

Primary and Advanced Schools now has charge of two grades instead of one, as heretofore. One advantage of this plan is that it removes some of the difficulties of promoting or "grading" pupils only once in the year; and another and still greater is, that it leaves every successive group of scholars under the hand of the same teacher for a period of two years, which must prove more satisfactory than a yearly change. This plan has been pursued in the Model Schools for many years past.

Mr. Geo. Smith, A. B., Principal of the Elgin Grammar School, and President of the Albert County Teachers' Institute, has been appointed Inspector of Schools for the Third District (Westmoreland and Albert), in place of Mr. H. Powell, A. B., resigned.

Robert Marshall, Esq., M.P.P. for the City of St. John, was sworn in a member of the Executive Council a few days ago, and consequently becomes a member of the Board of Education.

There have been several changes in the Boards of School Trustees of St. John, Fredericton, St. Stephen and other towns, which will be noticed in a future number.

His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to offer a number of prize medals for competition in the Provincial University and some of the principal schools in the Province, as follows: In the University of N.B., a gold medal and a silver medal; in the Provincial Normal School, two silver medals; in the Provincial Model Schools, a bronze medal; in the Girls' High School, St. John, a silver medal; in the Boys' High (Grammar) School, St. John, a bronze medal; in the Collegiate School, Fredericton, a bronze medal; in the Newcastle High School, a bronze medal. The conditions of award in each school will be announced hereafter, and medals will no doubt be given to other schools, in addition to those named.

Teachers and Trustees will hereafter receive their drafts for the payment of the Provincial allowance and the County fund direct from the Education Office at Fredericton, not through the Inspectors as formerly. This arrangement went into operation in the issue of the drafts for the term ended 30th November last.

QUEBEC.

At the last meeting of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction there were present the Right Reverend Bishop Bond, Principal Dawson, LL.D. and F.R.S., R. W. Heneker, Esq., Dr. Cook, the Venerable Archdeacon Leach, LL.D., the Hon. W. W. Lynch, and the Hon. G. Ouimet, Superintendent of Public Instruction. In the absence of the Lord Bishop of Quebec, Mr. Heneker read the report of the sub-committee appointed to consider the reports of Inspectors of Academies and Model Schools. They suggested that the committee should take the schools in order and decide their grants with reference in each case to the Inspectors' reports. They further recommended that, in order to exhibit a clear statement of the kind, quality and degree of instruction given in each school, a digested method of examination should be prepared and sanctioned by the committee for future use, and they thought that this would be facilitated by the adoption of a uniform set of text-books. The committee agreed to receive the report and adopted the recommendation, that in the future reports by Inspectors of Academies and Model Schools the educational matter should be kept distinct from school appliances, &c. The committee further agreed to re-appoint the sub-committee, with the addition of Dr. Leach's name, and to refer thereto the consideration of the forms for exhibiting the state of instruction in each class of the schools inspected, and the adoption of a uniform set of text-books, said sub-committee to meet in Montreal during the Christmas holidays. In regard to medical matriculation and entrance examination on the study of the legal, notarial and other professions, Dr. Dawson stated that a Bill had been introduced during the late session of the Provincial Parliament, but that it had failed to pass. The sub-committee on this subject was re-appointed. The Secretary was instructed to call the notice of colleges or academies to the provisions of the Dominion Government in aid of military drill in such institutions. The Hon. Mr. Lynch stated that he had brought under the notice of the late Government the arrears of Marriage License fees now in the hands of the Dominion Government, but that nothing had as yet been done in regard to this matter. It was resolved to re-appoint the sub-committee on this subject, omitting the name of the Hon. W. W. Lynch, and adding that of R. W. Heneker, Esq. On the motion of R. W. Heneker, Esq., seconded by the Venerable Archdeacon Leach, it was unanimously resolved to adopt the following resolutions, which had been passed by the Catholic committee: "The

