

THE CHURCH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AT WINDSOR, NOVA SCOTIA.



HE project for the establishment of a Church School for girls was brought under the notice of the Synod of the Diocese of Nova Scotia in the address of the Bishop on June 27th, 1890.

On July 1st the matter came before the Synod by resolution. On November 12th at a general meeting of the Shareholders, at Windsor, the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors were duly organized, and it was decided to open the School on January 8th, 1891.

On that day the Lady Principal with a full teaching staff, together with twenty-seven resident pupils and fifteen day scholars, were present. With much regret, several pupils had to be declined in consequence of the building at Edgell not being fitted to accommodate more than thirty-five residents. That the School opened full was a matter for congratulation, but the insufficiency of the accommodation impressed on the Trustees and Directors the duty of providing, at the earliest convenient period, for those who had sought or might seek admission.

Steps were at once taken to procure plans for a building complete in itself, for the residence of fifty more boarders, with class rooms, gymnasium, capacious dormitories and all modern conveniences.

The foundation of the new building was commenced on May 18th, 1891, within less than one year from the date of the Bishop's address on June 27th, 1890.

The area of the Edgell property is a little over eight acres. Nearly one-half is a terraced slope, surrounded by a trimmed spruce fence about ten feet in height. The mean length of the grounds is eleven hundred feet, the mean breadth a little over three hundred. The basements of the buildings are about eighty feet above the tidal waters of the Bay of Fundy.

The buildings at Edgell now occupied by the Church School are two in number, the old and the new. These are united by a two-storied gallery twenty-seven feet in length, not visible in the accompanying illustration.

The new building is ninety-nine feet long, with a maximum breadth of sixty-eight feet. It consists of a basement nine feet high, and a first, second and third floor, each twelve feet in altitude. Each flat is divided into two nearly equal parts by a corridor nine feet two inches broad and ninety-eight feet long, or including the passage from the old building, 127 feet in total length. Broad stairways rise from the basement to the third floor at both extremities of the building.

The dining room will seat 120 persons. The floor is of southern pitch pine; the ceiling panelled in compartments six feet square, constructed of native spruce with deep mouldings

of the same material, and finished with transparent varnish. The wainscoting three feet six inches high of like material is similarly finished.

The basement contains a gymnasium fifty feet long and twenty-seven feet broad, which will further serve as a recreation room, and an aid to physical training.

Being provided with a piano and a well planed floor, calisthenic exercises may also be gracefully varied after evening lessons are learned, and on appropriate occasions.

The broad passage way to the old building on this flat is used as a book room, the whole of one side being divided by shelving into eighty numbered compartments, one being allotted to each pupil for the storage of her school books. This passage leads into the school room and several music rooms. The class rooms on this flat are properly furnished with teachers' desks, pupils' desks, students' chairs, black boards, etc.

On the second floor of the new building and on the south side, is a large dormitory over the dining-room, forty feet by thirty-six feet, containing sixteen alcoves and a governess' room; each alcove is supplied with an iron bedstead, washstand, bureau and wardrobe. This dormitory is provided with two double entrance doors. On the same side of the building is a class room, and an invalid's room. Then follows the Lady Principal's bed-room, adjoining which is a governess' room. On the north side of the corridor, which is ninety-eight feet in length, is a private lavatory and bath-room, a "safety lift" and the east staircase; followed by bath-rooms, lavatory, closets, etc., all in one compartment. Adjoining is a room twenty feet six inches by fourteen feet three inches; next to this room is a dormitory, thirty-six feet by seventeen feet six inches, arranged for eight alcoves, each with iron bedstead, washstand, bureau and wardrobe.

The third floor is similar in all particulars to the second floor, having bath-rooms, closets and lavatory in a separate compartment. Besides the four large dormitories, and the Lady Principal's room, there are ten good-sized rooms and one closet, available for class rooms or other purposes, on the second and third floors.

Each corridor is provided with an open fireplace for ventilation and comfort, and for convenience, with two capacious linen presses. The entire length of each corridor is covered with a three foot broad strip of Napier matting, so that when lighted with the electric lamps at night, or enlivened by the stained glass windows at the stairways in the daytime, the open fires give to them in freezing weather, an air of comfort and cheerfulness which has a potent effect on the spirits of the inmates. A uniform warmth throughout is maintained by large radiators at each extremity of the corridors; these being properly distributed, draughts are prevented.