

their sympathy and interest in the work of the Conservatory, and their congratulations on the possession by the Conservatory of the handsome and commodious buildings which it now occupied.

In regard to the work of the Conservatory during the past year, the Directors have great pleasure in submitting the following Report of the Musical Director, Mr. Fisher, which will be found, as usual, most full and satisfactory :

*To the Directors of the Toronto Conservatory of Music :—*

*Gentlemen*—In my report of last year I find this sentence : “ Although the class-room accommodation has been increased more than threefold since 1887, the directorate is at present under the necessity of still further enlarging or removing to other and more commodious premises.” The difficulty of providing accommodation for our students which confronted us at that time was boldly met, and the plan suggested by the Board to our shareholders of purchasing the College Street property and erecting suitable buildings thereon was approved by them in a liberal and broad-minded spirit. The wisdom of the course of action then adopted has already been amply demonstrated. The Conservatory is now comfortably established in a permanent home of its own, situated on a beautiful site in the heart of the city, and equipped with every facility for carrying on its work in a thorough manner. The buildings are a source of pride, not only to the faculty and students of the institution, but I believe also to the citizens of Toronto generally, and especially to those who take an interest in the progress of musical art.

In the matter of class-room accommodation our situation is improved relatively as compared with our former quarters, as follows :—The old building had seventeen class-rooms and a music hall capable of seating 300. The new building contains twenty-five class-rooms and a music hall, with a seating capacity of over 500 ; two of the class-rooms are really small halls, seating about 200 each. We also have a vacant lot adjoining the music hall on the south, on which additions to the present buildings may be made when necessary. The Conservatory pipe organ has been removed from Association Hall and converted into an electro-pneumatic instrument of the most approved type, and is now being erected in the new music hall of the institution. It will be very greatly improved by this change, and organ students will reap the benefit of being permitted to receive lessons and to practice on what is undoubtedly the most complete and modern concert organ in the Dominion. With regard to our staff I may say its condition was never so effective as at present. The agreement entered into by our teachers at the beginning of the current season, not to receive private pupils outside of the institution has, so far as I know, been faithfully kept, and a more loyal body of teachers would, I think, be difficult to find.