

motto, kept men working day and night in getting the new one in place. It will be about twelve years before there will be any chance of a holiday from a similar cause.

With the exception of these and a few other changes, which we have not space to notice, life at the Academy moves on in much the same old way—in the monotony, inseparable from school life.

On another page we give a list of those who were successful at the Provincial High School Examinations last July not for the sake of boasting, which a sense of our many shortcomings prevents us from indulging in, but for the sake of record and for the information of those who will be interested to know the measure of success which is attending the efforts of teachers and pupils in our big Government School, which old-fashioned people still call the 'High School,' up-to-date people the 'Halifax County Academy,' and the more enthusiastic advocates of Higher State Education with pardonable pride 'The People's College.'

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The Christmas holidays are already in prospect, and that reminds us that we must not neglect to add here that we most heartily wish all our readers a jolly good time in Christmas and New Year's weeks; and to all our students in particular blissful oblivion for two short weeks of all tasks, the pleasure which they like the best to the limit of their hearts' desires, and a thorough enjoyment of all the good cheer of the HAPPY CHRISTMAS TIME.

OUR CLOSING.

Though no distinguished strangers were present as last year, our closing was a very successful one. It took place on Friday, November the twenty-fifth, in the Assembly Hall. Chairman Geldert of the School Board presided. It goes without saying that the genial lieutenant-governor sat at his right. Indeed a closing could hardly be held without the presence of Governor Daly. He is ever willing to aid us in our public exercises, and we ready to welcome him. On the platform there were also Mr. R. L. Borden, M. P., Mr. George Mitchell, M. P. P., Colonel Clerke, Dr. A. H. Mackay, Supervisor McKay, Secretary Wilson, Commissioner A. M. Bell, Professor MacMechan of Dalhousie College, and Professor Hall of the Truro Normal School. The hall was filled with students and their friends. We missed the faces of some we were looking to see, namely: General Lord Seymour, Archbishop O'Brien, Bishop Courtney, and the givers of two of our medals, Mayor Stephen and Mr. H. W. Blackadar.

At three o'clock Chairman Geldert began his opening remarks. He knew that a few persons complained of the expense of our public schools, but he was not one of them.

He believed that no other city on this continent maintains such efficient schools at so moderate a cost. But what if the cost were great? Nothing of worth in this world is acquired without great expenditure of money or labor. All classes of society must be educated. Germany is aware of this, and therefore it is that the German workmen are taking the lead in the race of progress. Great Britain is awakening to the fact that if it is to be a leader in the mercantile world, its artisans must be trained at its schools. And we in Nova Scotia cannot afford to be behind the others. He then called upon Mr. Kennedy for a report of the work of last year.

After explaining how it was that the closing of a term which ended in July was celebrated in November, Mr. Kennedy said that last year's attendance was over 350, the largest in our history. The certificates taken numbered 211, of which 46 were B's, and of these B's, six had over 800 of an aggregate. He thanked the School Board for having removed two rookeries, and thus making our neighbors to the north less within speaking distance. If numbers be a criterion our institution is growing in popularity. More accommodation is needed. This can be effected by adding a wing to our present building, or, still better, by erecting a new Academy in a more central and pleasant locality. He read the list of prize-winners as ascertained from the results of the government examinations held last July, and as each successful student came forward he received the prize—and also warm congratulations—from the Lieutenant-Governor. Only a few of us had this honor, but we were encouraged to hope for better things next year. However, as some of the speakers remarked, if we are conscious of having worked diligently, we cannot upbraid ourselves for not being leaders.

Before resuming his seat, Governor Daly said he could not deny himself the pleasure of addressing a few words to us. The privileges we have are high and we should avail ourselves of them. The greatness of a country is judged by its intellectual force, and not by the number of its fighting men. We will soon be taking a part in the management of our country's affairs, and if that part is to be well taken, we must now closely apply ourselves to our studies, and recognize the power and dignity of education.

Mr. R. L. Borden, one of our Dominion representatives at Ottawa, was the next to address us. He has gained a reputation for himself among our Canadian law-makers and in our courts as an effective speaker, and we were not disappointed in him. He was himself a teacher in earlier life, and knew of the relations that should exist between the teacher and students. To achieve the greatest success the former must have the profound sympathy and intense interest of the latter. These qualities he believed our teachers had. Otherwise there could not be such an encouraging report as we heard to-day. He never knew a person with a strong desire for work to make a failure of his life, while, on the other hand, no man naturally well endowed achieves true success without putting his talents to the best possible use. He saw in us the future wielders of the destinies of the land. Among us may be a future Lieutenant-Governor or Chief Justice, and it may be one of the girls will take such an exalted position. It therefore behooves us so to conduct ourselves now that we may worthily fill any station in the years to come.

Mr. George Mitchell, a member of the House of Assembly, and the President of the Halifax Chamber of

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