

whose minds you help to form are those who will grow up to be the men and women of Canada. I don't want to flatter you, but I do think that the duty you have to do is one of the most responsible and most important that a human being can be called upon to perform. The doctor takes care of the body, and ought to do something in other respects. The lawyer looks after men's rights, and may be of great use in aiding the right and preventing wrong. The clergyman, too, has opportunities for doing a great deal of good, but he has to do principally with adult minds, which are not so susceptible to new impressions. But the teacher has to deal with the mind at the very time when it is most ductile, and when the most lasting impression can be produced. If the teachers of a country are true to their vocation, if they seek not only to develop the moral but the religious character of their pupils, such a class of teachers is no small blessing to the country that it adorns. I trust you will belong to this class, and, in behalf of the University, I congratulate you very warmly on having entered upon the duties of a teacher, and I trust you will do honor to yourselves, benefit to your pupils, and service to your country. (Loud applause.)

The principal then announced that the next session of the school would open on the 15th day of September, when he expected to have a larger number of applications than even during the past session. Judge Day then invited any gentleman present who desired to address the assembly, upon which.

John Dougall, Esq., arose and said:—that he had for many years most earnestly longed to see this day, that till within a short time, teachers in Canada were mostly broken down men, who, though very clever, could not maintain themselves in any other profession, but that now they were not only sending out better educated teachers, but that they were training the people to desire better teachers for their schools. He said that there were two kinds of teachers. One kind whose labors, whose character, and whose memory dwell in the minds and hearts and affections of their pupils all through life; and another kind who might well be called tyrants; to whom their pupils think they owe no allegiance. He was sorry to say that in former times this class was the numerous, but now he could say that in the present day, the power of love in teaching was much more universally tested and with very great success.

The Rev. Dr. Wilkes next made a few remarks on what he and some other clergymen had done in giving religious instruction to the young people before them, and he was happy to be able to bear testimony to their intelligence, not merely general, but in respect to the Word of God. He hoped that all of the class of "tyrant" teachers might soon be displaced by such as the young ladies before him, and ended by giving them his earnest wishes for their happiness and prosperity.

The Rev. Kemp then arose to speak for a few minutes, stating that it was his settled opinion, derived from experience, that young ladies were better adapted to teach even rough rube boys, than young men, and gave an instance of a school in which the teacher had for scholars boys of sixteen and eighteen years of age, and had them completely under subjection, while no male teacher had ever been able to remain in that school.

The National Anthem was then sung by all the pupils, Prof. Fowler accompanying on the piano, after which the proceedings were closed by prayer by the Rev. Dr. Wilkes.

Those who had taken diplomas remained, at the request of Judge Day, and the prizes, consisting of a number of very valuable and beautifully-bound books, were distributed by the teachers in an informal manner.

We noticed among other sketches which adorned the walls of the hall, a number of very beautiful chalk drawings which were worthy of a more than passing notice, and are evidence of considerable artistic talent on the part of those whose productions they are.

The occasion was altogether of a most interesting character, not merely to the pupils and their friends, but also to all who take an interest in the great cause of education in this country, through which the teachers here trained, will be scattered broadcast to discriminate the knowledge, and the principles which have been instilled into their own minds.—*Montreal Herald.*

Seventh Conference of the Association of Teachers, within the Limits of the Laval Normal School.

At an Assembly of the Members of this institution, held Saturday 25th May 1859, at the Laval Normal School, were present:

The Hon. P. J. Chauveau, the Rev. Mr. Langevin; Mr. Octave Biton, Mr. Inspector Bardy; Messrs. F. X. Juneau, C. Dion, F. X. Toussaint, N. Lacoste, A. Doyle, F. X. Gilbert, J. Labonté, Gr. Lachance, C. Langlois, L. Roy, B. Pelletier, C. Dufresne, C. Côté,

C. Huot, P. Drolet, C. J. L. Lafrance and Messrs. the pupil-teachers of the Normal School.

The proceedings of the last sitting having been read and adopted the association adopted a series of rules proposed and sanctioned by the Council during its sitting in the forenoon.

Mr. Dufresne director of St. Michael College, read a long and interesting essay on Physiology and Anatomy, in which he described the structure of the human frame in a clear and learned manner.

Mr. Lafrance read a paper on the Association of Teachers of the District of Quebec, founded in 1858.

The following subject was then discussed:

"Are the prizes at public examinations of any utility, and to what extent are they useful?"

The conference, after an animated discussion adopted the following conclusions of the Rev. Langevin.

I.—The advantages resulting from the distribution of prizes at public examinations are:

- 1o. To incite the children to learn;
- 2o. To recompense talent and application;
- 3o. To humble the slothful, and thus waken them from their torpor;
- 4o. To leave to children permanent tokens of their success at school.

5o. To propagate emulation in the parishes.

II.—The dangers of these distributions are:—

- 1o. To overexcite the ambition and self love of some children;
- 2o. To raise jealousy and the murmurs of the parents;
- 3o. To discourage those who have not succeeded in obtaining these recompenses;

4o. To put the municipalities to too heavy an expense.

III.—But these are mere abuses, and prove nothing. They can easily be avoided, by the following means:

1o. To put the children on their guard against that natural and very common sentiment, pride;

2o. Always to be impartial in the conferring of prizes, and to consider only the assiduity, the talent and the merit of the child.

3o. To give a sufficient number of prizes, so that a certain number of children may have the hope of obtaining one.

4o. Not to give too a great number, and thereby lessen their value in the eyes of the scholars.

5o. Inform the unsuccessful that they have acquired knowledge, and have the satisfaction of having done their duty.

6o. Not to give too costly prizes, particularly in elementary schools, making the children understand that the honor of receiving a prize is greater by far than the intrinsic value of the prize;

7o. The prizes to be the result of competitions taking place at stated periods during the year.

Inspector Bardy then read an essay on education.

Rev. Mr. Langevin, inscribed his name as continuing his course of physic, Messrs. Lacasse & Pelletier promised a lecture for the next conference.

Mr. Juneau then proposed as a subject to be debated at the next sitting: "Whether corporal punishments should not be abolished, and to what extent they may be supplied by other punishments."

The meeting then adjourned.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

UNIVERSITY OF M'GILL COLLEGE.

THE CALENDAR FOR THE SESSION OF 1859-60,

CONTAINING full information respecting the Courses in LAW, MEDICINE, and ARTS, the HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, the MCGILL NORMAL SCHOOL and the SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS of the University, is now published and may be obtained on application to the Undersigned.

W. O. BAYNES,
Secretary.

MCGILL NORMAL SCHOOL, MONTREAL.

THE FOURTH SESSION will commence on THURSDAY, FIFTH SEPTEMBER, 1859. Printed copies of the regulations, forms of application and all other necessary information, may be obtained of the Principal or of the Undersigned.

W. O. BAYNES,
Secretary McGill College.

MONTECAL, DANIEL & Co., Steam Printing Establishment, 4, St. Vincent St.