

enemies. The necessity of the mind undergoing a course of mental gymnastics, so to speak, which would develop its resources and increase its vigor, was first demonstrated. The next point touched upon was the argument urged in favor of the physical sciences as a discipline of the mind, against which it was conclusively shown that the classics were, to say the least, as efficient for the purpose of mental discipline. With regard to the advocacy of the modern languages as being fully as effective and at the same time more useful, the lecturer explained the difference of analytical and synthetical languages; and urged the superiority of the latter in training the understanding, inasmuch as acquiring the knowledge of them involved the necessity of a progressive course of study. They afforded also a much clearer insight into the laws of language; they served a great ultimate purpose, and if it was intended that education should consist of more than a mere knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic—if it was desired that knowledge should be anything more than a mere marketable commodity—the study of the classics was an absolute necessity. The lecturer then proceeded to demonstrate, at considerable length and in the most brilliant style, the many advantages derived from the study of the languages, defining them with a precision and clearness which was the best evidence of his powers. He concluded his discourse amid repeated outbursts of applause.

The Principal, after complimenting the lecturer on his theme, announced that the proceedings had terminated, and thanked the many friends whom he observed present for their attendance.

The audience then dispersed. Many, however, before leaving, visited the lecture-room which has been fitted up for the use of the students.—*Quebec Chronicle*.

Extracts from the Reports of Inspectors of Schools, for 1859 and 1860.

Inspector Boivin's Report.

There were in this district of inspection one convent school, one academy, one model school and thirty-six elementary schools, conducted by nine male and seventeen female teachers.

These establishments were frequented by 1444 pupils, of whom 777 were boys and 667 were girls. With regard to the branches taught, the Inspector classified these children thus: spelling 468; reading off-hand 976; reading well 302; learning to write 802; simple arithmetic 420; book-keeping 5; history 292; orthography 448; French grammar 594; English grammar 32; grammatical analysis 330; composition 52; geography 223; translating from English to French 64; Latin 7.

The state of school affairs in each municipality of the district was as follows:

1. *St. Fidèle*.—Three schools in operation, conducted by female teachers. The school in District No. 1, under the management of Miss Marie Brassard, was the best. No. 2 was also well conducted, the energetic and talented teacher in charge having had eight years experience. The other school was closed at the time of the Inspector's visit, on account of the severe cold and the bad condition of the roads. Arrears of assessment due the commissioners amounted to £18. 0. 0; while their liabilities were £25. 0. 0.

2. *Malbaie*.—This municipality maintained five schools. The boys' department of school No. 1 was conducted by Mr. O. Martin, who would soon require the services of an assistant, in consequence of the increasing attendance; he taught English to a few of his scholars. The girls' department was entrusted to an able teacher. The schools in Districts No. 2, 5 and 6 were managed by female teachers with results more or less satisfactory, though irregular attendance was a source of complaint. The teacher in charge of school No. 4 was entitled to special commendation for the skillful manner in which she discharged her duty. The finances of the municipality were carefully looked after by the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. E. Tremblay.

3. *Ste. Agnès*.—Four schools were open at the time of the visit. That of District No. 2, conducted by Miss Delima Poivin, claimed the precedence. Arithmetic and the usual branches were successfully taught. The pupils of school No. 1 were not so punctual in attending, and consequently not so far advanced in their studies. The schools of Districts No. 3 and 4 were kept by young female teachers just entering upon their career. In the absence of the Secretary-Treasurer the Inspector was unable to examine the books or accounts of the corporation.

4. *St. Irénée*.—Three schools were kept in this parish. District school No. 1 was too overcrowded to permit the teacher in charge to advance her pupils as might have been done under more favora-

ble circumstances. The examination at District school No. 2, was attended with very satisfactory results, the pupils reading and writing with much precision, and giving unmistakable proofs of proficiency in the elements of French grammar. The female teacher under whose management this success was attained had had charge of this school during three or four years past. School No. 3 had been in operation only nine or ten months, its pupils could not therefore be much advanced. The Commissioners discharged their duties in a satisfactory manner, and the affairs of the municipality were well attended to.

5. *Eboulements*.—Five schools were in operation in this municipality. The School Commissioners had used their best endeavors to place the model-school on a proper footing, and at the time of the visit it was attended by 60 pupils, under the care of Mr. Cléophas Côté who spared no pains to ensure their progress. The girls' class was taught by Miss Boudreau. District school No. 2 was conducted by a teacher who had acquired several years' experience and who appeared to discharge his duties in an efficient manner. District school No. 3 also possessed an experienced teacher; but school No. 4 was not properly provided with the articles indispensable to the progress of its scholars. The teacher in charge of No. 5 District school appeared to fulfil her duties with commendable zeal and punctuality. The commissioners were remiss in the collection of the assessments, though with this exception every attention was paid to the school affairs of the municipality; the arrears amounted to £120, and there was an outstanding debt of £40.

6. *Township of Seltrington*.—There was but one school in this municipality, and the settlers were too poor to adopt the system of school assessment.

7. *St. Urbain*.—Two schools were opened. Although the teacher of District School No. 1 (Mr. O. Larouche) was in receipt of a very small stipend he seemed zealous in the discharge of his duties. District school No. 2 had been managed during seven or eight months by a young lady. The financial affairs of the municipality were in perfect order.

8. *St. Paul's Bay*.—This municipality maintained an academy, a convent-school, conducted by the Ladies of the *Congrégation de Notre-Dame*, and 11 elementary school establishments (including the elementary departments of the academy and the convent). The academy was frequented by 50 children, and had been only two years in existence. It was under the care of Mr. O. Perron, who has followed a classical course of study at the Seminary of Quebec; his assistant, Mr. Simon Côté, taught the elementary class. Three of the primary schools were conducted by male teachers, and the remainder entrusted to ladies who have received their training at the local convent-school. Of these 11 schools, 3 were inferior, 1 was indifferent, 5 were good, and 2 excellent. The accounts of the corporation were kept with regularity.

9. *Petite Rivière St. François*.—Only one school maintained here. It was successfully managed by Miss Adelaïde Thalon. The financial affairs of the school corporation were in a satisfactory condition.

10. *Ne-aux-Coudres*.—This municipality possessed four schools, one of which was under private control. The private school was attended by 27 pupils and supported by 18 contributors, who in addition paid the tax to the school corporation. District school No. 1 was conducted by a successful teacher, and her pupils made great progress. District school No. 2 was kept by an able young teacher who had, however, only entered upon her duties a few months previous to the visit. The teacher in District School No. 3 complained of the irregular attendance of her pupils and of the want of progress in consequence. The business of the municipality was transacted with punctuality and exactness.

11. *Escoumains*.—There was but one school open in this municipality. The lady under whose care it was placed received a salary of £25 per annum.

Mr. Boivin in concluding his Report calls the attention of the Superintendent of Education to the existing desire, on the part of the rate-payers of all the municipalities he has visited, to avail themselves of the liberal provisions of the school law, under which the rich and poor alike enjoy the right of obtaining instruction.

Notices of Books and Publications.

NORTH AMERICA; By Anthony Trollope. Published by Harper & Bros, New York; 1862.—1 vol. 12mo, 624 pp.

Who does not remember Mrs. Trollope and her terrible book, in which Brother Jonathan saw himself so cruelly caricatured? Her son, the author of a good number of literary works, aims in the present instance at political economy, social science &c., often, however, permitting himself to usurp the satirical vein so peculiar to his parent. If he has