

class rooms have be thrown into the school room, and the public hall is in the mean time used for the purposes of recitation.

At the McGill Normal School, there are now seven male and forty-nine female pupil teachers.

As soon as the boarding house for the female pupil teachers of the Jacques Cartier Normal School can be opened, there is no doubt but that the number of pupils, (if we may judge by the applications received) will be as great as the means of accommodation will admit of.

The speeches delivered at the two ceremonies of inauguration, respectively, and which we give, at length, we have chiefly copied from the reports of them published in the english newspapers of this city.

Jacques Cartier Normal Schools.

On Tuesday, the 3rd March, the ceremony of the Inauguration of the Montreal Normal Schools was conducted with great *clat*. The opening of Jacques Cartier School took place at eleven o'clock, in the forenoon; a little before which hour the reception room was completely crowded with distinguished visitors, assembled to witness the ceremony:—There were present: their Lordships the R. C. Bishops of Montreal and Cydonia, His Excellency Sir Wm. Eyre, Commander of H. M. Forces in British North America, His Honor the Mayor of Montreal, the Reverend Superiors of the Seminary of Montreal, and of the St. Mary's College with several of the Professors of the latter institution; also the Honorable Messrs. Bourret and Ferrier, Dr. W. Nelson, C. S. Cherrier Esq. Q. C., Mr. Principal Dawson with several of the Professors from the McGill College, and also of those appointed to the McGill Normal School, besides a great number of Ladies.

The Honorable the Superintendent of Education having taken the chair, called upon His Lordship the R. C. Bishop of Montreal to open the meeting with prayer, to which His Lordship immediately responded, and a *chœur* of amateurs under the able direction of Mr. Labelle lately appointed an associate professor of the School, sang the sentence *Ecce quàm bonum* by Pabbé Lambillotte with great effect, which was followed by the national song "*A la claire Fontaine*," after which the meeting was addressed by the chairman, the Honorable the Superintendent of Education.

THE CHAIRMAN, on rising, was received with great applause. After having read in French the letter of His Excellency the Governor General (which we publish hereafter in our account of the inauguration of the McGill Normal School), he began his address by an allusion to the changes which have taken place in the very spot where he was speaking, and where the immortal sailor of St. Malo, Jacques Cartier, whose name he had been so proud of giving to the new institution, had planted the cross in the year 1535. He then read the following extract from the Memoirs of Jacques Cartier, which on account of its appropriateness, and the originality and beauty of the old French, in which it is written, elicited great applause from the audience:—

"Le lendemain, au plus matin, le capitaine s'accoustra, et fit mettre ses gens en ordre pour aller voir la ville et demeurance du dit peuple, et une montagne qui est jacent à la dite ville, ou allerent avec le dit capitaine les gentils hommes et vingt mariniers, et laissa le parvus pour la garde des barques, et prit trois hommes de la dite ville de Hochelaga pour les mener et conduire au dit lieu. Et nous estant en chemin, le trouvasmes aussi battu qu'il soit possible de voir, en la plus belle terre et meilleure plaine: des chênes aussi beaux qu'il y en ait en forêt de France, sous lesquels estoit toute la terre couverte de glands. Et nous, ayant fait environ une demi lieue et demie, trouvasmes sur le chemin l'un des principaux Seigneurs de la dite ville de Hochelaga, avecque plusieurs personnes, lequel nous fist signe qu'il se falloir reposer au dit lieu, pres un feu qu'ils avoient fait au dit chemin. Et lors commença le dit Seigneur à faire un sermon et preschement, comme ci-devant est dit être leur coutume de faire joye et connoissance, en faisant celui Seigneur chère au dit capitaine et sa compagnie; lequel capitaine lui donna une couple de haches et une couple de couteaux, avec une croix en remembrance du Crucifix qu'il lui fist baisier, et lui pendit au col: de quoi il rendit grâces au dit capitaine. Ce fait, marchâmes plus outre, et environ demie lieue de là commençâmes à trouver les terres labourées, et belles grandes campagnes pleines de blé de leurs terres, qui est comme mil de Brésil, aussi gros ou plus que pois, duquel ils vivent, ainsi que nous faisons du froment. Et au parmi d'icelles campagnes, est située et assise la dite ville de Hochelaga, pres et joignant une montagne qui est à l'entour d'icelle, bien labourée et fort fertile; de dessus laquelle on voit fort loin. Nous nommasmes icelle montagne le