committee resolve unanimously that the following requirements are, in the public interest, of a nature so urgent that they ought to be pressed upon the attention of the Government, with a view to immediate action. 1st. The continuance of the salaries of the school inspectors the same as in the year 1877-78. 2nd. Granting to the Superintendent the customary supplies for prize-books. 3rd. Granting to the Normal Schools the customary subsidy of \$46,000." On the motion of R. W. Heneker, Esq., seconded by the Ven. Archdeacon Leach, it was unanimously resolved: "That a sub-committee be appointed to confer with a sub-committee of the Roman Catholic Committee on the subject of inspection, as well as on any other matters bearing on the general question of education, and that the Hon. the Superintendent be requested to act on both of these sub-committees as convener, said sub-committee to consist of R. W. Heneker, Esq., Dr. Church, the Lord Bishop of Quebec, Dr. Cook and Dr. Dawson. To this sub-committee were also referred several sets of school books from Messrs. W. J. Gage & Co., Publishers, Toronto, On the recommendation of Mr. Inspector Emberson it was agreed to offer a grant from the fund for superior education to the best Protestant school fulfilling the requirements of a Model School in the County of Montcalm, to be reported on by Inspector Duval. The Secretary laid before the committee the returns from Examining Boards for Teachers' Diplomas of the examinations held in May and November last, together with suggestions from Dr. Cornish, President Board of Examiners, Montreal; that linear drawing, the use of the globes and book-keeping be in future omitted from the examination; that a simple form of diploma be prepared for all grades, offering to draft such for the sanction of the committee. The Secretary was instructed to write Dr. Cornish, that, as drawing, the use of globes, and book-keeping are required by law, they cannot be omitted from the examinations, but that they may be made as simple as necessary, and to ask him to have the kindness to prepare a draft form of diplomas for all grades of teachers.

Letters were read from Inspectors Fothergill and Hubbard, regarding the deficiency of candidates for teachers' diplomas in Scripture knowledge. It appears also from the returns of Inspectors of Academies and Model Schools, that in several of such institutions there is no reading of the Holy Scriptures, nor any instruction therein. The committee agreed to refer the question of Scripture instruction to the sub-committee on inspection. Messrs. Emberson and Wier were appointed, on the same terms as previously, Inspectors of the Protestant Academies and Model Schools in the Province of Quebec, receiving grants from the Fund for Superior Education.

MANITOBA.

A quarterly meeting of the Council of the University of Manitoba was held in the Education Offices on Monday, December 4th, the following officers being present, viz.:

The Bishop of Rupert's Land, Chancellor; His Grace the Archbishop of St. Boniface, Archdeacon Cowley, Revs. J. Black, D.D., J. Robertson, Canon Grisdale, Canon O'Meara, S. P. Matheson, R. Young, Professor Bryce, Professor Hart, W. C. Pinkham, and Fathers Lavoie, Dugas, Forget and Cherrier, Judge Dubuc and A. Cowan, M.D.

Amongst other business, the Council appointed the following gentlemen to constitute the Board of Examiners for the ensuing year, viz.:—Classics—Rev. A. Forget, Canon O'Meara, and Prof. Hart. Mathematics—The Chancellor, Prof. Clouthier, and Rev. A. Campbell. Natural Sciences—Prof. Bryce, Rev. Mr. Cherrier, and Mr. Heber Archibald. Mental Philosophy—Revs. Dr. Lavoie, and J. Robertson and Mr. Bain. Modern Languages—Rev. O. Fortin, Prof. Hughes, and Mr. Killam. Rev. J. Robertson and Mr. E. W. Jarvis were unanimously re-elected Registrars of the University for the ensuing year.

The Board of Education held its quarterly meeting on the same day. The proceedings were of a formal character.

The annual distribution of prizes to the successful students of Manitoba College took place in Knox College, Dec. 10th.

The Professors occupied chairs upon the platform. They were supported on either side by Rev. Jas. Robertson, Rev. E. Morrow, M.A., Rev. D. McRae, Rev. W. Ewing, B.A., Consul Taylor, Hon. S. C. Biggs, B.A., A. M. Sutherland, B.A., M.P.P., and W. B. Black, B.A., the last two being alumni of the college.

Notwithstanding the very disagreeable state of the weather a large number of citizens and friends of the students were present. The following students have had the places assigned them in the