded a universal theme of regret throughout the new Dominion. Mgr. Turgeon had been invalidated during many years, having, so early as the month of February 1855, while assisting at the obsequies of a Sister of Charity, experienced the first shock of a fatal illness from the effects of which he had never recovered sufficiently to take a very active part in the service of the church.

Pierre Flavien Turgeon was the son of a respectable merchant of Quebec, and was born in that town on the 12th November 1787. He entered the Seminary there in 1800, and soon elicited the attention of the professors. 'It is not without interest,' says a contemporary, 'that we read the class certificate of this charming little member of the seventh, destined one day to

occupy the highest ecclesiastical dignity of his country. Here are the terms in which his annual bulletin appreciates his merit : "*Adolescens rapidus, suavis et citra omne supercilium functus est omnibus exercitus festine et diligenter.*" In 1804, having attained a place in the third class, he merited that it should be written of him : "*quo sapientior in schola nullus exstitit.*" Happy the boy who does not betray the hopes his teachers found upon him, and who does not wither away the laurels gathered in his earlier college years. It was the fortune of young Flavien to sustain, during the whole period of his studies, that reputation which he had conquered for himself—even at the threshold of the Quebec Seminary—of remarkable success joined to the most tender piety.'

Admitted to minor orders on the completion of a course of rhetoric, the young scholar was selected by Mgr. Plessis as his private secretary. Having also followed the courses in philosophy and theology, he was, in 1810, ordained a priest, and received a professorship in the Seminary the following year. Here he remained during the long term of twenty-two years, acting now as Director, now as Assistant-Superior, now as *Procureur*.

Soon after the death of Mgr. Panet in 1833, Rev. Mr. Turgeon was consecrated Bishop of Sydime, and on the death of Mgr. Signay, nearly seventeen years later, ascended the archiepiscopal seat. The simple enumeration of all the important works consummated by this venerable prelate would exceed the limits of our space ; let it suffice to say that to his instrumentality was the foundation of Laval University chiefly due. Distinguished for mother wit and great urbanity of manners, Archbishop Turgeon was universally beloved by those that knew him. In works of charity and self devotion he had ever been foremost ; and when a dreadful fire had spread desolation among his flock, or typhus fever had thrown 400 helpless orphans upon his bounty, the exertions he made to alleviate so much misery and bring consolation and comfort to the suffering were beyond all praise.

#### Convention of Teachers.

The annual convention of the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers will meet at McGill Normal School on the 18th and 19th October next. The following are the subjects proposed for discussion : 1. The length of time daily, during which pupils may profitably receive instruction ; 2. The number of studies which may be profitably undertaken, in connection with each other, by any pupil ; 3. Home lessons ; 4. Education out of school ; 5. Means of improving school attendance ; 6. Official gradation of schools ; 7. How far the pupils should be engaged in aiding the Teacher in general school management ; 8. The teaching of rudimentary arithmetic ; 9. Teachers' Institutes for mutual improvement ; 10. The Education of Taste. Teachers and friends of Education are invited to attend.

#### Examinations and Distribution of Prizes.

Three graduates obtained the degree of M. D. at Laval University this year, six received that of Licentiate in Medicine, and twenty-one the B. M. The students that followed the courses were thus distributed among the respective Faculties :