

present archbishop Turgeon, and the late Mr. Parant, when intrusted with the financial department of the establishment, shewed great knowledge of the world, and performed their task with an ability that any educational institution might well be proud of.

The governing body of the seminary is composed of a board of directors presided over by a *superior*, who is elected for three years and who cannot remain in office for more than two successive terms. This rule has however just been amended in favour of the present superior of the seminary and rector of the University, the Revd. L. J. Casault, who has been reelected for the third time without interruption.

Mr. Henri de Bernières, was the first superior from 1665 to 1672; Mr. Ango des Maizerets, succeeded him, and the office was kept alternately between them, down to 1721, where Mr. Charles Glandelet was elected, Mr. des Maizerets, had been of the greatest assistance and support to Mgr. de Laval, in the foundation of the seminary, and his death which took place in 1721, was considered by all the members of the institution as a calamity next to the death of the bishop himself. The students in a literary institution which has been organized only for a few years, have been discussing the merits of several names suggested for the country seat and farm at "La Canardière," and they have selected that of *Maizerets*, as a just tribute to the memory of one to whose zeal and energy, they were so much indebted. The following gentlemen held the office of superior from 1723 to 1815, Thomas Thibault, Etienne Boullard, Jean Lyon Saint Ferréol, François Elzéar Vallier, André Mathurin, Jean, Augustin Lalane, François Sorbier de Villars, Colombar Sébastien Pressard, Henri Gruvé, Urbain Boiret, Jean François Hubert, Thomas Laurent Bedard, Antoine Bernardin Robert, and Jean Bte. Lahaille. Messrs. Gruvé, Bedard and Robert, were elected each of them several times. From 1809 to 1848, Mr. Jérôme Demers and Mr. Antoine Parant, have presided over the institution alternately each for three years. M. Louis Gingras was elected in 1848, and was succeeded by the present superior in 1857.

The board of directors besides the superior consists of a *procureur* or manager of temporal affairs, of a director of the grand seminary or school of theology, and of a director of the college or minor seminary and of two or three other members. There are two kinds of members, *agrégés* or permanent members, and auxiliary or temporary professors. The latter have no voice in the proceedings. The professors who are *agrégés* receive no salary, but are boarded and clothed by the seminary. The auxiliary priests are paid \$80 per annum; the students in divinity or mere ecclesiastics who are employed as teachers receive only \$55 exclusive of boarding. The lay teachers or professors who are generally those who teach some branch of the fine arts, are paid a *quantum* for each lesson they give. There are at present 20 professors and teachers exclusive of the *maîtres d'étude* or ushers. Five of them are members *agrégés*, six are auxiliary priests, five are ecclesiastics and four are laymen.

The day scholars pay \$10 per annum for a tuition fee, the

boarders are charged \$80 for boarding and tuition. There are at present 70 day scholars admitted free. Besides there are fourteen free boarders, twenty four are charged only one half of the fee, and three obtain a deduction of one fourth.

Most of these are admitted to fill the scholarships created by several parties among whom were Mgr. de Laval himself, Mgr. de St. Valier, the Duke of Orleans, the late Mr. Sarrault, the late Mr. Gatien, and other curés. Marie Louise Dubois, widow of the late Joseph De Blois, Esquire, founded three full scholarships a few years ago.

The teaching in the grand seminary is confided to three or four professors. It embraces moral and dogmatical theology, scriptural controversy, canon law, and the rites and ceremonies of the church. The course is of three years. The pupils are all boarders and wear the *soutane* or *robe* worn by the priests in Lower Canada. They pay \$80 per annum. Many of those whose parents have no means, are supported by priests or pious and benevolent people.

The course of studies in the minor seminary, has undergone various transformations from time to time, in order to adapt it to the increasing and varying wants of the country.

Mr. Demers and Mr. Holmes, have both been prominent in bringing about changes of a most beneficial nature. The latter however had sometimes to fight hard for the carrying out of his views; and as he was frequently taxed with an exaggerated love of innovations, we are induced to believe that the result of the conservative opposition made to that thorough going reformer has been to keep the institution precisely in that moderate and steady course of improvement, which steers happily between an excessive attachment to precedents, and an inordinate fondness for novelties.

Mr. Demers, did a great deal to promote the study of natural philosophy; at a time when books on that subject were scarce or rather hardly to be found in the country; he himself compiled treatises which being manuscript, had to be copied by the pupils. He had a remarkable taste for architecture, painting and the fine arts in general, and exercising as he did during all his life a great influence over Canadian society, he turned it more than once into account for the protection and encouragement of our artists. The beautiful paintings in the chapel of the seminary were selected by him from a collection sent from France to the abbé Desjardins.

Mr. Demers, was born at St. Nicholas, he was the son of a respectable farmer, who being distinguished for his loyalty, was made a prisoner by general Arnold, during the siege of Quebec, in 1775. His neighbours and friends gathered and rescued him. Mr. Demers studied in the seminary of Quebec, but before entering the school of theology, he had spent some time in the world learning land surveying, as he had a strong natural taste for mathematics. He was during fifty years a member of the seminary, passing during that long career through all the several offices and chairs of teaching. He died on the 17th of May, 1853, at the age of 79. His several treatises on the natural sciences were never printed, and this is perhaps not to be regretted inasmuch as those sciences have gone through such phases as render old treatises some thing very much like a *Journal of Fashion*.