

avail themselves of the grand advantages which those common schools afford. It was, moreover, impossible to overlook the fact placed before us almost every day in our police reports, that so many children of tender years were committed to prison for petty crimes—robbing tills, robbing orchards, and the like—and were thus being apprenticed, as it were, to a life of crime, the badge and brand of criminality, being so effectually placed upon them that they would in all probability grow up to be, in later life, the pests of society and candidates for the Penitentiary or the gallows. And when we considered that one of those criminals would cost the city far more than it cost the city to confer scholarships on the seven boys who had received them this evening, and which gave them the means of obtaining a course of higher education, and qualifying them to be reputable and useful members of society; and when we considered the delight with which we expended our money for the benefit of the one class and the sadness with which we expended it for the punishment and restraint of the other class, he thought that—while the idea of a Central High School should not be lost sight of—the immediate and most urgent duty of the trustees was to take measures for the bringing of the whole of these thousand outcast children within the sphere of our educational system. (Hear, hear.) Professor Wilson then alluded in very complimentary terms, to the recent institution by Mr. Macdonald, M.P.P., of a scholarship in University College, specially intended for those who passed through the preparatory training of the common schools and grammar schools of the city. He then referred to the pleasing fact that in the distribution of the prizes this evening, coloured children had been seen standing up on equality with the others, as the successful candidates for these prizes. He denounced the conduct of another city in Upper Canada, which had excluded the coloured children from the common schools, and expressed his gratification that on the eve of another 1st of August, the anniversary of the most recent triumph of British freedom, no such stain attached to the fair fame of the city of Toronto. He rejoiced to see that not only did Toronto take an honourable place in the encouragement of education, but that she carried this out without any distinction whatever, save the distinction in favour of merit and high moral conduct. (Cheers.)—The Rev. Dr. Jennings was next called on to address the meeting. He said that on entering the building he had not any idea that he would be called upon to speak. He came there merely as a spectator. He felt it his duty, however, while on his feet, to congratulate the excellent teachers of the city schools on being delivered from their labour and toil during the present warm weather, and he must also congratulate the children on being let loose from their school-houses while the “dog-days” continued. He hoped that the latter, after their period of industry and study, would improve their holiday time by seeking after recreation and health in sports and amusements. Without a sound body they could never hope to have a sound mind. He was also happy to be able to congratulate the Corporation of the city in doing the handsome thing by the common schools, and in supplying money to carry on the education of those children promoted from the common schools to the County Grammar School. He had no doubt the youths thus sent to the Grammar School would conduct themselves in a right and proper manner, as those before them had done. Every one had reason to feel proud and happy that the educational year which had passed away had been spent in training children in such a manner as would fit them to occupy positions of high standing in society; a training that would prepare the boys for the higher professions, and make the girls suitable companions for them. He would say to them all, in the words of Scripture, “May our sons be as plants grown up in their youth, and our daughters as the corner-stones, polished after the manner of a palace.”—John Macdonald, Esq., M.P.P., being called on, said it was with feelings of pleasure and delight that he was present on the interesting occasion which had drawn so many together. No one witnessing such a scene could fail to be greatly interested. In his opinion it required much more than a fine genial climate and a wealthy people to attach one to a country. We must also have those privileges by which our children may be trained up and fitted for positions, not only of the common order, but also of prominence in the world. Parents, in coming to a new country, must first know that there are those advantages there by which their children can acquire a good, sound education. In this respect Canada was particularly well provided, and no city on the continent was better off, educationally, than Toronto. Parents and children alike enjoyed the benefits—as what was beneficial to one was also good to the other. The time might come when some of those children who had then appeared on the platform would occupy the prominent position of mayor of the city of

Toronto; they might even become judges and leaders in the land; or they might win honour in defending their country's flag, either on this or on some other soil; but let them take whatever position they might, he felt convinced that in their whole history they would not know a prouder moment than that in which they stood upon the platform and received the rewards of their study and diligence. He was as much opposed to high taxation as any man could be, but he was willing—and he felt sure all before him were equally willing—to bear any judicious expenditure of money in promoting and forwarding the educational interests of our country. He would say to the boys, let them exercise the same energy and diligence in their future lives as they had done in their schools, and they would be sure to succeed without fail. After what had just been witnessed, every man and every woman should be more and more attached to the city. While the educational institutions of the city prospered, we need have no fear for its future.—The benediction was then pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Pollard, after which the interesting proceedings were brought to a close.—*Globe*.

—**PROPOSED FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL, TORONTO.**—EXTRACT FROM A REPORT OF THE CITY BOARD ON THE SUBJECT.—Your committee having had under consideration the desirability of establishing one or more superior schools for boys and girls, report accordingly. First, That although the necessity of establishing a High School for boys is fully recognized by your committee, yet as some public provision for boys in this respect already exists in the Upper Canada College and Grammar Schools, your committee deem it inexpedient at present to recommend the Board to take action in the matter in this direction. Second, That in the opinion of your committee there is, however, a very urgent necessity for the establishment of a High School for girls, inasmuch as no public provision of this kind has hitherto been made, and they accordingly recommend that immediate action be taken by this Board to supply a want so extensively felt. Third, That with the present crowded state of the city public schools it would be impossible to appropriate any one of the existing buildings for this purpose; and your committee recommend as a temporary arrangement that a suitable building be rented in the central part of the city, and that a sum of not more than \$1000 be appropriated and included in the estimates for the current year for the purpose of furnishing and fitting up the said building; that the admission to such school shall depend upon a recognized standard of attainments, and that the payment of certain fees to be hereafter settled by the Board, shall be collected, and the course of studies shall embrace the usual branches of a thorough English education, together with the accomplishments of French, music, drawing and ornamental needle work; that in view of said school, when once started, your committee submit the following approximation estimate of the probable income and expenditure of the proposed Girls' High School, viz.:—

Revenue.

100 pupils at \$8 per quarter, or 125 at \$6 per quarter, say..... \$3,000

Expenditure.

Total..... \$2,200

Showing an apparent margin for miscalculation and unforeseen contingent expenses..... \$ 800

\$3,000

—**YORKVILLE COMMON SCHOOL.**—The examination of the pupils attending the Yorkville Common School was concluded on the 29th ult. The trustees, and all those who attended the school during the present examination, expressed their pleasure at the proficiency exhibited by the pupils in each division. In the evening the scholars attended the Town-Hall, Yorkville, to receive their awards. The parents showed the interest they took in the school by attending the evening meeting in large numbers, the Hall being quite crowded. Charles V. Berryman, Esq., M.D., took the chair, and having called the meeting to order, expressed his satisfaction at again taking part in this interesting meeting. As local superintendent, it was his duty to be present, and it was one of his most pleasing duties to be present at these semi-annual meetings, and to see so many who showed that they took a lively interest in the education of their children. He explained that the municipality only provided funds once a year for prizes; but he was of opinion that at each semi-annual examination premiums should be given, as by this means a greater zest was given to the scholars, and they worked more earnestly. In order to provide prizes at the summer examination, he had to visit those who were benevolently disposed, and to solicit from them private contributions. He had done this this year, and had been able to get the sum of ten dollars, which he had ex-