

performed by three graduates of the School, Messrs. Fletcher, Chisholm, and Reid, in each of whom I have every reason to feel the utmost confidence, and as the pupils now have fifty-eight hours devoted to them each week, against the forty-two hours that I previously gave to these duties, it is evident that the arrangement is advantageous to the School; and as it leaves me ample time to superintend the work of the several departments, I feel satisfied that your Board as well as everyone interested in the welfare of the School will recognize that the change is a decided forward step in the history of the Institution, and one that is likely to be advantageous to the blind of the Maritime Provinces.

#### SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

This department has been thoroughly re-organized, and so far as the small number of pupils will allow of it, has been judiciously graded. The resignation of Miss MacKenzie, who for seven years occupied the position of lady teacher, necessitated the employment of a successor, and it is gratifying to state that we were fortunate enough to secure the services of Miss E. J. Hunter, who came to us with the highest recommendations, and who, since the school opened in September last, has discharged her manifold duties to my entire satisfaction. Mr. E. P. Fletcher, who for the past three years has been taking the arts course in Acadia College, is now engaged as the principal male teacher, and the results so far achieved prove that his heart is in his work. Several new studies have been taken up in the School, but the principal new departure is the introduction of Froebel's Kindergarten method of instruction, which is peculiarly adapted to the needs of the youthful blind. The mat-weaving, modelling in clay, drawing and peg boards, and the Kindergarten games, all serving to improve the touch, train the hand, and develop the mental preceptions of the pupil. With the same object in view, and in order to further this work, we have established a workshop for the training of our boys in the use of planes, saws and other carpenters tools. The genuine pleasure which