

HEALTH.

The general health of the pupils during the past year has been excellent. Dr. Corson's report will no doubt enter into fuller details on this point. Cases of constitutional delicacy will always be more or less numerous in institutions of this kind, and frequently lead to the conclusion that a temporary respite from continuous study is desirable. A recommendation from the medical officer to that effect always meets with immediate attention. The absence of contagious disease and of other complaints arising from local causes is a powerful testimony to the general healthfulness of the site and the efficiency of the sanitary arrangements of the Institution.

DISCIPLINE.

The principles upon which discipline is maintained at this Institution have been fully discussed in previous reports. The conduct of the pupils as a whole during the past session was most satisfactory and extreme measures had seldom to be resorted to. As already mentioned, one case of expulsion—and I am happy to say only one—has to be reported. One of the female pupils, a girl of 16, was guilty, for the second time, of wilfully destroying the clothing of her fellow pupils. This was done in sheer mischief and without any pretence of provocation. A low order of intellect combined with very dull moral perception, made the case a somewhat hopeless one, and the girl's removal was necessary in the interest of safety as well as discipline.

VACATION IMPROVEMENTS.

During the late vacation our Engineer and his Assistants have effected very extensive improvements in the heating arrangements of the building especially the school and work-rooms and dormitories, in the east wing. The last stove has been removed from the main building and I anticipate that not only will a considerable saving of fuel be secured but that the personal comfort of the female pupils particularly will be greatly enhanced by the better and more equal distribution of heat. These important alterations have been accomplished at a comparatively trifling cost. The whole of the building is now well heated, but economy will be consulted by the substitution of radiators for coils and pipes in several places and I recommend that a small amount for this purpose be appropriated.

The condition of the exterior of the building has been much improved by the stopping of the wood-work wherever shrunken, the pointing of the masonry, and the painting of the whole of the former. The old building had not been re-painted since its erection fourteen years since and its condition and appearance were hardly creditable. Rapid decay would have ensued had this matter been longer neglected. There are places even now where another coat of paint might be given advantageously. The exteriors of the Principal's and Engineer's houses will both require to be painted next year. The new material known as Alabastine for colouring walls and ceilings has been used by us in several instances either as a ground work or substitute for paint. In this mode of using it Alabastine has answered well, while it is a great improvement when applied in place of white-wash.

THE GROUNDS.

The most marked improvement in the grounds, has been the removal of some fifteen hundred feet of the old six-foot picket fence on the southern and eastern front of the grounds, and the substitution in its place of a simple iron pipe rail, supported at eight foot distances on turned and painted cedar posts. The gates at the two main entrances are removed altogether. To the propriety of making this desirable change, attention was directed in my last report. It was brought about more speedily than I had ventured to anticipate by two furious storms of snow and rain respectively, both accompanied by high wind, which made gaps two to three hundred feet in length, and shattered to pieces large portions of the fencing blown down. The whole of the new work has been done at less

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