Mont Royal. La dite ville est toute ronde, et close de bois à trois rangs, en façon d'une pyramide croisée par le haut, ayant la rangée du parmi en façon de ligne perpendiculaire, puis rangée de bois couchés de long, bien joints et cousus à leur mode, et est de la hauteur d'environ deux lances. Et n'y a en icelle ville qu'une porte et entrée, qui ferme à barres, sur laquelle et en plusieurs endroits de la dite clôture y a maniere de galeries et échelles à y monter, lesquelles sont garnies de roches et cailloux pour la garde et défense d'icelle. Il y a dans icelle ville environ cinquante maisons, longues d'environ cinquante pas au plus chacune, et douze ou quinze pas de large, toutes faites de bois, couvertes et garnies de grandes écorces et pelures des dit-bois, aussi larges que tables, bien cousues artificiellement selon leur mode; et, par dedans icelles, y a plusieurs aires et chambres; et au milieu d'icelles maisons y a une grande salle par terre, où tous leurs gens vivent en communauté, puis se retirent en leur dites chambres les hommes avec leurs femmes et enfans."

What do we see now where this quaint Indian town, described by Jacques Cartier, was located? Why, nothing more nor less than the admirable working of that divine emblem which the pious adventurer had thrust on the Seigneur d'Hochelaga—as he so politely called the Indian Chief—nothing more nor less than the developments of christian civilization. The honorable gentleman then described in glowing terms the rapid progress of Montreal and the beauty of its churches, educational and other buildings. The wigwams have disappeared, and in their place a proud and thriving city has been built, which is now the centre of railroads and of steam navigation, which are spreading in every direction. If Montreal has celebrated with enthusiasm the completion of its railroads, which are making it the centre of commerce, how much more must it rejoice at the inauguration of two institutions which will make it the great intellectual focus of several vast districts of Lower Canada. (Loud applause.) He was aware that there had been great apprehensions entertained in relation to these institutions, lest they should have the tendency of spreading irreligious influences, as was alleged had been the case in France. The circumstances of the two countries were so different, that the comparison could not hold good for a moment. In France, Normal Schools were introduced immediately after an era of revolution and infidelity. It was not the schools that spread infidelity, it was rather the pre-existing state of things which had an influence on the schools. The wrong use made of a thing is no argument against the thing itself. Fire, that gives us heat and light, and water, that fertilizes a country,—these were terrible elements, when let loose, and not properly taken care of. (Hear, hear.) Those rapid modes of locomotion, which are the glory of our century, and which are changing the face of the earth,—railroads and steamers have certainly been the cause of a great sacrifice of human life, through carelessness; but for all that no one would dream of giving them up. (Hear, hear.) Then (turning to his Lordship, the Catholic Bishop of Montreal) the speaker addressed him, by saying that his presence there that day was an answer to all objections. (Loud cheers.) He had taken this institution under his patronage, and, as it was remarked lately by one of the members of the city of Montreal, he (Mr. C.) would never despair of any undertaking which a prelate so successful in all things would patronize. (Cheers.) In saying so, he was sure that he was only echoing the sentiments and giving expression to the deep feelings of veneration of all present. (Renewed Cheers.) It well became a distinguished Bishop, who had covered the whole of his diocese with educational and charitable institutions of all kinds, to help and assist the government in the creation of an institution that would complete our system of public instruction. (Cheers.) He would, in a moment, call upon his lordship to address the audience, (loud cheers,) but before he did so he had a few words to say to their young friends, the pupil-teachers. The honorable gentleman then addressed most feelingly the students, and told them that as the future success of the establishment, and even of Normal Schools, rested mainly on their exertions, they would have more than ordinary responsibility. They would find in the Rev. gentleman who was placed at the head of the institution, a pious and zealous friend, to whom they could apply in all their difficulties, and who had all the energy and talent necessary for so momentous an undertaking. (Cheers.) The other teachers, he was sure, would show themselves equal to their task—they would do their duty, *et Dieu fera le reste*. (Loud cheers.) The Chairman then alluded to Gen. Sir W. Eyre, the Commander of the Forces, and said that he would not detract from his laurels by his presence to that meeting. On the contrary, he would thus show that heroes look complacently on the quiet but ennobling pursuits of popular education. (Loud cheering.) He then concluded by an appeal to all the friends of education in favour of the new institution and said that there was a strength in public opinion which was not to be found any where else. (Cheers.) Everything had been done to give to the Jacques Cartier Normal School a claim to public confidence. (Cheers.) It had a right to