

From the London Metropolitan, for September.
The Language of Flowers.

BY MRS. ANDY.

The mystic science is not mine
That Eastern records teach;
I cannot to each bud assign
A sentiment and speech:
Yet, when in yonder blossomed dell
I pass my lonely hours,
Methinks my heart interprets well
The eloquence of flowers.

Of life's first thoughtless years they tell,
When half my joy and grief
Dwelt in a lily's opening bell,
A rosebud's drooping leaf;
I watched for them the sun's bright rays,
And feared the driving showers;
Types of my girlhood's radiant days
Were ye, sweet transient flowers!

And sadder scenes ye bring to mind;
The moments ye renew
When first the woodbine's wreaths I twined,
A loved one's grave to straw:
On the cold turf I weeping spread
My offering from the bowers;
Ye seemed meet tribute to the dead,
Pale, perishable flowers!

Yet speak ye not alone, fair-band,
Of changefulness and gloom—
Ye tell me of God's gracious hand,
That clothes you thus in bloom,
And sends to soften and to calm
A sinful world like ours,
Gifts of such purity and balm
As ye, fresh dowy flowers.

And while your smiling ranks I view,
In vivid colors dressed,
My heart, with faith confirmed and true,
Learns on the Lord to rest:
If He the lilies of the field
With lavish glory dowers,
Will He not greater bounties yield
To me than to the flowers?

Still, still they speak—around my track,
Some faded blossoms lie;
Another Spring shall bring them back,
Yet bring them but to die:
But we forsake this world of strife,
To rise to nobler powers,
And share those gifts of endless life
Withheld from earth's frail flowers.

O may I bear your lessons hence,
Fair children of the sod!
Yours is the calm, mute eloquence,
That leads the thoughts to God:
And oft, amid the great and wise,
My heart shall seek these bowers,
To commune with the flowers.

Annual Report

Of the Visiting and Examining Committee of the Burlington Ladies' Academy,
April 20, 1843.

IN again presenting the Burlington Ladies' Academy to public notice, the Committee feel their responsibility greatly increased, to set this valuable institution in a just light.

A common-place report of a Common School, is comparatively an easy task; but to do justice to an institution, the importance of which they know not how to overrate—an institution which is designed to train the trainers of some of those thousands of sons and daughters of Canada, who will eventually elevate her so as to become an important nation among the nations; or, by their subjugation to false principles, and consequent evil practices, leave her in an ignominious and unworthy insignificance,—is a far more responsible undertaking.

They deem it undesirable to encumber their remarks upon the recent examination of the pupils with minute detail—marking the individual capabilities of classes, where there is so little to blame, and so much to admire;—but would rather express unanimous and unfeigned satisfaction with the relative profi-

ciency of the whole, as they feel it would be almost invidiousness to distinguish between their merits. The character of the rudimentary knowledge of the junior, the ascending capabilities of the middle, and the wide grasp of the intellectual powers of the senior classes, equally reflected honor upon the teachers, and credit to the pupils.

The original compositions were of a high order, and the Committee were pleasingly surprised by the refined taste, the pure style, and the piety of these productions. Indeed the exercises, considered as a whole, place the Burlington Academy in a position second to no kindred institution throughout this highly favored continent.

It is manifestly the tendency of the instruction imparted to fit the scholars, not only to move with propriety and grace in the best circles, but sedulously to fulfil the humbler, though equally important duties, of a happy home; as also, thus to avoid the justly dreaded issue of a mere inculcation of what are called elegant accomplishments, which so frequently transform the unsophisticated girl into an unamiable egotist.

The Committee consider that the high character of the institution has been acquired, not only through the liberality of the Principal, in sparing no expense to secure the assistance of those best qualified to communicate instruction, but from their number, which enables him so to classify their labors, that each teacher has exclusively her own particular branches—thus, one is devoted to Geography, History, and Physiology; another to Arithmetic, Astronomy, and Natural Philosophy; another to English Grammar, English Composition, and Rhetoric; another to Botany and Chemistry; another to Music; and another to Drawing, Painting, and Perspective. There are, however, subordinate causes, such as a costly and extensive Philosophical Apparatus; a well selected Library, of more than 600 volumes; and not least, the admirable discipline which is so faithfully enforced and so cheerfully submitted to. The excellent arrangement for preserving the health of the pupils, is best exhibited by the fact, that, while the country has been in an unusually sickly state, during the last season, the institution has been free from all the prevailing diseases, throughout the entire session.

Before concluding, the Committee feel it their bounden duty to notice the character of the attainments in what is especially considered the department of elegant accomplishments. Both the vocal and instrumental music quite surpassed mediocrity—some pieces on the piano forte were performed in an effective and superior manner. Several of the paintings displayed the touch of a superior artist, among which we might name "The Holy Family," "The Young Chief," and "The Market Wagon." The French classes exhibited the advantages they had derived from their European preceptress, in the good progress they had made in fluency of speech, as well as in correctness of pronunciation.

The examination, altogether, was conducted in such a manner as to preclude the slightest suspicion of the pupils' being specially prepared for the respective parts, proving conclusively, that they were obliged to depend upon their general proficiency in the several departments.

The Committee beg leave to refer to the annual Circular of the School for the course of instruction and government of the institution, which they find, by a thorough examination, to be strictly carried out.

At the conclusion of the review, on Wednesday evening, his worship the Mayor, after a few remarks, prompted by the interesting occasion, introduced the following resolution, which was responded to in the most enthusiastic manner, by the numerous auditors. As it had not been committed to paper, his worship was unanimously requested to write it out, and have it appended to the report.

RESOLUTION.

Proposed by the Mayor, and seconded by S. B. Freeman, Esq.,

Resolved,—That the Examination of the Pupils of the Burlington Ladies' Academy, has given us the highest and most unmingled satisfaction, proving that this Institution is entitled to take rank with the best in this or any other country.